

# Councillor Trish Purdy

COLE HARBOUR - WESTPHAL -  
LAKE LOON - CHERRY BROOK

DISTRICT 4  
NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2024



## DEAR RESIDENTS,

I hope everyone has been having a fantastic summer. Back to school is almost here and is a wonderful opportunity for new beginnings. I want to wish everyone returning to school this fall a wonderful year.

There are many different things going on in our district at the moment from road works, developments, a community meeting with Halifax Water and more! Details can be found below in this newsletter.

Congratulations to the Cole Harbour Heritage Farm on the opening of their new outdoor classroom! This is a wonderful interactive space for the community to enjoy. I encourage you to head to the farm and check it out.

If you would like to receive my monthly online newsletter, please send an email to my Coordinator, Emily at [smithem@halifax.ca](mailto:smithem@halifax.ca) asking to be put on the distribution list.

As always, please feel free to contact me anytime to discuss any municipal concerns! It is always good to hear from you!

Sincerely,

Trish Purdy

## ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY: THE WAY FORWARD

Regional Council has adopted the Road Safety Strategy 2024 to reduce fatalities and injuries on roadways in the municipality.

## CONTACT US

Call 311 to reach the 311 Municipal Contact Centre, or visit [halifax.ca/311](http://halifax.ca/311) to report a municipal issue. Please call 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, except Christmas & New Year's Day.

## CONTACT ME

You can reach me at **902.240.3067** or by email [trish.purdy@halifax.ca](mailto:trish.purdy@halifax.ca) or fax **902.490.4122**

## CALL MY OFFICE

Contact Emily Simonov, Council Constituency Coordinator by phone **902.490.7177** or email [smithem@halifax.ca](mailto:smithem@halifax.ca)

## STAY CONNECTED

I share regular updates on Facebook and I invite you to follow me there by searching "Trish Purdy - District 4 - Cole Harbour/ Westphal/Lake Loon/Cherry Brook"

## OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Police, Fire Emergency: 911

Police (non-emergency): 902.490.5020

Fire (non-emergency): 902.490.5530

Halifax Water Emergency: 902.490.6940

Councillor Support Office: 902.490.4050

Operating on the principles of Vision Zero and Safe System Approach, this strategy seeks to address road design that has vulnerabilities and the potential for human error. The strategy identifies four priority areas: intersections, vulnerable road users, safe schools and data management.



Regional Council has also directed staff to provide annual reports regarding the actions outlined in the program. For more information, read the staff report at [halifax.ca/media/87267](https://halifax.ca/media/87267).

## BLUE-GREEN ALGAE

Blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria, are naturally found in freshwater environments like lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams. They thrive in warm water and can be harmful to people and fatal for pets.

Algae blooms can look like fine grass clippings in the water, spilled paint, pea soup or sometimes like a thick scum on the surface. Algae mats can look like clumps of vegetation, and can appear black, brown, or dark green in the water. On the shoreline they may appear brown or grey.

### Here are some tips for staying safe this summer:

- When visiting a lake, river, stream, or pond, always scan the water and shoreline before entering the water or letting children or pets play in it.
- Pets may be attracted to the smell of algae mats, do not allow pets to play with or eat algae mats, as it could be fatal.
- If a beach is closed, do not swim or play near the water, swimming in contaminated water may cause itchy and irritated eyes and skin, including hives, rashes, or blisters. People or animals that consume contaminated water are at risk of headaches, fever, diarrhea, vomiting, cramps, muscle, joint pain, and liver damage.
- Do not drink or cook with water where blue-green algae are present. Boiling water will not remove toxins.

Watch for advisories by visiting [halifax.ca/beaches](https://halifax.ca/beaches) and following @hfxgov on Twitter/X. Report suspected algae contamination by calling 1.877.9ENVIRO (1.877.936.8476) and 311. Learn more at [halifax.ca/cyano](https://halifax.ca/cyano).

## ROAD SAFETY ACTION PLAN

Regional Council has approved the Road Safety Action Plan to address ten intersections in the municipality with the highest number of fatal and injury collisions.

Current data shows that half of all collisions resulting in fatalities and injuries take place at intersections, with the majority taking place at collector or arterial roadways. As

outlined in the Road Safety Strategy 2024, intersections have been identified as a priority to improve road safety and achieve Vision Zero for collisions resulting in fatalities and injuries. These projects will be a major focus of the Road Safety Program. For more information, read the staff report at [halifax.ca/media/87268](https://halifax.ca/media/87268).

## RESIDENTS ENCOURAGED TO VERIFY 2024 MUNICIPAL ELECTION ELECTOR'S LIST

We are encouraging residents to verify that they are on the elector's list for the fall 2024 Municipal and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial Election by visiting our website at [halifax.ca/voter-list](https://halifax.ca/voter-list).

## COMMUNITY CORNER

### Caldwell Road – Phase 2

There has been a delay in the construction of the second phase of the Caldwell Road recapitalization project. Unfortunately, there were some unforeseen challenges related to the relocation of NS Power poles. The new date for Caldwell Road phase 2 completion has been pushed out to 2025.

### Sherwood Development

Several residents have asked to see the site plans for the Sherwood Development to know the placement of the buildings on the land. Staff have not received the site plans yet from the developer, but the planner will let me know when they do arrive. Please reach out if you are interested in learning more about this development.

### Astral Drive

I would like to take the opportunity to give a big thank you to Jason Tobin, our District 4 Public Works Supervisor, who arranged for Astral Drive to get a little TLC to hold us over until the recapitalization project. Thank you! The recapitalization of Astral Drive is scheduled to begin after Caldwell Road is completed. I am hoping to see Astral Drive in the 2026 Capital Plan.

### Ross Road Intersection

The Halifax Regional Municipality is continuing negotiations with a private landowner to improve safety at the Ross Road/Hwy 7 and Lake Major Road intersections by aligning Ross and Lake Major. A third party appraisal has been completed to help move the process along.



**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 Halifax Water infrastructure, and plans to address increased density in our district. The tentative date for this meeting is Monday, September 16 at 6 p.m. More information will be available closer to the date.

**Bissett Road Old Rehab Lands as a Secondary Encampment Site**

Staff recommended nine different potential encampment locations based on certain criteria – how far it is from a school, playground, daycare, etc. and proximity to services like transit and amenities. Bissett Road was not selected as a primary location but a secondary one, for the reasons stated above. The staff report highlights that it is not an ideal location as it has no services, transit or stores within walking distance.

I have met with our two local MLA’s, the municipality’s Director of Homelessness, Max Chauvin, and the Executive Director of Parks and Recreation, Maggie MacDonald, to discuss my concerns about this site’s suitability for an encampment and I voted against all the newly proposed municipal parks as potential encampment sites.

**Traffic Islands on Colby Drive**

Thank you to everyone on Colby Drive who signed the petition for the removal of the traffic islands. The petition received 100 per cent support, except for the six families who were not home during petitioning.

There have been numerous safety concerns, an unfair burden of extra traffic control costs for houses in close proximity of the islands that are not shared by their neighbors, and the islands have not been effective in slowing down cars.

A motion was unanimously passed at the Transportation Standing Committee for municipal staff to look at options for amending the Traffic Calming Administrative Order, the potential timing, and any financial considerations. We will await the report to see what staff recommend.

**Free pickleball equipment available at the Cole Harbour Commons**

If you have been wanting to try pickleball but do not own the equipment needed, we have partnered with the Dartmouth Pickleball Association to provide the equipment on site, free

of charge! There will be an access code given upon request, in a reasonable amount of time, by either messaging the “Cole Harbour Place Outdoor Pickleball” Facebook page, or by calling 311.

**Karen Drive Development**

There is another provincial Land for Housing development in District 4 on Karen Drive. Affirmative Ventures is the developer and because the criteria did not quite meet the Housing Accelerator Fund requirements, this proposal is going through the traditional planning process.

We expect the Development Agreement to make its way to Community Council (HEMDCC) sometime in the near future. There will be another opportunity for public participation at the public hearing if it passes first reading.

**New Outdoor Classroom at the Cole Harbour Heritage Farm**

I was pleased to help contribute with district funds to the new Outdoor Classroom at the Cole Harbour Heritage Farm. If you have not been by to take a look, it is a great place to take your kids! The Outdoor Classroom is in dedication to Rosemary Eaton, a Photographer and Activist for heritage and the environment in the mid-20th century. There is fascinating information on the history of Cole Harbour displayed around the Outdoor Classroom. Lots of learning to enjoy!



An image of some of the new Outdoor Classroom at the farm.

**2025-2026 ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION EDUCATION AND PROMOTION GRANT**

Halifax Regional Municipality is pleased to launch the fall-winter Proposal Intake for the Active Transportation Education and Promotion Grant Program.



The deadline to submit proposals is September 23, 2024 for projects starting no earlier than October 15, 2024 and ending on or before March 2025.

Active Transportation (AT) Education and Promotion Grants support municipal objectives for a multi-modal transportation system as described in the Integrated Mobility Plan and the Active Transportation Priorities Plan. Grants are intended to support projects that aim to increase the number of people walking, bicycling and rolling and improving the safety of people using these modes.

**Projects may include:**

- AT Safety and skills training programs
- AT promotions and marketing programs
- AT education and engagement
- Transportation Demand Management projects that focus on AT
- AT related events
- AT etiquette and stewardship programs

There are three types of projects, measured in funding and reach (further details can be found here: <https://cdn.halifax.ca/sites/default/files/documents/transportation/cycling-walking/2023-2024-at-ed-and-promo-grant-terms-and-conditions.pdf>)

- Small Community project (or event): smaller project (localized) in one or more communities in the municipality can receive a grant up to \$1,000
- Large Community project (or event) requiring significant logistics efforts, meant to reach a broader audience in communities across can receive a grant of up to \$5,000
- Major project (cannot be a one-time event) with significant logistics, partnerships and duration efforts with an intended reach across the municipality could receive a grant over \$5,000

To access the grant application and other information, please follow the link below and choose the Active Transportation Education and Promotion tab at [halifax.ca/transportation/cycling-walking/active-transportation-grants-program](https://halifax.ca/transportation/cycling-walking/active-transportation-grants-program).

To arrange other methods to submit the proposal and supporting documents, please contact Emma Martin, AT Community Projects Coordinator, Public Works - Project Planning and Asset Management at [ATGrants@halifax.ca](mailto:ATGrants@halifax.ca) or by calling 902.499.6742.

**MUNICIPALITY RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS FOR THE AFRICAN DESCENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Applications for the African Descent Advisory Board will close on Monday, September 9 at 11:59 p.m. – but is subject to extension based on the number of applications received. Municipal boards, committees, and commissions consist of councillors, residents and industry representatives. These groups provide recommendations to Regional Council, Community Councils, Standing Committees or municipal staff – and serve as an important part of the decision-making process.

Information on each board, committee and commission – including a terms of reference, meeting schedules, minutes, agendas and reports – can be found on [halifax.ca](https://halifax.ca). Applicants are encouraged to review these resources before applying to learn more about the role and typical work performed by each board, committee and commission.

For more information or to apply, visit our website at [halifax.ca/city-hall/boards-committees-commissions/volunteer-boards-committees](https://halifax.ca/city-hall/boards-committees-commissions/volunteer-boards-committees). Residents can also contact [serve@halifax.ca](mailto:serve@halifax.ca) or call 902.490.4210 for questions about the appointment process or to request accommodations.

**CURRENTLY SERVING ON**

- Community Planning & Economic Development Standing Committee, Vice Chair
- Transportation Standing Committee, Vice Chair
- Appeals Standing Committee
- Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Harbour East Marine Drive Community Council
- Cole Harbour Place



**Delivery Note:**

Due to the delivery routes followed by Canada Post, it is possible that some of these newsletters may appear in other Districts. If you receive it in error, I apologize for any confusion and hope you find its content useful.