



## COUNCILLOR TRISH PURDY

### DISTRICT 4 ONLINE NEWS

COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

## DEAR RESIDENTS,

Happy February District 4!

Spring is almost here! I am most certainly looking forward to the warmer and brighter days ahead. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy Easter and hope that you have the opportunity to spend time with loved ones.

I would also like to remind folks that daylight savings is quickly approaching. Don't forget to set your clocks forward by one hour at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday March 10.

March Break will be here soon, and I hope that all of our families will make some time to make memories that will fill their spirits and re-energize their batteries.

We continue to press on with budget discussions and I am happy to say that we are on track for the final budget deliberation on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Your contribution to the budget process is encouraged! Please consider sending a written submission to [clerks@halifax.ca](mailto:clerks@halifax.ca) with your thoughts, concerns, and/or suggestions.

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*





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### MARCH IS FRANCOPHONIE MONTH

March is Francophonie Month, celebrating the French language and diverse Francophone cultures through cultural activities held worldwide.

March 20 has been observed worldwide as International Francophonie Day since 1988. The date commemorates the establishment of the Agence de Coopération Culturelle et Technique, the precursor to the [International Organization of La Francophonie](#), the organization representing countries and regions where French is the first or customary language. Today, with 300 million speakers worldwide, French is the fifth most spoken language in the world; La Francophonie has 88 member states and governments.

Visit the [Calendar of the local francophone network Hého](#) to learn more about various events celebrating the rich and diverse Francophone cultures happening in Halifax this March 2024.

### MARS EST LE MOIS DE LA FRANCOPHONIE

Mars est le mois de la Francophonie, qui célèbre la langue française et les diverses cultures francophones à travers des activités culturelles organisées dans le monde entier.

Depuis 1988, le 20 mars est célébré dans le monde entier comme la Journée internationale de la Francophonie. Cette date commémore la création de l'Agence de coopération culturelle et technique, précurseur de [l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie](#), l'organisation qui représente les pays et les régions où le français est la langue première ou coutumière. Aujourd'hui, avec 300 millions de locuteurs dans le monde, le français est la cinquième langue la plus parlée au monde ; la Francophonie compte 88 États et gouvernements membres.

Visitez [le calendrier du réseau francophone d'Halifax Hého](#) pour en savoir plus sur les différents événements célébrant la richesse et la diversité des cultures francophones qui auront lieu à Halifax en mars 2024.

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### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

March 8<sup>th</sup> is International Women's Day! Together, let's celebrate all women and girls and their incredible contributions to our world.



### STEP UP TO LEADERSHIP COURSE

Join our Neighbourhood & Volunteer Services team for their Step up to Leadership course this spring! The course was developed by volunteers, for volunteers and covers a wide range of topics to help participants develop leadership skills and build strong communities.

Learn more about the spring 2024 sessions [here](#).



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### COUNCILLOR DROP-IN

The following Community Drop-In sessions are planned for the month of March. 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, March 22, 10 to 11 a.m.

**Opus Café, Wilfred Jackson Way**  
Friday, March 22, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

### HFXGO INSTALLATIONS UNDERWAY!

Installation of HFXGO validators is underway on [#hfxtransit](#) buses! Some validators are already installed but will not be active until installation is complete on the entire fleet. Please continue to show your HFXGO ticket or pass to your Operator when boarding.





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### COMMUNITY CORNER

#### Update on 78 Sherwood Drive:

Public input via the Housing Accelerator Fund email closed as of February 16, 2024. The Sherwood location is one of many development proposals that will make up this report, along with proposed amendments to the HRM planning strategy. Staff will be taking all the comments and concerns into consideration for recommendations to Regional Council. We are expecting this report to come to Council in March or April of this year.

#### 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.

There will be a **Public Information Meeting** at **Cole Harbour Place** for interested residents on **Monday March 18, 7 – 9 p.m.** HRM planning staff will be in attendance to answer questions. 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](mailto:eavism@halifax.ca)

#### Caldwell Road – Phase 2:

There has been a delay in the construction of the second phase of the Caldwell Road recapitalization project. HRM is waiting on NS Power for the relocation of the power poles. There have been some unforeseen challenges unfortunately. The new date for Caldwell Road phase 2 completion has been pushed out to 2025.

#### Planning Application 2023-001187 Montague Road, Lake Loon

Fathom Studio on behalf of the property owner is applying to amend an existing development agreement to allow for a shared housing with special care use on Montague Road, Lake Loon.

There will be a **Public Information Meeting** on **April 3, 2024 from 7 – 9 p.m.** at **Cole Harbour Place** in the Westphal Room. HRM Planning staff will be in attendance to answer questions. The planner for this file is Claire Tusz and is available for questions and comments at 902-430-0645 or email at [tuszc@halifax.ca](mailto:tuszc@halifax.ca).

### SOCIAL VALUE CATERING

The municipality is seeking applications from catering businesses who meet Social Value Guidelines for inclusion on a Social Value Catering List.

We are looking for businesses who are owned, operated by:

- women
- African Nova Scotians / People of African Descent
- Indigenous peoples
- veterans
- recent immigrants
- people with disabilities
- social enterprises

Learn more and apply [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 next month. Over the winter, municipal business units presented 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 asked questions, discussed, debated, and considered 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](mailto:clerks@halifax.ca) or call 902-490-4210. Written submissions are also welcomed.

### TRANSIT OPERATOR AND WORKER APPRECIATION DAY

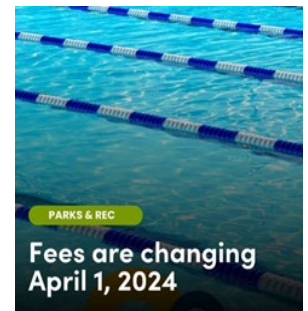
On March 18, we are celebrating Transit Operator and Worker Appreciation Day! It's a day to recognize the commitments to keeping our communities moving and appreciate our heroes behind the wheel. Thank you to all of those who help us reach our destinations safely – from our operators and workers to supervisors and team behind the scenes, your professionalism and dedication to our residents and public transit system does not go unnoticed!



### REC FEES CHANGING

Parks and Recreation fees are changing on April 1, 2024.

In 2022, changes to the Parks & Recreation fee structure for recreation programs, services, rentals, drop-ins and membership fees were announced. In accordance with the five-year fee structure changes, Parks & Recreation fees, including membership fees, will be increasing effective April 1, 2024.



Please see the full list of changes [here](#).





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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.

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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](mailto:nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca)

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

For further information, please email [nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca](mailto:nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca) or call 902.497.0479

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### UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS



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

- March 19
- March 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 10:00 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](#).

