



**COUNCILLOR TRISH PURDY**

**DISTRICT 4 ONLINE NEWS**

COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

**DEAR RESIDENTS,**

Happy April District 4!

Spring has finally sprung and we can expect warmer and brighter days ahead. Flowers are beginning to bloom and the weather forecast for the next two weeks looks amazing! I think we are finally finished with this early spring winter weather.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and 'hoppy' Easter and I hope that you are able to spend time with your loved ones over the holiday weekend.

I would also like to remind folks that our spring registration for recreation and aquatic programming is now open. A friendly reminder that registration for parents seeking inclusion support during summer camps closes on April 12. More information can be found below in this newsletter.

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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### APRIL IS WORLD AUTISM MONTH

Each April is World Autism Month.

The month is focused on sparking dialogue and action to increase understanding and acceptance of people with autism and creating a world where all people with autism can reach their full potential.



Instead of seeing autism as a disorder, people use the term “neurodiverse” to recognize the rich differences, abilities, and strengths autistic people and other neurodiverse people have.

Let’s be kind, accepting and inclusive all year-round. There is so much to learn from those who see and experience the world differently.

### WORK WITH HRM’S RECREATION TEAM THIS SUMMER!

Are you a student or young adult looking for a summer job that offers more than minimum wage? Check out exciting opportunities with HRM’s recreation team this summer! There are a variety of positions available in recreation programming, aquatics and inclusion support. These fun summer jobs pay \$16.30 to \$19.30 per hour. Visit our [website](#) for a full list of postings until April 16<sup>th</sup>.



April 2023

### SQUARE ROOTS: APRIL DATES



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

They provide fresh local produce that may get rejected by grocery stores for not being “pretty” enough to families in need for low or no cost. The date for bundle pick up dates in April are the 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Click [here](#) to sign up and find out more.

### 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, April 28 10:00-11:00 a.m.

#### Selby’s Bunker, Cole Harbour Road

Friday, April 28 11:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.





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### REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR PARKS & RECREATION SPRING PROGRAMMING



HRM is advising residents that registration has opened for spring recreation programs.

Parks & Recreation offers a variety of innovative, cost-effective programming lead by local, passionate instructors in a judgement-free zone. Programming is offered in a variety of fields – including health, wellness, outdoor and artistic – and is available for residents of all ages and abilities.

Many programs are available at residents' [local community centres](#), limiting travel time, and the [Recreation Affordable Access Program](#) provides discounted recreation opportunities for children, youth and adults in financial need.

Registration for **recreation programs** and **aquatics programs** is now open.

Residents are also reminded that [registration](#) for parents seeking **inclusion support** during summer camps closes on April 12.

A full list of all programs can be found [here](#).

To learn more, and to register through your MyRec account, visit our [website](#).

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### INDEPENDENT LIVING NOVA SCOTIA CAP PROGRAM

Independent Living Nova Scotia's (ILNS) **Community Access Program (CAP)** is a 9-week pre-employment program perfect for anyone who is:

- 18-24 years old
- Living in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM)
- Wanting to connect with their community
- Looking to develop life and employment skills

Those interested can apply for CAP [here](#) or get in touch with program staff at [cap@ilns.ca](mailto:cap@ilns.ca) or 902-453-0004. The next program begins on May 16.

CAP is also a great stepping stone to their [RISE](#) Program; many CAP participants successfully move into RISE, which is a paid program for youth with disabilities to transition to employment.



**Are you 18-24 years old?**

**Do you identify as having a disability(ies)?**

**Want to connect with your community?**



# HALIFAX



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### LITTER CLEAN UP RESOURCES



Residents and groups looking to clean up litter in their communities can access programs supported by HRM Solid Waste Resources.

Between the months of April to November, residents of HRM can register with the Great Nova Scotia Pick Me Up (GNSPMU) by visiting their [website](#). GNSPMU is coordinated by Divert Nova Scotia and is supported in part by HRM. Upon registration, residents can pick up their free litter cleanup kit, which consists of litter bags and nitrile gloves, at their local Halifax Public Library or at one of the three Customer Service Centres located throughout HRM.

In addition to providing litter kits, HRM also provides three different disposal options for residents participating in the GNSPMU program. These disposal options include:

1. Placing the materials curbside to be collected on your next garbage collection day if it does not exceed curbside bag limits.
2. Taking the materials directly to the Otter Lake landfill for disposal. HRM will waive tipping fees for any groups or residents who are registered with the GNSPMU.

3. Residents can also get the materials picked by HRM road operations. Residents who choose this disposal option must contact 311 two weeks prior to their litter clean up date to help ensure that the materials are collected.

Residents and groups who are looking to complete litter cleanups during the winter months can contact [wasteless@halifax.ca](mailto:wasteless@halifax.ca) directly to access litter kits and to arrange for pickup from their cleanup event.

If residents have any additional questions about our litter programs, they can contact [wasteless@halifax.ca](mailto:wasteless@halifax.ca) or visit our [website](#).

### MUNICIPALITY IMPLEMENTS SPRING WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS

To minimize potential damage to municipal roads, HRM has introduced its annual spring weight restrictions on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

These restrictions are for heavy vehicles travelling on municipally maintained roads. Residents can view which roads are exempt from spring weight restrictions on a [map](#), or by reviewing the attached list. Regular weight tolerances apply on exempt roads.

The weight restrictions are expected to remain in place into the spring, at which time the municipality will advise when the restrictions are lifted.

The municipality's spring weight restrictions are consistent with those of the Nova Scotia Department of Public Works. More details of vehicle restrictions can be found [online](#).



### 2023-24 TO 2025-26 HALIFAX PUBLIC SAFETY STRATEGY APPROVED

An updated Halifax Public Safety Strategy has been approved for 2023-24 to 2025-26.

The Halifax Public Safety Strategy is a strategic framework for guiding all municipal decision-making, regarding public safety. The four strategic priorities of this framework include:

1. Building Resident Resilience;
2. Ensuring Safe Spaces;
3. Strengthening Communities; and,
4. Preventing and Reducing Crime.

The Halifax Public Safety Strategy adheres to the municipality's mandate to sustain safe and viable communities and is built on an understanding that partnerships with the province and other stakeholders are vital to moving this work forward in a meaningful and sustained way.

Throughout the development of the updated Halifax Public Safety Strategy, consultations occurred both internally with business units and Regional Council, and externally with community stakeholders and service providers.

Additional external engagement with service providers, community organizations, and communities will continue as the actions within the strategy are advanced, including the establishment of a community voice and advisory structure.

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

### CHANGES TO PARKING PERMITS

As of Saturday, April 1, changes to annual parking permit fees, visitor parking permits, commuter permits, carshare parking and the ability to purchase second permits will be in effect.

- Annual parking permit fees will increase from \$40/year to \$75/year.
- Residents can purchase a second annual parking permit for \$175/year.
- Annual visitor parking permits will shift to pay-per-use:
  - One day: \$15
  - Two days: \$25
  - Seven days: \$35
- Carshare vehicles will be able to park at any on-street paid parking location.
- Commuter permits will see price increases or price decreases, depending on the zone. Student commuter permits will change from a flat rate of \$35/month to \$10/month discount off the regular zone price.
- All permits will shift to a digital format, removing the need for replacement fees.

These changes, supported by amendments to [By-law P-1200](#) and approved by Regional Council, will streamline purchases, increase flexibility and create efficiencies in a new digital format. These changes are also based on resident feedback and will better align with residents' needs and better reflect the cost of administering these programs.

All current parking permits will remain valid until they expire.

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





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### UPCOMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS



There is one Regional Council meeting scheduled for April. **Regional Council meetings are held on Tuesdays:**

- April 25

I look forward to participating in this meeting, 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.

### 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 [YouTube channel](#) and [agenda postings](#). Stay tuned for the video link to be shared closer to the next HEMDCC meeting, scheduled for April 20.

#### 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).



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### DISTRICT 4 RCMP ROAD SAFETY STATS: FEBRUARY 2023

Calls for service were down just over 14% in February from last year.

RCMP responded to 520 calls for service including issuing tickets for 25 summary offences, 4 aggressive driving, 2 cellphone use, 4 invalid inspection sticker, 4 speeding offences and 11 other motor vehicle act violations like lack of registration and insurance.

There was 1 impaired driving charge and 3 suspensions in February and RCMP completed 86 traffic stops. They also responded to 28 motor vehicle accidents, versus 16 in February 2022. For more information on our RCMP's work in the community, see their [website](#).

### 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](#).

