

DEAR RESIDENTS,

Happy May District 4!

I hope everyone is having a fantastic spring so far. The days are getting longer and warmer and before we know it, summer will be here! I hope you have the opportunity to get outside and enjoy some of our beautiful municipal trails here in District 4.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate this year's District 4 Volunteer Award winners! Thank you for everything you do for our community.

The 2024/25 budget has now been officially passed and I am pleased to share a list of the planned capital work for the 2024/25 season for our district below in this newsletter.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish a very happy Mother's Day to all the wonderful Mom'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.

Sincerely,







COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WEEK

Emergency Preparedness Week is from May 6 to 11. If an emergency happens in your community, it may take emergency workers some time to get to you. You should be prepared to take care of yourself and your family for a minimum of 72 hours.

This week serves as a great reminder to get prepared by:

- Checking your 72-hour emergency kit
- Knowing your key contacts
- Knowing the support services available in your area
- Where to find accurate information to stay informed

To stay informed about emergencies and operations, residents are encouraged to sign up for hfxALERT, the municipality's mass notification system. Subscribers may receive urgent and non-urgent notifications by phone, email, and/or text message. During emergencies, the municipality communicates with residents via public service announcements, web updates, social media (@hfxgov) and hfxALERT. Residents may also contact 311 for more information about emergency operations.

By taking a few simple steps today, you can become better prepared to face a range of emergencies – anytime, anywhere. Visit our website to stay informed and to learn more.



2024 District 4 Volunteer Award Receipient Frederick Fong



2024 District 4 Volunteer Award Receipient Judith Saikaly



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MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Mental Health Week, which runs from May 6 to 10, is an opportunity to raise awareness about the importance of mental health for Canadians.





Mental health is an essential part of overall health and well-being, and it is crucial to take care of our mental health just as we take care of our physical health.

In Canada, mental health issues affect a significant number of individuals, with 1 in 5 Canadians experiencing a mental health problem or illness each year.

Taking care of our mental health involves adopting healthy habits such as practicing mindfulness, staying physically active, connecting with others, and seeking help when needed. It is also essential to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and to promote understanding and empathy towards those who are struggling.

During Mental Health Week, Canadians are encouraged to prioritize their mental health and to seek support if needed. By doing so, we can promote a healthier and more resilient society. The Canadian Mental Health Association has a great list of resources on Mental Health. Check them out by downloading one of their helpful and informative toolkits on their website.



2024 District 4 Volunteer Award Receipient Kathy Marshall Cormier



2024 District 4 Volunteer Award Receipient Lisa Weatherhead

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2024 District 4 Volunteer Award Receipient Ruth Riley

Rathy Mars Frederic Shantha Ruth Judith Lisa Weal

2024 District 4 Volunteer Award Receipient Natalie Borden

BUDGET APPROVAL

Regional Council has approved the 2024/25

municipal budget of \$1.04 billion in total municipal expenditures and a capital plan of \$306.5 million.

Budget and Business Plan
2024/25

The average residential and

commercial property tax bill is increasing by 6.3 per cent. This means the average single-family home tax bill will increase by \$214 in 2024/25.

You can read the full news release <u>here</u> and find more detailed information on the 2024/25 municipal budget on our <u>website</u>.



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2024 District 4 Volunteer Award Receipient Ryan Clark



2024 District 4 Volunteer Award Receipient Shantha Ranepura



NEW POET LAUREATE – ANNA QUON

The municipality is pleased to announce that Anna Quon has been named the municipality's ninth poet laureate.



The municipal poet

laureate is a resident poet, storyteller or spoken word artist who has achieved excellence among their peers and whose work demonstrates connection with and relevance to the municipality's citizens. Anna will serve as the municipality's poet laureate until 2027.

Learn more here.

May 2024





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COMMUNITY CORNER: MAY UPDATE

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. Unfortunately, due to some unforeseen challenges the new date for Caldwell Road phase 2 completion has been pushed out to 2025.

Astral Drive:

Astral Drive is the next big recapitalization project to be started after Caldwell Road is completed. So tentatively, that looks to be 2026.

Staff are going to planer patch the road this month as it is not in good condition and needs some TLC to hold it over for the next couple of years. Staff did try to see if an overlay could be done to the street last summer, but because it has been overlayed in the past, a new overlay would change the elevation of the street to such a degree that it could cause flooding issues. So, in the interest of not causing more harm, they decided not to go ahead.

Thank you to everyone for your continued patience.

Ross Road Intersection:

HRM are still waiting for the negotiations to conclude in order to move ahead with the realignment plans of Ross Road and Lake Major intersection.

Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF):

The Housing Accelerator Fund report has passed first reading in Regional Council. I voted against the recommendations in the report. The changes are sweeping and fast and could have implications for every community in an effort to address the housing crisis.

The public hearings will begin on May 21st and continue until all residents are able to have their say. Please consider signing up to speak at the public hearing by emailing clerks@halifax.ca.

These are historic changes and some municipalities in Canada have had hundreds of residents signed up to speak resulting in their public hearings lasting for days.

Check out the HAF link here.

Halifax Water Community Meeting:

Halifax Water has graciously agreed to a community meeting where residents will be able to learn about the impacts of proposed and approved developments in our district, the capacity of existing HW infrastructure, and future plans to address increased density in our district. We are still waiting for a date for this meeting. I was hoping to have it prior to the summer, but we may be looking at a September date at this point. I will keep you updated via this newsletter and Facebook.



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PORTLAND STREET – COLE HARBOUR ROAD FUNCTIONAL PLANNING STUDY UPDATE

The Halifax Regional Municipality is planning on making incremental changes to Portland Street and Cole Harbour Road from Alderney Drive /Prince Albert Road to Bissett Road. A study has been undertaken to develop a future vision for this street that seeks to:

- Provide high quality transportation options;
- Improve people-moving capacity;
- Build Complete Streets and with an emphasis on the pedestrian realm and placemaking;
- Improve road safety and areas of previous collisions.

This includes considerations like bus rapid transit implementation, wider sidewalks and boulevards, continuous off-road cycling facilities, and intersection improvements to help improve the comfort, convenience, and safety of all road users with a Complete Streets lens.

Portland Street and Cole Harbour Road are an important gateway and link between communities of Dartmouth and Cole Harbour with the rest of the Municipality. It is estimated that upwards of 40,000 people travel along this corridor every day. More details about the project can be found here.



The second phase of the Portland Street – Cole Harbour Road Functional Planning Study has been initiated with a revised scope and deliverables towards project completion by summer 2024.

Upcoming Public Engagement Opportunities

Phase Two of public engagement will continue in June. Have your say by participating in one of our public open house events or filling out the online survey. More details are below:

Public Open House #1

Thursday, June 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. Micmac Aquatic Club (192 Prince Albert Road)

Public Open House #2

Monday, June 17 from 6 to 8 p.m. Cole Harbour Place (51 Forest Hills Parkway)

Open houses will be drop-in style with display boards and breakout tables for themed discussion. There will be opportunity to review two design scenarios and ask questions of HRM staff. A major focus is on evaluation of trade offs. Which scenario best meets project objectives and matches your vision for the future of these streets?

Online Survey

Will be open June 10 through 28. Hosted on this webpage.

Survey material will reflect what was presented at the Open House sessions including questions on the concept scenarios, trade offs, and future vision for the street.



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DISTRICT 4 – 2024/25 PLANNED CAPITAL WORK

Below you will find a list of the proposed planned capital work for 2024/25 in District 4:

Street Recapitalization

Boling Green Cres – Colby to Colby Gregory Dr – Flying Cloud to Wildwood (Re-Instate Traffic Calming)

Asphalt Overlays

Broom Rd – Highway 7 to End (Integrated Traffic Calming)
Cole Harbour Rd – Caldwell to Cumberland Lundy Dr – Bradorian to Hillsboro (Re-Instate Traffic Calming)

Microsurfacing

Monague Rd - Serpentine to Vaughn

New Sidewalk

Gregory Dr / Flying Cloud – Sidewalk Connection for traffic stop moving to Flying Cloud

Active Transportation

Perron/Arklow/Amaranth MUP – Cole Harbour Rd to Forest Hills Trailhead

Walkways

58 Boling Green Cres to 54A Attwood Cres Gregory Dr – School to End of Asphalt

Guiderails

158 Cherry Brook Rd 633 Bissett Rd

Bridges

Lake Major at Long Lake

Traffic Management Projects

Traffic Calming

- Circassion Dr (corridor)
- Cherry Brook Rd (school area)
- Evergreen Dr (school area)
- Hugh Allen Rd (school area)

New RRFB Crosswalk

Caldwell Rd at Millbrook Ave

Existing Crosswalk Upgrade to RRFB

Ross Rd at Greenvale Dr

Accessible Pedestrian Signals

Main St at Lake Major Rd

Planer Patching

Colby Dr – Briarlynn S to Greenwich Flying Cloud Dr – Forest Hills to Forest Hills Maplewood Dr – Astral to Stratford Montague Rd – Vaughn to Civic 1206

Proposed Crack Sealing

Allison Dr – Brookfield to Spence
Armbro Ln – Cole Harbour to End
Bradorian Dr – Auburn to Auburn
Cumberland Dr – Cole Harbour to Colby
Forest Hills Pkwy – Civic 9 to Cole Harbour
Kirtland Crt – Circassion to Cul de Sac
Pernix Crt – Arklow to End
Savona Crt - Circassion to End



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UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS



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

- May 7
- May 21

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.

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 Wednesday June 12.

THE ELECTION OFFICE IS HIRING ELECTION OFFICERS

The Election Office is currently recruiting for eight full-time, temporary Election Area Officers!

Are you passionate about democracy and eager to play an important role in your community? Join the municipality's Election Office, where you'll have the opportunity to play a direct role in ensuring a fair, accessible and efficient 2024 Municipal and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) Election.

Read the job description and apply <u>here</u>.

More information about the upcoming election can be found by visiting our <u>website</u>.



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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.

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

For information on all things municipal, please visit our website.