



COUNCILLOR TRISH PURDY

DISTRICT 4 ONLINE NEWS

COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

DEAR RESIDENTS,
Happy February District 4!

Winter has definitely made its mark with these cold days and snow. While these colder months can sometimes feel long, we're hopeful that we're nearing the end of the harshest weather and can soon look forward to brighter, warmer days ahead.

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.

I'd love for you to join me at one of my upcoming drop-in sessions this month! It's always a pleasure to chat and meet you in person.

As Council continues its budget discussions, I want to take a moment to remind and encourage everyone to get involved. There's always a chance for public participation at the beginning of each budget meeting.

And as always, don't hesitate to reach out to me with any municipal questions or concerns - I truly enjoy hearing from you.

Sincerely,

FEBRUARY DATES

February 2
Groundhog Day

February 4
World Cancer Day

February 13
[Wear Red Canada Day](#)

February 15
[National Flag of Canada Day](#)

February 20
**[Nova Scotia Heritage Day](#) – 2025 Honouree
Nora Bernard**

February 26
[Pink Shirt Day / Anti-Bullying Day](#)



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AFRICAN HERITAGE MONTH 2025



February is African Heritage Month, a time to celebrate the rich culture, achievements and contributions of African Nova Scotians and communities of African descent in our region and across the nation.

This year's provincial theme, *Legacy in Action: Celebrating Black Brilliance*, highlights the living legacy of Black Nova Scotians, honouring the impact and perseverance of the long-standing community.

Nova Scotia has 52 historic African Nova Scotian communities with a long, deep and complex history dating back over 400 years.

The Halifax Regional Municipality are committed to fostering safe and inclusive communities for all.

Our African Nova Scotian Affairs Integration Office (ANSAIO) are committed to addressing anti-Black racism in our workplaces and communities with the [Anti-Black Racism Framework](#), the [African Descent Advisory Committee](#) advises Regional Council on the impact of municipal policies, programs and services for People of African Descent and we

are sponsors of the [Road to Economic Prosperity for African Nova Scotian Communities](#), that encourages community efforts and provides a space for realizing future opportunities for all people of African descent.

This month, City Hall will be illuminated in black, green and red and the Pan-African flag will be displayed at some of our municipal buildings in honour of African Heritage Month. Take time to commemorate African Heritage this month by attending an [event](#) or checking out the [Halifax Public Library portal featuring programs that celebrate the African Nova Scotian community](#).



African Heritage Month flag raising at Grand Parade



Councillor Purdy, Councillor Hinch, and Mayor Fillmore

February 2025

HALIFAX



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COUNCILLOR DROP-IN

The following Community Drop-In session is 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!

Selby's Bunker Coffee & Gifts
1090 Cole Harbour Road, Dartmouth
Tuesday February 18, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

WEAR RED DAY

Heart disease is the number one killer of women worldwide and the leading cause of premature death in Canadian women. Wear Red Canada Day is celebrated annually on February 13 to raise awareness about women's cardiovascular. I hope you will join me and wear red on February 13 for this significant day of awareness.

Visit their [website](#) to learn more.

PARK LIGHTING STRATEGY

Regional Council has approved a new Park Lighting Strategy to add lighting in parks to increase safety and accessibility at night and minimize environmental impact.

Park lighting plays an important role in improving accessibility, visibility, safety and active living in municipal green spaces across the region. Regional Council identified the need for a strategy address nighttime safety, enhance the use of facilities like sport courts and installations of public art.

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

SOLAR LIGHTS



I am happy to share that we have installed three solar lights to improve visibility along the ball field pathway at the Cole Harbour Commons.

We will monitor these for performance and see if they meet the needs of the park.

A big thank you to our amazing Parks folks!!

ROAD SAFETY



February's Road Safety theme is Distracted Driving.

Distracted driving puts you and everyone on the road at risk. It is one of the leading causes of fatal and serious injury collisions in the Halifax region.

Distracted driving puts you and everyone on the road at risk. It is one of the leading causes of fatal and serious injury collisions in the Halifax region.

From cellphones to loud music and other passengers there are many distractions that can compete for a driver's attention and affect their ability to drive safely. Stay alert, arrive alive. Click [here](#) to learn more.



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COMMUNITY CORNER

Caldwell Road Phase 2:

This completion of Caldwell Road has been pushed out to 2026 due to utility pole relocation delays. The delays are due to easement issues, capacity issues, and HRM not having the jurisdiction to dictate the schedule. We are waiting on third party work. Very sorry for the continued frustration this delay causes.

Astral Drive Recapitalization:

Astral Drive is slated for 2025 for the first phase of the recapitalization project. Phase One will be from Selig to Stratford including integrated traffic calming. Knowing that Caldwell Road would be delayed yet another year, staff worked hard to get the detailed design work for Astral completed in time to be able to begin phase one this year. Very thankful they got it done in time! Thank you!

Broom Road Provincial Land for Housing Development:

HRM Planning and Development have received the preliminary subdivision application from the developer for this site. It is in the initial review stages. I have sent all the correspondence I received from concerned residents to our Planning staff and Halifax Water to be flagged for this development. It is very important that all parties should know upfront the historic stormwater run-off issues and sewer capacity issues, along with other concerns that were raised to me. Thank you for sharing your feedback.

Ross Road Realignment:

I am SO HAPPY to share that we have completed the first very important step of moving towards the Ross Road realignment with the Lake Major Intersection! In December Councillor Hendsbee and myself signed the long awaited land acquisition documents with the Mayor and our Municipal Clerk to close the deal! This has been many years in the making and now staff are working on the detailed design work with construction slated for 2027.



Portland Street/Cole Harbour Road Functional Planning Study:

We are still waiting for the 'What We Heard' report. This is the report where staff will summarize the feedback they heard from residents concerning the options and priorities of the new plan.

Highway #7 Active Transportation Greenway:

Additional streetlights were installed on every power pole along the greenway to help brighten the multi-use pathway for visibility and safety.



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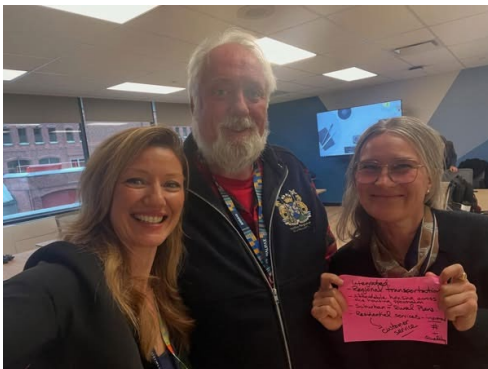
COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL - LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

FRENCH LANGUAGE SERVICES FEEDBACK

The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting Acadian and Francophone residents to share feedback on the *French Language Services Strategy*.

The Halifax Regional Municipality has the largest Acadian and Francophone community in Nova Scotia, with more than one third of French-speaking Nova Scotians residing in the municipality. It also accounts for more than half of the self-identified bilingual individuals in the province. In 2021, Halifax Regional Council approved the [French-Language Services Strategy](#), designed to strengthen the municipality's engagement with its Acadian and Francophone communities. This strategy includes 33 action items, divided into three phases, to ensure municipal services, programs and decisions meet the needs of French-speaking residents. The first phase of this strategy is complete.

The [online survey](#) can be completed in French or English and will be available until February 16.



A great meeting at Duke Tower this afternoon as we discussed ideas for the next iteration of strategic planning for Council!

February 2025

RESIDENTS INVITED TO LEARN ABOUT NEW MINIMUM PLANNING REQUIREMENTS



The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting residents to learn more about new Minimum Planning Requirements that will affect policies and regulations regarding housing in our region.

Minimum Planning Requirements are provincial regulations that the municipality's land use plans and strategies must meet as required by the province. In August 2024, the province announced [12 new Minimum Planning Requirements](#) to prioritize increasing housing supply.

To comply with the new regulations, the municipality is making changes to the [Regional Plan](#), as well as Community Plans and land use by-laws.

Check out the new requirements and submit your feedback in our online public engagement by Monday, February 24 [here](#).



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RCMP HALIFAX REGIONAL DETACHMENT – DISTRICT 4

Cole Harbour / Preston / Westphal / Cherry Brook

November 2024

General

Calls for Service:

797 calls recorded (including self-generated) in November 2024, up 19.5% over the same period in 2023

Traffic Related

23 SOTs Issued in November 2024, down from the 35 issued during the same period in 2023:

2 Aggressive Driving

2 Speeding

3 Cell Phone

16 Other MVA e.g. No Insurance, Unlicensed Driver, Unregistered Vehicle, etc.

342 Proactive Assignments in November 2024, up from the 145 reported during the same period in 2023:

55 Cell Phone / Impaired / Seatbelt / Speeding Checkpoints / Radar Enforcements

75 Traffic Stops in November 2024, down from the 136 conducted during the same period in 2023

Impaired Driving

4 Impaired Driving Charges in November 2024, up from the 2 issued during the same period in 2023

0 Impaired Driving Suspensions in November 2024, down from the 2 issued during the same period in 2023

31 Motor Vehicle Accidents in November 2024, up from the 25 reported during the same period in 2023

29 Non-Injury 2 Injury

1 Vehicle/Pedestrian (Or Cyclist) Accident in November 2024, up from the 0 reported over the same period in 2023

1 Non-Injury

INCLUSION SUPPORT ADVISORY GROUP



We are looking for 8-12 people to make up the Inclusion Support Advisory Group, a volunteer team of residents from all over the region that will be responsible for leading the development of the Inclusion Support Analysis and Evaluation in Parks & Recreation ensuring that key priorities reflect the needs of the disability community.

The advisory group will consist of a mixed group of persons with disabilities, parents of persons with disabilities and service providers of persons with disabilities. This group will help in the following:

- the creation of a municipality-wide survey
- analyzing of data to determine key issues
- providing recommendations that will make up the final plan

Applications are open until Monday, March 3, 2025. Any questions about the inclusion support analysis or the advisory committee, please contact inclusion@halifax.ca. To learn more or apply, visit our [website](#).



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HERITAGE DAY

Celebrated the third Monday in February, Nova Scotia Heritage Day is an annual reminder of our storied past and an opportunity to honour the remarkable people, places and events that have contributed to this province’s unique heritage.

This year’s honouree is Nora Bernard, a Mi’kmaq activist for her community and First Nations across the country who was instrumental in ensuring justice, recognition and compensation for the survivors of the Canadian Indian Residential School system. Learn more about Nora [here](#).

COLE HARBOUR PLACE

COLE HARBOUR PLACE

We Are **Hiring!**

JOIN NOW

AQUATICS STAFF

- ✓ Deck Supervisor - Part Time
- ✓ Pool Lifeguard - Part Time
- ✓ Swim Instructor - Part Time

Email Your Resume aquatics@coleharbourplace.com

The Cole Harbour Place is hiring lifeguards, swimming instructors and deck supervisors.

If you’re interested please email a copy of your resume to aquatics@coleharbourplace.com

SUMMER JOB RECRUITMENT

Applications are now open for our summer casual positions in aquatics, inclusion and recreation programming. These positions are ideal for teenagers and students with a fun work college, competitive wages and opportunities to work outdoors in an environment that promotes health, wellness and physical activity.

For more information on dates and locations, as well as a list of job openings, visit our [website](#).

2024 MUNICIPAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN FINANCE DISCLOSURE

The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that campaign finance disclosure documentation for the 2024 Municipal and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial election is now available on our [website](#).

Within 60 days of 2024 Municipal Election, every candidate was required to provide a *Statement of Campaign Contributions and Expenditures and Statement of Campaign Surplus* in accordance with [By-law C-1100 – Respecting Campaign Financing](#) and the Province of Nova Scotia’s [Municipal Elections Act](#).





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BUDGET UPDATE

This month, Regional Council will be continuing to work with each business unit to direct the 2025/26 budget and business plan and capital plan.

Residents are encouraged to tune in or attend these budget sessions, where we will hear from each business unit and discuss their budget and plan for the next fiscal year and there will be time set aside for public feedback:

Public Safety

Wednesday, February 12 9:30 a.m.

(Contingency: Friday, February 14)

Community Safety; Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency; Halifax Regional Police; and Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment

Operations

Wednesday, February 19, 9:30 a.m. and

Thursday, February 20 9:30 a.m. *(Contingency: Friday, February 21)*

Halifax Transit; Parks & Recreation; Planning & Development; Property, Fleet & Environment; and Public Works

Corporate Services

Wednesday, February 26, 9:30

a.m. *(Contingency: Friday, February 28)*

Chief Administrative Office; Finance & Asset Management; Human Resources; Information Technology; and Legal & Legislative Services

Next month, Regional Council will review all of the add-ons (“overs”) and subtractions (“unders”) on the Budget Adjustment List then final budget approval is scheduled for Tuesday, April 8. Visit our [website](#) to tune in or confirm the schedule and details.

SENIOR CITIZEN SCAM

Police are advising citizens to be cautious of a scam that targets seniors that is continuing to occur throughout our region.

In each incident, the victim received a call from someone pretending to be a family member who indicated that they have been arrested, they are in jail and need bail money.

Another person representing themselves to be from the legal system becomes involved in the call and informs the victim that they need to pay money to have their loved one released from custody. In all recent incidents, a suspect made arrangements to pick up the money in person by attending the victim’s residence or meeting in a public place. Recently, the scammers have been asking victims to forward their cash to an address via registered mail or a courier service such FedEx.

If you receive a call like this, do not provide or confirm any personal or financial information and hang up the phone. In Canada, law enforcement and court officials will not attend a residence to collect money in relation to bail. Call police at 902-490-5020 if you've lost money or your identity has been compromised as the result of a scam. You can report a scam where you haven't been a victim to the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre or call 1-888-495-8501.

For more information and scam prevention tips, visit the [Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre](#) and [Halifax Regional Police fraud prevention websites](#).



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COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM



The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising eligible registered non-profit and charitable organizations that applications for the [Community Grants Program](#) have opened.

The program provides annual cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities located throughout the region. There are project grants (up to \$5,000) or capital grants (up to \$25,000) available in the following categories: community arts; diversity and accessibility; environment and climate change; emergency assistance and neighbourhood safety; community histories; leisure; and recreation.

Check out the [2025/26 Program Guidebook](#) prior to applying and find more information about the program on our [website](#).

2024 RESIDENT SURVEY

2,029 residents responded to the 2024 Resident Survey in the fall and results were presented to Regional Council last month.

These surveys help to inform where Regional Council can focus our priorities to better serve our residents. Residents provided their feedback on what the top issues facing our municipality are, satisfaction with services and much more. You can check out the presentation [here](#) or the full staff report [here](#).

23/24 STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE REPORT



The Halifax Regional Municipality has released the [2023/24 Strategic Performance Report](#). This annual report uses strategic key performance indicators to provide a high-level analysis of advancement towards the municipality's priorities and outcomes in the [2021-2025 Strategic Priorities Plan](#).

The [Strategic Performance Snapshot](#) dashboard has also been updated with data for 2023/24.



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GILES HOUSE PROJECTS



The Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Farm Museum recently completed an interpretation project to welcome and educate guests to the farm. First, in the farmyard, an audio post in English and French now welcomes you to the Farm, provides a brief summary of its history, and direction on where to go and what you can find during your visit.

Visitors to the Giles House will find another new addition - a television in the kitchen! In winter of 2024, a series of interpretive videos was written and filmed focusing on various aspects of the Giles House, explaining certain artifacts, collections, rooms, and a little bit of the history of the house itself.

SEEKING BUILDING ADVISORY MEMBERS

Do you have an interest in the wonderful buildings at the Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Farm, or know someone who does? They are currently seeking new members for their Building Advisory Committee. This group gathers 2 to 3 times per year to assess these structures and assists in advising and updating their conservation management plan. It's a great opportunity to participate in the future of Cole Harbour's rich built heritage! They can be contacted by [email](#) or by phone at 902-434-0222.

PINK SHIRT DAY

Wear a pink shirt on February 26 to promote a more kind, inclusive world and raise awareness and funds for anti-bullying initiatives. You can find out more about Pink Shirt Day [here](#).





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HALIFAX WATER TOUR



Lake Major Water Treatment Plant

EAST PRESTON BIKE PLAYGROUND

East Preston Bike Playground & Outdoor Fitness Park
East Preston Recreation Centre



It's has been about two months since we celebrated the Grand Opening of the East Preston Bike Playground. [Here](#) is a link a video commemorating the day.

STREAMING REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

Regional Council are using a new system for electronic streaming, to find the council videos – go to our [Agendas, Meetings and Reports page](#) and click the meeting you want to view.

Meetings will still be live-streamed, and videos will be available after the meeting.

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 Andrea Rowan at **902-490-7184**.

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

