



COUNCILLOR TRISH PURDY

DISTRICT 4 ONLINE NEWS

COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

DEAR RESIDENTS,

Happy February District 4!

Winter has certainly made its presence known with chilly days and snow. Here is hoping we are almost through the worst of it and can begin to shift our focus to brighter days ahead.

I hope you will join me at one of my upcoming drop-in sessions this month! I am always happy to chat and meet you in-person. Drop-in dates can be found on page three of this newsletter.

February is African Heritage Month. I encourage you to check out this year's events and activities and celebrate the rich culture of people of African descent. More information can be found below in this newsletter.

While Council is in the midst of budget discussions, I would like to take this opportunity to remind and encourage everyone to participate. There is an opportunity for public participation at the start of every budget meeting.

As always, please feel free to reach out to me with your municipal questions or concerns. I love to hear from you.

Sincerely,

Trish Purdy



February 2023

HALIFAX



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COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

FEBRUARY IS AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH

February is African Heritage Month. This year's provincial theme, "***Our Smiles, Our Joy, Our Resilience as African Nova Scotians,***" encapsulates the enduring spirit and resilience demonstrated by people of African descent throughout the centuries in our province. Our smiles tell stories, share our joy, and symbolize our resilience. As we celebrate our heritage and culture, we also align with the final year of the United Nations' International Decade for People of African Descent (DPAD) 2015-2024, aiming to strengthen global cooperation and increase awareness for people of African descent.

Nova Scotia boasts 52 historic African Nova Scotian communities, each with a profound and complex history spanning over two centuries. African Heritage Month provides a special opportunity to celebrate the culture, legacy, achievements, and contributions of our people, both past and present.

Celebrate the rich culture of people of African descent by participating in this year's events and activities. A list of events and details can be found [here](#).

COUNCILLOR DROP-IN

The following Community Drop-In sessions are planned for the month of February. Please feel free to drop by to discuss any municipal concerns or questions, I would love to see you!

Tim Hortons, Forest Hills Parkway

Friday, February 23, 10 to 11 a.m.

Selby's Bunker, Cole Harbour Road

Friday, February 23, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



**COLE HARBOUR LIONS CLUB
VALENTINE'S DAY
DANCE**

AT COLE HARBOUR FIRE HALL
1150 COLE HARBOUR RD
FEBRUARY 9, 2024
8 PM to 1 AM

MUSIC BY
DJ BRANDON "THE BABE"

SILENT AUCTION, DOOR PRIZES, and 50/50

PER SALE OF TICKETS ON SALE NOW!
\$15 PER PERSON
FOR TICKETS: E-TRANSFER
coleharbourslions@hotmail.com

The proceeds from this event will go to
Bursaries for the two High Schools in
Cole Harbour





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AFRICAN NOVA SCOTIAN ROAD TO ECONOMIC PROSPERITY INFORMATION REPORT

An information report has been provided to Regional Council outlining key activities of the Road to Economic Prosperity for African Nova Scotian Communities from September 2022 to September 2023.

The report outlines activities around the Strategic Priorities, including:

- Build unity and capacity among African Nova Scotians
 - Through the guidance of the Advisory Committee, the outcome of this priority requires effective and culturally specific information sharing, collaboration with partners and establishment of a framework for supporting community capacity building efforts.
- Establish land ownership, develop infrastructure, and attract investment
 - This priority addresses historic and current issues related to land ownership and environmental racism, strengthens the revitalization of African Nova Scotian communities through investment and development, and supports the exploration of international economic and cultural opportunities.

- Increase participation in education, employment and entrepreneurship
 - The Advisory Committee continues to collaborate with its partners and stakeholders around opportunities to advance this action.

For more information, read the [staff report](#).



MUNICIPALLY OPERATED FITNESS CENTRE MEMBERSHIPS!

This winter, enjoy great prices and membership benefits at a municipally operated fitness centre near you. Our fitness centres offer low-cost memberships, no commitment or long-term contracts and a variety of group fitness programs and activities to choose from!



Learn more [here](#).



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PARTICIPATE IN THE 2024/25 BUDGET

The municipality's [2024/25 Budget and Business Planning](#) process has now started and will continue until into the spring of 2024. Over the winter, municipal business units present plans to Regional Council with their intentions for the upcoming fiscal year and outlining the required budgets to achieve their goals. During this process, Regional Council will ask questions, discuss, debate, and consider each department's proposed priorities and budget. This can result in revisions to budget plans along the way.

The 2024/25 Budget and Business Plan approval date is scheduled for April 23, 2024, where Regional Council will finalize what next year's budget.

HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT THE BUDGET

During every budget meeting, members of the public also have an opportunity to share their views on any aspect of the proposed municipal budget. You can speak directly to me as your Regional Councillor about budget priorities. During each meeting, time will also be set aside for the public to provide insight and comments. If you wish to make any presentations before HRM Council about the municipal budget, then please contact the Municipal Clerks Office at clerks@halifax.ca or call 902-490-4210. Written submissions are also welcomed.

PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF BUDGET PRESENTATIONS FOR 2023/24:

Business Unit	Budget Committee Date/(Contingency Date)
HRP RCMP	Wednesday February 7(Friday February 9)
Public Works	Friday February 9 (Tuesday February 13)
Planning and Development	Tuesday February 13 (Wednesday February 14)
Parks and Recreation	Wednesday February 14 (Wednesday February 28)
Halifax Transit	Wednesday February 28 (Friday March 1)
Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency	Friday March 1 (Wednesday March 6)
Community Safety Fiscal	Wednesday March 6 (Friday March 8)
Budget Adjustment List (BAL)	Tuesday April 2 (Wednesday April 3)

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RCMP Impaired Driving Stats

Nova Scotia Statistics for December 2023 on drivers charged for driving impaired by drugs or alcohol

For the month of December, Nova Scotia RCMP charged 125 drivers with impaired related offences.



- 155 charged with Impaired Operation of a Conveyance by Alcohol
- 7 charged with Impaired Operation of a Conveyance by Drug
- 14 charged with Refusal of a Demand Made by a Peace Officer
- 49 issued driving suspensions for Operating a Conveyance While Having Consumed Alcohol.

Please
drive
safely.

Don't
drink
and
drive.



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HOUSING ACCELERATOR FUND ANNOUNCEMENT

Urgent changes to
planning documents for housing



As part of the Housing Accelerator Fund, the municipality is collaborating with partners and other levels of government in a national effort to support housing. The municipality is proposing updates to planning policies to enable more density and flexible housing types in residential areas.

To learn more about the Housing Accelerator Fund and the proposed amendments, visit our [website](#).

COMMUNITY CORNER

Update on 78 Sherwood Drive

Community consultation is taking place through the [Housing Accelerator Fund](#) email provided on the page dedicated to this new initiative. To share comments, questions, or concerns, please email haf@halifax.ca.

Information on the site specific development requests recommended to the Housing Accelerator Fund for 78 Sherwood can be found [here](#).

To access this information from the HAF page, scroll down to 'Enable Suburban Opportunity Sites' tab, and then scroll down to the sentence on the interactive map and click '**here**' in bold. The interactive map is also informative but takes a little getting used to.

The email is open until February 16 for residents to make their concerns known to planning staff, and then the next step is for this to come to Regional Council. If this is approved, the public hearing will be held, and that will be a chance for residents to speak to this development and have their comments go on record. From what I understand, the process is moving quickly. Staff would like to see this come to Council in March for first reading.

New Development Application for 1226 Cole Harbour Road and 77 Bissett Road:

There has been a Development Application for a long-term care facility and four apartment buildings for this location. The proposal can be found [here](#).

Melissa Eavis is the planner for this file and is available for questions and comments at 902.237.1216 or email at eavism@halifax.ca

There will be a community consultation event planned for this development at a later date. Stay tuned for more information.

Ross Road Realignment:

There has been no update yet on this one. Land acquisition negotiations are ongoing.



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APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR THE NEXT MUNICIPAL POET LAUREATE

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that applications have been opened for the next municipal Poet Laureate. The Poet Laureate's term will begin on April 1, 2024, and will end on March 31, 2027.

The municipal Poet Laureate is a resident poet, storyteller or spoken word artist who achieved excellence among their peers and whose work demonstrates connection with and relevance to the municipality's citizens. Acting as an ambassador for poetry, literature and the arts – the Poet Laureate attends events across the region to promote and attract people to the literary world while representing the municipality. The position is intended to broadly reflect the interests, issues and perspectives of the varied communities and individuals of the Halifax region.

The Poet Laureate will receive an honorarium of \$5,000 per year for their three-year mandate.

For more information and to apply, visit [our website](#). Applications will remain open until Tuesday, Feb. 16. Questions can also be directed to Lindsay Cory, Community Developer – Public Art at lindsay.cory@halifax.ca or 902-456-8384.

ICE THICKNESS TESTING PROGRAM NO LONGER BEING CONDUCTED

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that it will [no longer conduct the ice thickness testing program](#).

Residents are reminded that the Canadian Red Cross recommends that ice be at least 15 cm thick for



individual skating, and at least 20 cm thick for group skating. Extreme caution is advised in areas where streams flow into and out of lakes. It is also important to note that ice conditions may vary over the entire surface of lakes and are subject to change with weather conditions. See a complete list of guidelines from the Canadian Red Cross regarding ice safety [here](#).

For more information, visit our [website](#).

NEW SIDEWALKS COMING TO THE HALIFAX REGION

Regional Council has directed municipal staff to proceed with a proposed plan to construct approximately 55 kilometres of new sidewalk on high need streets within the urban tax boundary over the next 10 years. This work will be funded through the existing budget plan and other potential cost-sharing opportunities.

Staff will also continue to use an evaluation tool to identify streets with the highest need for new sidewalks, including a greater focus on stand-alone projects on major roads.

For more information, read the [staff report](#).



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HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE 2025 CADET CLASS PROGRAM

The application process is now open [for Halifax Regional Police's 2025 cadet class program.](#)

The HRP's Police Science Program prepares cadets to become police officers with Halifax Regional Police. Cadets who successfully complete the program may be offered employment with HRP as either full-time police officers or reserve officers, depending on availability at the time of hiring.

Who should apply?

If you're compassionate, community-minded, service-oriented and willing to contribute every day to the well-being of people in our communities, we hope you apply.

Halifax Regional Police is committed to being reflective of the diverse communities we serve. As a group, Halifax Regional Police includes officers from the community and aims to be diverse in sexual orientations, gender, gender identity and expression, races, experiences, beliefs, ages, and faiths. This is how we can best contribute to all people's well-being and safety. We are recruiting people who reflect and appreciate diversity.

How do I apply?

See Applicant Requirements and Application & Selection Process below for specific details. Please read all the information carefully and thoroughly.

The application deadline closes at 11:59 p.m. on **February 28, 2024.**

Questions?

Prospective applicants who meet our minimum requirements and have questions, either prior to application or while completing their application, are invited to contact the Halifax Regional Police Recruiting Team by email at hrrprecruiting@halifax.ca or on X ([@JoinHRP](#)) and Instagram ([@JoinHRP](#)).

More information can also be found by visiting our [website](#).



PVSC CONTACT INFORMATION

PHONE

1-800-380-7775 (within North America)
1-902-893-5800 (outside North America)

MAIL

15 Arlington Place, Suite #6
Truro, NS, B2N 0G9

WEBSITE AND EMAIL

pvsc.ca
inquiry@pvsc.ca



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2024/25 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

2024-2025

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

This program provides cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities.

HALIFAX

Halifax Regional Municipality's Community Grants Program has begun accepting applications from registered non-profits and charities located within Halifax Regional Municipality. The application deadline is April 1, 2024. Application forms and program guidebooks are available from:

- Our [website](#)
- Visiting one of our [Customer Service Centres](#)
- Alderney Gate, 40 Alderney Drive, - Dartmouth, 1st floor
- Musquodoboit Harbour Strip Mall, Corner of Hwy #7 & East Petpeswick Road
- Bayers Road, 7071 Bayers Road, 2nd floor
- [Contacting 311](#)
- E-mail - nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca

Organizations considering an application to the Program are encouraged to review the guidebook.

For further information, please email nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca or call 902.497.0479

February 2023

UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS



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

- February 6
- February 13 (special meeting beginning at 6:00 p.m.)

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 10:00 a.m. or 1:00 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.

COMMISSIONER OF OATHS

As Councillor, I am also a Commissioner of Oaths. While in office, I may administer oaths and take and receive affidavits, declarations and affirmations within the Province for use within the Province.

If you require a Commissioner of Oaths, please contact me.



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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 March 7.

CONTACT

Should you wish to discuss municipal services or programs, please contact me at **trish.purdy@halifax.ca** or **902-240-3067**.

For routine municipal matters, please call our **Citizen Contact Centre at 311**.

To reach my office, please call Emily Simonov at **902-490-7177**.

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