

COUNCILLOR WAYE MASON

DISTRICT 7 NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2015



Credit: Brice Ferre Studio

Dear Residents,

Like many of you I have been daydreaming about spring, looking forward to warmth, green plants and no snow! This winter has been exceptionally harsh. The rapid freezing has created ice conditions that have been extremely difficult to clear. I assure you that staff have been working 24/7 to clear the streets and sidewalks. HRM needs your help - please help and call 311 to report poor road conditions, snow plow damage, pot holes or improperly cleared snow and ice. For information on snow removal standards, please visit halifax.ca/snow or call my office.

This newsletter contains information about our new police Community Response Officer Cst. Robin Sherwood, Halifax Transit Moving Forward plan, and the changes coming to curbside waste collection. There is a longer article on programs for seniors offered at the beautiful new Halifax Central Library.

There is also information about this year's District 7 Participatory Budget process! This year, submissions start in March and voting will be in May. Please have a look at the important deadlines on page 3 of this newsletter for more information, I am really excited to try and beat Councillor Watt's district record of 500 people attending and voting!

Do not hesitate to share your views with me about these or any other municipal issues!

Take care,

HOW CAN WE HELP?

MY OFFICE IS HERE
TO SERVE YOU



311 - HRM CITIZEN CONTACT CENTRE

Call 311 or visit halifax.ca/311 to report a municipal issue, the contact centre is open daily from 7 am - 11 pm except Christmas & New Year's Day.

CALL MY OFFICE (new contact info)

Please contact my Council Constituency Coordinator, Susan During by email at durings@halifax.ca or by calling 902.490.4013

CONTACT ME

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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

HALIFAX



MEET CONSTABLE ROBIN SHERWOOD

Peninsula South welcomes our new Community Response Officer



Constable Robin Sherwood is the new Community Response Officer for the south end of Halifax. Cst. Sherwood has served with Halifax Regional Police for the last seven years, having left a 20-year professional police career with the Bermuda Police Service when he moved to Halifax. Cst. Sherwood is stepping into this role replacing our long serving Constable Illya Neilson, who moved on to a position in forensics this past fall.

During his eight years with HRP, Cst. Sherwood has served in Central, (Peninsular Halifax), East (Dartmouth), and West

(Bedford through to Sambro Loop) Divisions and as a result has a good understanding of many of the policing challenges in our community.

He is fortunate to have been exposed to many of the diverse areas of policing throughout his career. He has worked in investigative as well as uniformed (patrol) positions, which has enabled him to develop a problem-solving approach to many policing and community issues. He is a keen supporter of community models of policing and enjoys meeting with stakeholders and partners to ensure that the appropriate and most efficient service is delivered to address specific community concerns.

Cst. Sherwood looks forward to working within the community and meeting with residents in the days to come. He has already established strong relationships with the universities in the south end so that police are working collaboratively and proactively with the university community to help ensure a good quality of life for everyone who lives, works and enjoys leisure activities in the south end.



The Mayor and I presented a scroll to Mildred Robinson on the occasion of her 100th birthday!



Attended the swearing in of 17 new Halifax Regional Police Officers



Attended the swearing in of 12 new full time Halifax Firefighters



Participatory budget cheque was presented to John Bogardus from the Halifax Music Coop



PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING 2016 - GET INVOLVED!

District 7 votes on how to spend \$94,000 for a 3rd time!

Everyone in District 7, including children, are invited to come and help choose projects that will help build a stronger community! Last year almost three hundred people voted to fund projects like Shelter NS' community garden, Halifax Music Co-op, Gorsebrook Junior High School's community garden project and Metro Non-Profit Housing Association for the Morris House.

DO YOU HAVE A PROJECT?

- Need funding for a project to support, enhance, build community?
- Want to see more public art, bike racks, benches?
- Does your neighbourhood want to improve a park or playground?

Capital projects that provide a public benefit and meet policy criteria may be eligible for funding. Visit www.wayemason.ca for more information, or call my office and speak to Susan During at 902 490 4013

KEY DATES

Ideas Swap and How To Workshop (for District 7 & 8)

Thursday 23 March 7:00-9:00pm - Halifax Central Library, Lindsay Children's Room

Voting Day - All District 7 residents can vote!

Tuesday 19 May 6:00-9:00pm - Halifax Central Library, Lindsay Children's Room

CHANGES AT THE CURB

Starting **August 1, 2015** new requirements for curbside collection will be in effect. This date allows time for residents to become aware of the changes, and for retail stores to adjust their inventory of bags.

- **Clear bags** will be required for garbage, with each residence allowed 1 dark bag within the collection limit. Bags may also be placed in cans to address privacy concerns. More than one dark or 'nested' bag will be rejected.
- Exclusive use of **kraft paper bags** for excess leaf & yard waste. Leaf & yard waste can still be placed in the cart, but grass clippings will no longer be collected curbside in favour of grasscycling and backyard composting.
- **Boxboard** (cereal and cracker boxes) will be accepted with paper for recycling, though it can still be used to contain wet kitchen scraps in the green cart.

For more details please visit:
www.halifax.ca/recycle

HALIFAX TRANSIT: MOVING FORWARD

Halifax Transit has been building a new transit network to help people move around our city faster and easier, and they want your feedback to make that system great!

The Moving Forward Together Plan is now available, which proposes a redesign of the transit network.

The proposal is to invest in the routes you use most. There will be faster commutes during rush hour. Transfers will be easier to use, and it will simplify routes to reduce redundancy - introducing new routes and retiring others.

For more information and to fill in the survey visit <http://maketransitbetter.ca/>



COUNCILLOR WAYE MASON WINTER 2015

CHEERS TO THE SPIRIT OF LIFELONG LEARNING SENIORS PROGRAMMING AT THE NEW CENTRAL LIBRARY



“What we observe in our programs is that older adults are not defined by their age,” says Darlene Beck, Manager of Adult Services at Halifax Public Libraries. “They are committed to continuous learning, exploring new hobbies and interests, and staying socially engaged in their communities.”

Whether retired and filling your days with useful activities or wanting to explore more of what interests you, Halifax senior citizens are attracted to Halifax Public Libraries. In response, the Library has created hundreds of programs and has timed them well to suit your days. We want to support and encourage you and your interest in lifelong learning. To keep serving you, we took a look at what you want us to provide and came up with the following list.

TOP 4 PICKS BY SENIOR CITIZENS:

- **Go back to university for free** – [University Classes for Everyone](#) features weekly and one-time post-secondary level educational opportunities. Participants like the challenge the classes provide and the informal discussions that ensue.
- **Expand your crafting circle** – Programs featuring needlework of all kinds are popular as social gatherings. Participants like the casual feel of the sitting areas, the sense of welcome, and the opportunity to hear interesting stories from other people.
- **Know your body** – The Library is fortunate to

have access to experts in our communities who are able to address the concerns that come with aging. Participants and caregivers appreciate the advice they hear and the sense of not being alone in their efforts.

- **Make new tech work for you** – Often, people walk in with a new gift of technology and they just need to be shown a few actions, such as how to Skype/Facetime and email. Library staff assists them to get it working.

KEEP GOING

Our Halifax senior citizens needs are not confined to a mere four topics. The Library program exit surveys show that seniors are interested in a wide variety of topics: music, film, arts, author readings, personal finance, social justice, genealogy, live performances, and local issues. Seniors participation makes the Library a multigenerational hot spot, a true place for everyone, and a proper reflection of Halifax. We hope you keep it going.

Psst...remember all your public library programs are always **free**.



PLEASE RECYCLE - Due to Canada Post delivery routes, some residents who do not live in District 7 may receive this newsletter.

If you receive it in error, I apologize for any confusion. To find out who your councillor is, please visit: eservices.halifax.ca/districtLookup/ or call 311.