



COUNCILLOR BECKY KENT

DISTRICT 3 ONLINE NEWS

DARTMOUTH SOUTH - EASTERN PASSAGE

MESSAGE FROM BECKY

Hello District 3 Residents,

Happy September, everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful summer filled with family, friends and a much-deserved break.

I want to give a big 'THANK YOU' to the Eastern Passage Cow Bay Summer Carnival Committee and all the volunteers who helped to make this year's summer carnival a resounding success! Thank you for your dedication and hard work. Well done!

As we enter September, so begins a new school year. I wish everyone going back to school a wonderful year ahead.

As schools go back in session, please keep an extra eye out for kiddos crossing the street on their way to and from school. Back to school safety tips can be found below in this newsletter.

As always, I encourage you to reach out to me with any of your municipal questions or concerns.

Warmly,

The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.





NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Each year, September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

The day honours the children who never returned home and Survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process. For more information, click [here](#).

National Day
for Truth and
Reconciliation

September 30th



Canada

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SWISSAIR TRAGEDY

September 2 marked the 25th anniversary of the tragic crash of Swissair Flight 111 in the waters off Peggys Cove. 229 souls were lost that faithful night, but they will never be forgotten.

The events that followed was a testament to the compassion of Nova Scotians who jumped in to help in any way they could. They were joined by 2,400 military personnel, 450 RCMP officers and hundreds of Canadian Coast Guard personnel making this one of the largest domestic military operations in Canadian history.

I want to offer my deepest sympathies to the families and loved ones of the victims as we remember them 25 years on.

GENDER EQUITY WEEK

Gender Equity Week (September 18-26) is an opportunity to celebrate the valuable contributions of women and gender-diverse communities while reaffirming our commitment to advancing gender equality within our organization and region.

Gender equality means that all gender identities have equal rights and opportunities.

Conversely, gender inequality, rooted in colonialism and patriarchy, connects to other forms of oppression. It encompasses issues like violence against women and the transgender community, gender stereotypes dictating how boys and girls "should behave," and limited career choices based on gender.

While progress has been made, including achieving gender parity on Regional Council in the last municipal election, there is still work to do.





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Highway of Heroes founder George Anthis presents 'Thank You' plaque to Mayor and Council.

HAZARD RISK AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The Halifax Regional Municipality Emergency Management Division is currently conducting a Hazard, Risk and Vulnerability Assessment (HRVA) to keep improving how we make decisions, understand community vulnerabilities, and mitigate emergency risks and hazards. The HRVA program will establish profiles and recommendations for action for each of the municipality's districts. Informed through comprehensive public engagement, these profiles will increase our understanding of human-, natural- or conflict-caused hazards that exist and how they increase community vulnerability. The recommendations will then be put into use and adapted based on continual review of HRVA profiles.

The easiest way to contribute to the HRVA is to attend a public engagement session and then contribute to our online survey. The public engagement sessions will introduce the process, gather local knowledge on historical hazards and likelihood of reoccurrence as well as to gather knowledge of emergencies occurring in the distant past.

District 3 Public Engagement Session

Date: September 25, 2023

Time: 6 to 8 p.m.

Location: Eastern Passage Cow Bay Lions Club, 65 Horne Road

The information residents and related stakeholders have to offer about the potential hazards and risks that may increase the vulnerability of our communities is vital to the HRVA process.

For more information and to fill out the survey, visit our [website](#).



The honourable Arthur J. LeBlanc, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia and his wife, Her Honour Rosemarie Patricia LeBlanc attending Natal Day Celebrations



BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY – SLOWING DOWN FOR STUDENTS

As summer fades and school resumes, prioritizing traffic safety in residential areas is crucial. When students return to school, keeping them safe on the streets should be a top concern. Here are essential tips and reminders for motorists and parents during this back-to-school season.

Respect Speed Limits:

Obey posted speed limits, especially in school zones. Reduced speed limits during school hours protect children traveling to and from school.

Yield to Pedestrians:

Always yield to pedestrians, especially near crosswalks and school zones. Children may not accurately judge traffic, so extra caution is necessary.

Eliminate Distractions:

Avoid distractions like cell phones and eating while driving in residential areas. Focus entirely on the road, as children might unexpectedly enter the street.

Stop for School Buses:

When a school bus stops, stop behind or in front of it as per local laws. Failing to do so endangers students and can lead to fines.

Promote Walking and Biking Safely:

Consider walking or biking to school for physical activity and reduced traffic. Use designated paths and wear helmets while biking.

Safe Routes to School:

Work with schools and parents to identify safe routes to school. This can include walking groups, carpooling, and advocating for better signage.

Educate Children:

Teach children road safety, emphasizing looking both ways before crossing, using crosswalks, and wearing reflective clothing in low-light conditions.

Support Traffic Calming Measures:

Advocate for traffic calming measures like speed bumps and narrowing roadways to slow traffic and protect pedestrians and cyclists.

Back to school should be a safe and exciting time for all. By following these tips and fostering responsible driving practices in your community, we can ensure a secure environment for students year-round. Let's make our neighborhoods safer for children during this back-to-school season and beyond.





BE PREPARED FOR HURRICANE SEASON

Hurricane season's arrival emphasizes the vital importance of preparedness. In coastal areas like ours, readiness is imperative due to the potential for catastrophic winds, rain, and devastation, aiming to save lives, protect property, and ensure community resilience.



Make a plan:

Every household needs an emergency plan. It will help you and your family know what to do in case of an emergency. Your family may not be together when an emergency occurs. Plan how to meet or how to contact one another and discuss what you would do in different situations.

When making your home emergency plan, you will need to think about the following:

- Safe exits from home and neighbourhood
- Meeting places to reunite with family or roommates
- Designated person to pick up children should you be unavailable
- Contact persons close-by and out-of-town
- Special health needs
- Place for your pet to stay
- Risks in your region
- Location of your fire extinguisher, water valve, electrical box, gas valve and floor drain

Protecting Property

Securing your property against hurricane damage is essential. This may include reinforcing windows and doors, clearing gutters and drains, and ensuring that the roof is in good

condition. For those living in areas prone to flooding, elevating electrical systems and sealing basement walls can help mitigate water damage.

Staying Informed

Monitoring weather updates is vital. Our government agencies provide timely information on storm tracking, severity, and projected paths. Pay attention to evacuation orders and warnings issued by local authorities. Having a battery-operated weather radio on hand can ensure you receive information even if the power goes out. Sign up for HRM emergency alerts [here](#), check Halifax.ca frequently, and follow [@hfxgov](#) on twitter for municipal updates and information during a storm.

Review and Practice

Periodically review your emergency plan and supplies to ensure they remain up to date and functional. Practicing evacuation procedures with your family can minimize confusion and anxiety during a crisis.

In hurricane-prone regions, preparedness for the impending storm season is not an option; it's a responsibility. By understanding the risks, creating an emergency plan, safeguarding property, staying informed, engaging with your community, and regularly reviewing your preparations, you can increase your resilience in the face of these powerful natural forces. Remember, the best defense against a hurricane is a well-prepared and informed community working together to weather the storm.

Learn more by visiting our [website](#).



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Cory's Lil Angler's Cheque Presentation



If you are interested in:

- mental health and well-being, food security, housing, healthy environments, and much more.
- having a voice
- learning about your community
- networking opportunities
- giving back

The Southeastern Community Health Board is a committed group of volunteers who are working together to improve the health of communities. The board serves a vital role in community well-being, helping to support many community-based projects and partnerships. This includes providing grants to community-based groups to support projects focused on health promotion and the social determinants of health.

For more information visit

www.communityhealthboards.ns.ca/get-involved
monique.mullins-roberts@nshealth.ca / 902-483-3745

The Southeastern area is made up of: Cole Harbour, Eastern Passage, Cow Bay, North Preston, East Preston, Cherry Brook, Lake Loon, Mineville & Lawrencetown

The Community Health Boards are committed to being groups that are free of discrimination, value diversity and are representative of all our communities.



REGIONAL PLAN REVIEW POP-UP SESSION

The municipality is inviting residents to participate in the [Regional Plan Review](#) through several engagement opportunities taking place from now until the end of October 2023.

The Regional Plan sets out a common vision and long-range, region-wide planning policies outlining where, when, and how future growth and development should take place. It was adopted in 2006 and is reviewed approximately every five years to ensure that the Plan still reflects the municipality's goals for growth and development. You can check out this short [video](#) for more information.

Have your say in the growth of our region at the following pop-up being held in our community:

Woodlawn Library
31 Eisener Boulevard, Dartmouth
Thursday October 5
12 to 4 p.m.

Here, you'll have an opportunity to meet municipal planners to talk about your ideas for our community. Staff are also available to meet with interested community and stakeholder groups by request, by emailing regionalplan@halifax.ca or calling 902-943-3248.

Residents who would like to attend an event and require accommodation for accessibility are asked to please contact Planning Staff by emailing regionalplan@halifax.ca or calling 902-943-3248.

HALIFAX



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RECENT FLOODING IMPACT

I wanted to take this opportunity to acknowledge the unprecedented flooding our region has experienced this past summer. My thoughts are with everyone who has been impacted by these devastating floods. A special thank you to our first responders who assisted residents getting to safety and our municipal staff who have been working tirelessly to repair damaged infrastructure and clean up. These are unprecedented weather events, but I fear there are still more on the horizon. While there has been flooding in District 3 in the past, these recent events have expanded the impacts.

If you haven't already informed me of impacts in your area, please be sure to contact me, through email (kentb@halifax.ca), to share more detail or any outstanding work to be completed. I am working to keep staff apprised of the potential issues and areas of concern. They are working their way through all scenarios being presented.

The Valero Lands saw extreme volumes of water entering the storm system and flooding on to adjacent properties and Main Road. I have contacted several departments within the municipality and Halifax Water to ensure they are aware of this new situation and the full extent of impact in District 3. Valero seems to be diligently working to address the situation, and staff are monitoring this location.

We are not able to correct decades of infrastructure overnight but rest assured that if you let me know what is happening near you, I will be working on change.



EPCB Summer Carnival Fun!



Local RCMP came to join in on the fun too!



Carnival breakfast!



REGISTRATION OF RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTIES

We are pleased to announce an initiative by the Halifax Regional



Municipality, aimed at elevating the rental landscape and fostering enhanced living conditions for our residents. Under the newly enacted By-law R-400, *Respecting Registration of Residential Rental Properties*, all property owners are mandated to register their rental properties via the [official portal](#) by the deadline of April 1, 2024.

Embracing diverse property types, including apartment complexes, income properties, single room occupancies, secondary suites, and short-term rentals, the Residential Rental Registry stands as a visionary project. This initiative will provide an accurate and comprehensive overview of the Halifax rental sector, rectifying the existing gaps in building information accuracy and detail.

The benefits are substantial. By aggregating a complete record of rental properties, our municipality will adeptly channel resources to where they are needed most, benefiting the occupants of these properties by optimizing service provision. Over time, the registry will empower us to proactively address maintenance concerns, mitigate complaints and non-compliance instances, and enhance the safety and overall quality of living for renters across the region.

The Residential Rental Registry process encompasses three key phases:

Registration: Rental property owners are required to diligently complete the online registration form for their property(ies) by the April 1, 2024 deadline. There is no application fee associated with this process.

Review: Our dedicated municipal staff will meticulously review each registration. Should further information be deemed necessary, applicants will be promptly contacted.

Confirmation: Following successful review, the municipality will issue a unique registration number to each rental property owner, confirming their compliance with the By-law R-400 mandate.

It is imperative to acknowledge that non-compliance with this directive bears consequences. After April 1, 2024, property owners possessing unregistered rental properties may incur fines of up to \$10,000. It is crucial to understand that registration within the framework of By-law R-400 serves as an administrative commitment and does not confer authorization for the operation of a rental property. Furthermore, By-law R-400 stipulates the necessity for rental property owners to maintain an up-to-date maintenance plan for their respective properties, incorporating all elements regulated by By-law M-200, *Respecting Standards for Residential Occupancies*. A maintenance plan template, facilitating adherence to this requirement, is readily accessible online [here](#).



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TAX RELIEF FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS PROGRAM 2022-2023

Halifax Regional Municipality is pleased to announce the Tax Relief for Non-Profit Organizations Program is now accepting applications for 2024-2025. Organizations applying for acceptance into the program (or the addition of another property) must submit a complete application on or before Thursday, November 30, 2023.

The Tax Relief Program for Non-Profit Organizations application forms is available online on the program's [website](#) or by e-mailing non-profittax@halifax.ca.

EASTERN PASSAGE SKATE PARK UPDATE

Exciting news for the skate park! I am pleased to advise that the design build Request for Proposal for the new skate park was issued, and a proponent has been selected. It is expected that design will begin sometime this fall. Stay tuned for more updates as the project progresses!



Station 16 Volunteer Fire Captain Shelby Lendrum

HALIFAX WATER'S BIOSOLIDS PROCESSING FACILITY UPGRADES AND EXPANSION

Halifax Water is another step closer to developing an upgraded and expanded Biosolids Processing Facility that provides improved benefits for customers and the environment. Having attracted interest from across the country, Halifax Water has pre-qualified three proponents that will have the opportunity to proceed to the Request for Proposals stage.

The processing of biosolids is a critical component of the wastewater treatment cycle. Halifax Water's existing facility is approaching its processing capacity limits and needs to be upgraded. Halifax Water is currently envisioning an enhanced resource recovery solution, recovering nutrients, water, energy, and GHG emission reductions from the biosolids and the facility. This investment will reduce the long-term capital and operational life cycle costs, directly and indirectly benefiting ratepayers. The goal is to have an expanded and upgraded facility operational in 2027.

This investment enables Halifax Water to prepare for increased population growth in the Halifax region. Additionally, the Biosolids Processing Facility helps address more stringent environmental regulations, including requirements for the secondary treatment of wastewater by 2040.

During this next phase of the procurement process, the selected list of proponents will be invited to submit confidential proposals to Halifax Water. To protect the integrity of the procurement process, no further details will be shared until after a preferred proponent is identified.



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UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

There are two Regional Council meetings scheduled for September. **Regional Council meetings are held on Tuesdays:**

- Tuesday, September 12
- Tuesday, September 26

I look forward to participating in these meetings, and I hope you can join us – in person or by tuning in on YouTube! Check out the full schedule of upcoming meetings - including committees [here](#).

Meeting agendas (including the specific start time of 10 a.m. or 1 p.m.) and a link to watch the video are generally available by the Friday prior to the meeting. Reports on the items that councillors vote on are available and are linked throughout the meeting agenda.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE AND AGENDA

The Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council normally meets on the first Thursday of each month, at 6 p.m. in the HEMDCC Meeting Space, Main Floor Alderney Gate, 60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth. Meeting dates, time and location are subject to change. You can find agendas, report, and minutes [online](#).

The HEMDCC webcast will be live on HRM's [YouTube channel](#) and [agenda postings](#). Stay tuned for the video link to be shared closer to the next HEMDCC meeting, scheduled for October 5.

PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY SIGNS AVAILABLE

If you are interested in a slow down sign for your lawn/personal property, please email me. These signs are



made of plastic

and come with the lawn stakes for installation. Please be informed that the District 3 “Please Drive Slowly” signs are NOT a traffic calming measure, and they have no authority to direct or slow down traffic or make children safer on the streets.

CONTACT

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at becky.kent@halifax.ca or 902-478-5368. For routine municipal matters, please call our Citizen Contact Centre at 311. To reach my office, please call Emily Simonov at 902-490-7177.

To sign up for my monthly e-newsletter, please e-mail Emily at smithem@halifax.ca.

For information on all things municipal, please visit our [website](#).