

Councillor Lindell Smith

HALIFAX PENINSULA NORTH

DISTRICT 8 NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2024



DEAR RESIDENTS,

Since being elected in 2016, I have communicated that I will only serve two terms as Councillor of District 8. As we approach the fall municipal election, this will be my final newsletter as your representative on Regional Council. As

I reflect on the journey we have taken together over the past eight years, I am filled with enormous gratitude for the support, feedback, and even the critics that have helped shape my time in office. It has been an incredible eight years, and I want to take a moment to thank my family for their support, and all of the residents of this amazing community.

I am most thankful for the opportunity to support a variety of community and non-profit groups directly through the District Funds, or indirectly by writing letters of support, attending events or connecting communities. I also value having the opportunity to advocate for specific causes and speaking out at Regional Council for important community organizations like Hope Blooms and the The Bus Stop Theatre to secure their own spaces.

Since the beginning of my term, pedestrian safety and traffic calming have always been very important to me, and with your help we have made many of our streets safer and more pedestrian-friendly, especially near schools. By adding crosswalks, cycling infrastructure, and completing much needed sidewalk replacements, we have made great progress.

Being able to make change at the policy level has also been very important to me. With examples like working with former residents, descendants, community, and government to start the Africville visioning process, and advocating for the municipality to implement a social policy

CONTACT US

Call 311 to reach the 311 Municipal Contact Centre, or visit 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 902.579.6975 or by email lindell.smith@halifax.ca or fax 902.490.4122

CALL MY OFFICE

Contact Nancy Viner, Council Constituency Coordinator by phone 902.490.4086 or email vinern@halifax.ca

STAY CONNECTED ONLINE

[@LindellSmithHFX](https://twitter.com/LindellSmithHFX)

[lindellsmithhfx.ca](https://www.halifax.ca/lindellsmithhfx)

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

framework, which included living wage and a social value policy in our procurement process.

Your feedback has been invaluable in guiding my understanding of the needs and priorities for our district,



which has allowed me to serve you better. I am grateful for the many in-person conversations, walking tours, emails, phone calls and tough conversations that have pushed me to strive to meet the growing needs of our community.

Together, we have achieved so much, and I know the next Councillor of District 8 will continue to do the same. Thank you for your trust, engagement, and your dedication to making our community a wonderful place to live.

Lindell Smith

2024 PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IS HERE

This is your opportunity to provide input on how to spend \$50,000 in District 8. This process encourages great ideas to come forward from local non-profit groups, builds community support and collaboration, and gives local residents a direct say in how they want capital funds spent. The District 8 Participatory Budget Vote Night is taking place **Thursday, August 22 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.** at the Halifax Forum - Maritime Hall.

Any District 8 resident in attendance can vote, even kids! Voters must be present to vote and ID is not required, but voters will be asked to sign in affirming they are residents of District 8. Not sure if you live in District 8? Please visit halifax.ca to confirm.

Community groups can send a funding request including a letter explaining the project, how much you are seeking, and how those funds will be spent and confirmation of the group's non-profit status to Kate Richardson by email to richark@halifax.ca. If you would like to be considered for capital funding.

The application deadline is **Thursday, August 15**. To learn more about applying and the Participatory Budget process please visit lindellsmithhfx.ca/pb/.

This is my final Participatory Budget; it has been an honour to offer this initiative since being elected in 2016 and I want to thank everyone who has participated and supported vote night over the years.

DISTRICT 8 SNAPSHOT OVER THE PAST 8 YEARS

District Capital Funding

During my time as Councillor, I have been able to provide over \$500,000 in District Capital Funds to a variety of different community and non-profit groups to help make a difference within District 8.

In addition to supporting local non-profit and community groups, capital funds were also used to help fund upgrades to HRM owned community playgrounds and have Pride crosswalks painted in various locations in District 8.

Crosswalk Upgrades

Five new crosswalks installed in District 8. In addition, there have been upgrades to the flashing light beacons at 13 different crosswalks, while two crosswalks have received new traffic signals. There are three additional crosswalks in District 8 that will receive flashing light beacons in 2024.

Traffic Calming

Traffic calming is the installation of physical measures intended to slow vehicles down and alter negative driver behaviour. Since 2016 a total of 85 traffic calming measures have been installed in District 8, they include:

- 21 speed humps
- 42 speed tables
- 6 speed cushions
- 14 bump outs
- 2 traffic circles

Active Transportation

A total of 6.65 km of active transportation infrastructure has been installed. This included 1.7 km of active transportation connectors between Devonshire Avenue and the Barrington Greenway and the creation of two local street bikeways, which are convenient routes for cyclists and allow both bikes and cars to be able to easily share the road.

An additional 3.8 km of active transportation infrastructure has been installed as part of the North End All Ages and Abilities (AAA) Bikeway. The North End AAA bikeway consists of protected bike lanes, multi-use pathways, and local street bikeways. Construction will continue for this until 2028.



Transit Changes and Disruptions

Crews are working on realigning and regrading Barrington Street, installing underground services, building a new Halifax Transit hub and removing the last overpass for the Cogswell project over the next six months.

These upgrades require that we put traffic and transit disruptions in place until December. Visit halifax.ca/Cogswell to learn more about this project.

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Residents considering running in the 2024 Municipal and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) Election are invited to learn more about becoming a candidate.

Municipal government plays an important role in delivering essential services and addressing the unique needs of our community. By running for a position on Regional Council, you'll have the opportunity to lead, advocate for your community and contribute to the growth of the municipality.

The 2024 Municipal Election will take place on Saturday, October 19.

Election Worker Recruitment

The Halifax Regional Municipality is recruiting over 1,200 workers for the election.

Election workers will have the opportunity to play a direct role in ensuring a fair, accessible and efficient election. These positions offer a unique opportunity for professional growth – gaining valuable expertise in project management, public administration and community outreach.

Temporary election workers are needed to support advance voting (Saturday, October 12 and Tuesday, October 15) and election day voting (Saturday, October 19) at voting locations across the municipality's 16 electoral districts.

For more information on becoming a candidate or applying to work the election please visit halifax.ca/election.

Verify You Are on The Voter List

The municipality is encouraging residents to verify that they are on the elector's list for the 2024 Municipal and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial Election by visiting

halifax.ca/voter-list. The information on the elector's list will be used to send out voter information letters in late September. Once they have received their voter information letter, residents will be able to vote online or by phone starting Tuesday, October 8. Residents can also vote in-person during advance voting days (Saturday, October 12 and Tuesday, October 15) and on election day (Saturday, October 19).

Information on the elector's list is provided by Elections Nova Scotia, but all residents – particularly those who have recently moved within the municipality or have recently turned 18 – should verify that their information is accurate. Residents who do not appear on the elector's list, or who have information that needs to be updated, can call the voter helpline at 902.490.VOTE (8683) or toll-free at 1.844.301.8683.

For more information, visit halifax.ca/election.

District Boundary Changes

As per the provincial *Municipal Government Act*, each municipality in Nova Scotia is required to regularly conduct a review of the boundaries and number of electoral districts within the municipality. The municipality is responsible for completing the review and putting forth recommendations on any changes to the boundaries and number of electoral districts to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) who make the final decision.

In 2022, the municipality began a thorough and collaborative review of the existing electoral boundaries and made recommendations to the NSUARB. The NSUARB made their final decision on the new electoral boundaries on December 21, 2023 and these updated electoral boundaries will go into effect for the 2024 Municipal and Conseil scolaire acadien (CSAP) Election.

The new electoral boundary for District 8 for the 2024 Municipal and Conseil scolaire acadien (CSAP) Election can be found by visiting halifax.ca/city-hall/elections/district-boundaries and selecting the District 8 link.

FORT NEEDHAM NATURALIZATION

In July 2022, after a three-year pilot program, Halifax Regional Council implemented a formal naturalization program. The Naturalization Strategy intends to move away from traditional manicured turf spaces and ornamental



landscapes into more natural, ecologically sustainable environments. This approach will enhance biodiversity, reduce maintenance costs, and promote environmental stewardship by creating habitat and food sources for insects, birds, and small mammals.

Based on suggestions from residents, youth groups, Regional Council members and municipal staff, over thirty sites were identified as having high naturalization potential, including Fort Needham Memorial Park. The sloping west side of the park presents a unique opportunity to naturalize a large surface area that is not currently used for recreation. Naturalization of this area will help reduce runoff, stabilize the slope, and present a canvas large enough to make visible, meaningful improvements to local biodiversity. Plans are underway with a goal of beginning formal naturalization in 2025.

Want to learn more or get involved? Please visit halifax.ca/naturalization for more information about the program.

GEORGE DIXON BASKETBALL COURT PROJECT

This summer, the Halifax Regional Municipality in collaboration with Buckets & Borders and Canada Basketball have been working on the restoration of the outdoor basketball courts at The George Dixon Centre Park. This project is not just about refurbishing basketball courts, but about bringing together our community and empowering our youth!

In August you can expect the selection of the mural artists, continued court refurbishment (resurfacing), and the mural painting to be completed. In early September, the grand opening celebration will take place, organized by the community youth and will include festivities such as a community BBQ, DJs, three-point competitions, and a local all-star game.

More information can be found by visiting their website at bucketsandborders.com/pages/the-square.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS



Opening of the Halifax Explosion 1985 time capsule in 2017 with Mayor Mike Savage.



Family photo at the swearing in ceremony back in 2016.



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.