

## **DEAR RESIDENTS,**

Happy June District 4!

The past week has been very trying and devasting for our municipality and province. Though it is great news that the wildfires are mostly contained, this is only the beginning of starting to recover from such a tragedy. My heart and thoughts are with the people and families who have been impacted and indirectly impacted by the wildfires.

A major thank you to all of our firefighters, first responders and staff behind the scenes. Your dedication and commitment to the community is incredible and you are appreciated more thank you know.

I also wanted to provide an update on Caldwell Road. There will be no construction for Caldwell Road recapitalization this year, other than the repositioning of the power poles to make room for the new AT walkway. This year, planners are working on the functional plan for phase 2. Construction will take place in the 2024/25 season.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish a very happy Father's Day to all the wonderful Dad's out there! We appreciate all you do!

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

Father's Day

Sincerely,

Irsh Pardy





# **PROVINCIAL BURN BAN**

As crews battle multiple fires, there is a **zerotolerance policy** in effect for burning during the outdoor burning ban. Fines will be issued against those who are burning outdoors, which includes **penalties up to \$25,000** (an increase from \$10,000, as <u>announced</u> by the Province of Nova Scotia). Any person responsible for fire spread can also be required to pay all expenses related to controlling or extinguishing the fire, and all related fire damages.

The following activities are prohibited:

- Outdoor fires
- Campfires
- Fireworks and other pyrotechnics

Residents are also strongly urged to properly dispose of cigarettes and other smoking materials.

## **SQUARE ROOTS: JUNE DATE**



Square Roots is a community interest company (not-for-profit) that aims to reduce food waste and food access challenges.

The NEW PICK-UP LOCATION is Cole Harbour REC on Cole Harbour Road (1216 Cole Harbour Rd). The date for June is the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Click <u>here</u> to sign up and find out more.

# UNITED WAY WILDFIRE RECOVERY APPEAL

United Way Halifax is launching the United Way Wildfire Recovery Appeal to support communities impacted by the wildfires across Nova Scotia as they recover and rebuild.

Communities need a wide variety of supports and services when rebuilding after a climate change disaster such as a wildfire. Although there is not yet a full understanding of community needs, this fund will likely support things like basic needs, groceries, connection and mental health supports.

To make a donation to the wildfire recovery appeal, visit their <u>website</u> and click on the "donate now" button.

Emera Inc. is making a \$125,000 donation to kickstart the campaign. In addition, Emera will provide up to \$125,000 in matching funds to double the impact of individual donations.



ΗΛLΙϜΛΧ



# REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN ENGAGEMENT



The Joint Regional Transportation Agency (JRTA) is a new provincial Crown Corporation tasked with addressing transportation issues associated with rapid growth in Halifax and surrounding communities.

To achieve this, the JRTA is developing the Regional Transportation Plan.

The Regional Transportation Plan will establish a long-term, coordinated and strategic vision for a regional transportation system that makes sustainable growth and development possible and improves the safe and efficient flow of people and goods.

The plan will consider all modes of transportation that move people (walking/rolling, cycling, buses, ferries, trains, vehicles), goods (trucks, trains, ships, planes) and the infrastructure needed (streets, active transportation facilities, highways, bridges, rail corridors, ports). The JRTA will be hosting community pop-ups where residents can ask questions and learn about the JRTA and Regional Transportation Plan. The pop-up event for Cole Harbour will take place on Thursday June 8<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at Cole Harbour Place.

For more information, including additional popup dates and to share your thoughts, visit their <u>website</u>.

# **COUNCILLOR DROP IN**

The following Community Drop-In sessions are planned for the month of June. 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 June 30<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

**Opus Café, Wilfred Jackson Way** Friday June 30<sup>th</sup>, 11:30-12:30 p.m.

**Selby's Bunker, Cole Harbour Road** Friday June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2:00-3:00 p.m.

# NEW TRAFFIC CALMING ASSESSMENTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE WEB MAP

The municipality has just released a new traffic calming map on our <u>website</u> that enables public users to check in on the status of any traffic calming assessment. This new map replaces the previous lists posted online and will be updated on a frequent basis.





# **2023 CITIZENSHIP AWARDS**

I want to wish a big congratulations to this year's District 4 Citizenship Award recipients. Thank you for your dedication to your community. Well done!



Emily Singleton, Astral Drive Junior High School



Karmiyah Colley, Sir Robert Borden Junior High School

# **TREE PLANTING PROGRAM**



The municipality's annual tree planting program ensures the continued health of our urban forest and contributes to our climate action goals. Beginning in mid-May, the Halifax Regional Municipality will plant approximately 2,500 trees throughout right-of-way spaces and other municipally-owned land.

Tree planting supports Regional Councilapproved initiatives, including the Urban Forest Management Plan and HalifACT. Learn more about our tree planting program <u>here.</u>





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# REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR READY FOR SUMER REC



Register now for Ready for Rec summer programs for youth 13-18.

Date: Weeks of July 4, July 10, July 17, July 24, July 31 and August 8 Time: 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Location: Central Spryfield Elementary School, 364 Herring Cove Road, Spryfield

This fun summer program is designed for youth with disabilities aged 13-18. Participants will explore the community and learn new things along the way. The focus is healthy living through fun recreation activities. Participants should be able to be in a group of two or three campers to one staff member.

### Ready for Rec youth outdoor fun

Date: Weeks of Aug. 14 and Aug. 21 Time: 10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. Location: Shubie Park (drop off by the Fairbanks Centre) The Ready for Rec Outdoor Camp offers an inclusive and supported environment for youth (13-18) with disabilities to learn and explore nature. Participants will engage in a combination of structured and unstructured seasonal activities, such as nature walks, scavenger hunts, creative expression and free play. This program offers one-to-one staffing if needed.

To register for Ready for Rec youth programs, please contact <u>inclusion@halifax.ca</u>.

To learn more about our Ready for Rec programs, visit our <u>website</u>.

# AFFORDABLE ACCESS PROGRAM

With the Halifax Regional Municipality's **Affordable Access Program** you only need one application to apply for:

- → Affordable Transit Pass (applications open mid-May and processed on a first-come, first-served basis)
- → Recreation programming funding (applications are open year-round with no deadline)

→ Property tax payment assistance (deadline of August 15 for an exemption on your final tax bill)

To learn more, to see if you qualify, or to apply, call 311 or visit our <u>website</u>.







# HRM LAKEWATCHERS WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM



Get involved in monitoring the quality of our local lakes! The municipality's LakeWatchers program launched last year and is a great way to help keep our lakes safe and clean.

The program will involve community teams to: ✓ Conduct environmental monitoring in 76 lakes across the municipality.

 $\checkmark$  Collect data, such as pH levels, to inform future actions to maintain/improve a lake's health.

✓ Share data with residents through future staff reports to Regional Council and through the municipality's <u>Open Data Portal</u>.

### You can get involved!

Data collection will take place twice yearly through internal sampling (staff or contractors) and/or trained community teams, called LakeWatchers. The municipality will leverage existing water quality community groups and welcomes new volunteers to collect data in support of this program. Interested in getting involved? Learn more here.

\*Note that the LakeWatchers Program is separate from regular water quality testing for safe recreational use. This program runs every summer from July 1 to August 31.

# UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS



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

- June 6<sup>th</sup>
- June 20<sup>th</sup>

I hope you can join us – in person or by tuning in on YouTube! Check out the full schedule of upcoming meetings - including committees <u>here.</u>

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.





# PARK LIGHTING STRATEGY



The Halifax Regional Municipality has over 900 parks in urban, suburban and rural settings that are used for a variety of recreation and leisure purposes. In some circumstances, parks are also locations through which people travel between destinations. While parks are typically used during daylight hours, park lighting needs to be considered to accommodate evening use as well. Currently, there is no formal process to evaluate when and where lighting might be installed, and which parks, or areas within parks, should be prioritized.

A Park Lighting Strategy is being developed to address the safe use and passageway in parks. The information gathered through this survey will help shape the process, criteria, prioritization, and design of spaces within parks that could be considered for lighting. The engagement program is organized into two tasks:

**Task 1** includes a few questions about you and preferences for lighting.

**Task 2** includes interactive maps for you to highlight your experiences in parks as they relate to lighting.

The engagement program will be available until June 11. Paper copies of the survey can also be collected from all branches of the Halifax Public Libraries. If you require special accommodation to participate in the engagement program, please contact Stephen Cushing at cushins@halifax.ca.

For all information and to access the survey, visit our <u>website</u>.





# **HEMDCC NOW STREAMED ONLINE**

As part of continued efforts to support open and accessible meetings, webcasts will now be available from the Harbour East – Marine Drive Community Council Chamber (60 Alderney Drive, Dartmouth), thanks to some recent technical upgrades. This means that all Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council (HEMDCC) meetings that take place at that location will be streamed online for residents to watch. This follows a soft launch webcast pilot that occurred at the HEMDCC meeting on January 12<sup>th</sup>. This pilot was a success and the video from this meeting can be found here.

#### Where to watch:

The HEMDCC webcast will be live on HRM's <u>YouTube channel</u> and <u>agenda postings</u>. Stay tuned for the video link to be shared closer to the next HEMDCC meeting, scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

### Other webcast opportunities:

Due to the ability to webcast in this room, this space will also be available to other meeting bodies. Other meetings may take place there in the future, and if they do, they may also be webcasted. For example, Regional Centre Community Council also uses this space. Community Councils that do not use this space will not have a webcast, aside from Halifax and West Community Council (meetings occur in Council Chambers, which also has the capacity to webcast).

### **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.

## 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**.

8

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

For information on all things municipal, please visit our <u>website</u>.



