



WELCOME APRIL!

I am hopeful that the English proverb: “April showers bring May flowers” proves true this year as I am excited to share with you the opportunity to obtain free seed kits through the HRM [Neighbourhood Placemaking](#) program. You can apply with at least one other neighbour for a chance to receive free seeds for 20 households! This is no April Fool’s joke, it’s legit!

April also brings the conclusion of 2024 / 2025 budget discussions. Council is preparing to discuss the Budget Adjustment List (BAL), all the additional items business units presented beyond their proposed budgets, including additions and subtractions. I encourage you to have your voice heard by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk to have your name added to the speakers list by calling 902.490.4210 or by email: clerks@halifax.ca.

To discuss a municipal program or service, please contact me at: Shawn.Cleary@halifax.ca or 902.579.6746.

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APRIL MEETING DATES

Regional Council, Halifax & West Community Council and Regional Centre Community Council meetings will be held on:

Budget Committee:

Tuesday, April 2nd at 9:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 3rd at 9:30 a.m. (Contingency Date)

Tuesday, April 23rd at 9:30 a.m.

Regional Council:

Tuesday, April 9th at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, April 23rd at 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, April 30th at 10:00 a.m. (If required)

Halifax & West Community Council:

Tuesday, April 16th at 6:00 p.m.

Regional Centre Community Council:

Thursday, April 25th at 6:00 p.m.

Please confirm dates and times on our [municipal website](#) as they are subject to change.

DID YOU KNOW...

That April is:

[Sikh Heritage Month](#)

[Genocide Remembrance, Condemnation and Prevention Month](#)

[Sexual Assault Awareness Month](#)

April 1st - [Easter Monday](#)

April 1st - [April Fool's Day](#)

April 2nd - [World Autism Awareness Day](#)

April 2nd - [International Children's Book Day](#)

April 4th - [National Hug a Newsperson Day](#)

April 6th - [International Pillow Fight Day](#)

April 6th - [The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace \(IDSDP\)](#)

April 6th - [Canada National Tartan Day](#)

April 7th - [World Health Day](#)

April 7th - [The International Day of Reflection](#)

April 7th - [The Country Music Television Awards](#)

April 7th - [Canada National Beer Day](#)

April 9th - [Ramadan – Eid el-Fitr](#)

April 9th - [Vimy Ridge Day](#)

April 10th - [International Day of Pink](#)

April 10th - [National Siblings Day](#)

April 11th - [Canada National Pet Day](#)

April 11th - [Canada National Poutine Day](#)

April 12th - [Canada Jersey Day](#)

April 14th - [Passover](#)

April 17th - [National Canadian Film Day](#)

April 19th - [World Liver Day](#)

April 21st - [World Creativity and Innovation Day](#)

April 22nd - [Earth Day](#)

April 27th - [International Girls in ICT Day](#)

April 29th - [International Dance Day](#)

April 30th - [Canada National Adopt a Shelter Pet Day](#)

April 30th - [International Jazz Day in Canada](#)

SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION – ARMCRESCENT NEIGHBOURHOOD



The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that speed limits

will be reduced from 50 km/h to 40 km/h in the residential area of Armcrescent in Halifax. The



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impacted streets are highlighted in the attached map and include the area bounded by Chebucto Road, Connaught Avenue and Quinpool Road, including the following:

- Roosevelt Drive
- Joseph Street
- Phillip Street
- Sherwood Street
- MacDonald Street
- Churchill Drive
- Patricia Street
- Flynn Street
- Westmount Street
- Blink Bonnie Terrace
- Quinn Street
- Armcrescent West Avenue
- Armcrescent East Drive
- Newton Avenue
- Fourth Street
- Third Street
- Second Street
- First Street

Crews began work on March 4th.

Neighbourhood speed limit reductions are part of the municipality's ongoing initiatives to improve [road safety](#). Studies show, a reduction in operating speed from 50km/h to 40km/h increases the pedestrian survival rate by 40 percent.

Through the *Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act*, the Province of Nova Scotia legislates speed limits on public roadways to a default speed limit of 50 km/h. The province allows municipalities to request posted speed limits below 50 km/h if

accompanied by necessary documentation including current operating speeds and roadway characteristics.

The speed limit reduction in these areas is being implemented following provincial approval based on available data and an assessment of roadway characteristics that meet their qualifications.

Neighbourhood speed limit reduction is one of many road safety initiatives employed by the Halifax Regional Municipality to achieve the Regional Council-approved commitment to move toward zero fatalities and injuries related to any mode of transportation. Road safety is key to ensuring safe communities with thriving, accessible mobility options for all ages and abilities. To learn more about the municipality's commitment to road safety, including how streets are considered for neighbourhood street speed limit reduction, visit halifax.ca/roadsafety.





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PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECTS



The following is a detailed list of the proposed 2024/25 Roads and Active Transportation

Capital projects for District 9. This list, which still requires Council's final approval, includes new projects and any carryover work from 2023/24. Once approved by Regional Council, staff will make every effort to design, tender, and construct in 2024.

District 9 – 2024/25 Planned PPAM Capital Work:

Street Recapitalization

Cowie Hill Road – Civic 237 to Peter Saulnier (Integrated Traffic Calming)

Brook Street – Crown to Downs (Integrated Traffic Calming)

Peter Saulnier Drive – Dunbrack to Cowie Hill

Vienna Street – Oxford to Swaine (Carryover)

Asphalt Overlays

Beech Street – Jubilee to Chebucto (Integrated Traffic Calming)

Walter Havill Drive – Osborne to Dunbrack (Integrated Traffic Calming)

New Sidewalk

Cowie Hill Road – Civic 237 to Peter Saulnier

Sidewalk Renewal

Abbott Street – Ashburn to Stanford (S) (Carryover)

Abbott Street – Ashburn to Joseph Howe (N) (Carryover)

Lexington Avenue – Joseph Howe to

Morningside Drive (W) (Carryover)

Murdoch Avenue – Royal Pine to Somerset (S) (Carryover)

Vienna Street – Oxford to Connolly (S) (Carryover)

Vienna Street – Swaine to Connolly (S) (Carryover)

Traffic Management Projects

Traffic Calming (Corridors)

- Crown Drive
- Jubilee Road
- Milsom Street
- Walcot Run
- White Glove Terrace

Existing Crosswalk Upgrade to RRFB

- Bayers Road at Bayers Rd Shopping Centre

Planer Patching

Elm Street – Chebucto to Oak

Proposed Crack Sealing

Arlington Avenue – Springvale to Milsom

Aurora Avenue – Seaview to Cul de Sac

Eastview Drive – Glenora to Rexdale

Herring Cove Road – Old Sambro to Cowie Hill

Purcell's Cove Road – Williams Lake to Civic 368

Quarry Road – SMB to Herbert

Seaview Avenue – Circle to Aurora

St. Margarets Bay Road – Armdale Roundabout to Balcomes



SUPPLIER DIVERSITY PILOT PROGRAM



The Halifax Regional Municipality is joining a province-wide Supplier Diversity Pilot Program, led by

the [Canadian Aboriginal and Minority Supplier Council](#) (CAMSC).

The Pilot Program aims to promote inclusive supply chains and support diverse local business owners – including CAMSC’s database of over 800 diverse suppliers.

The municipality regularly works with suppliers to deliver municipal services – including the acquisition of materials and equipment; the solicitation, facilitation and execution of contracts for goods, services and construction; and the physical control, security and distribution of materials.

The municipality’s participation in the Pilot Program aligns with the municipality’s [Social Value Framework](#), while also increasing economic opportunities and expanding participation in the municipality’s supply chain. All public bid opportunities are advertised on the municipality’s [bids&tenders website](#).

For more information on doing business with the municipality, visit [our website](#).

HOUSING ACCELERATOR FUND



I am pleased to share this article from the March 5th [Canadian Insider](#) on the Housing Accelerator Fund:

Canada is in a housing crisis. Municipalities have an important role to play in addressing this crisis by removing outdated approaches to permitting and zoning that are not keeping pace with the growth of our communities. But they cannot do this alone.

To help them, the [Housing Accelerator Fund](#) was launched. The fund was used to negotiate agreements with municipalities across the country and with the Government of Quebec that have resulted in major changes that will make it easier to build homes.

The Housing Accelerator Fund has led to the largest upzoning movement in Canadian history, with 179 final agreements that have advanced ambitious housing reforms in big cities, small towns, rural communities, and Indigenous communities in every region of the country.



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The program was extremely competitive, with 540 applicants. In order to secure federal funding, cities across Canada revised their applications to include more ambitious measures that will help build more homes in order to improve their chance at receiving federal support.

In the first three years, the program will fast track more than 107,000 permits for new homes.

Over the next decade, these agreements will be responsible for more than 750,000 newly permitted homes.

This program is going to help get more homes built, faster and ensure that we have more homes at prices that Canadians can afford to rent or buy.

BRIDGING THE GAP PAID INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



The municipality is offering paid 18-month internships for new graduates interested in a career in municipal public service. [The](#)

[Bridging the Gap program](#) provides training and development opportunities to candidates who have graduated from a recognized post-secondary institution within the last 24 months

including those who are scheduled to graduate before the internship start date.

The program is designed to provide experiential learning and maximum professional exposure to interns in their chosen field of study, while exploring the benefits of working for the municipality. Candidates will learn about government policy, operations, administration, services and planning.

Additional information about the Bridging the Gap program can be found [here](#):

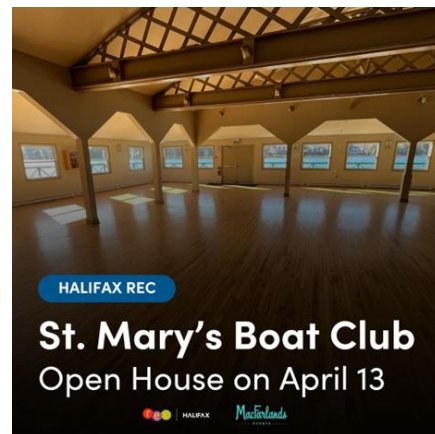
[Facebook - Halifax Regional MunicipalityX](#)

[\(Twitter\) - @hfxgov](#)

[Instagram - @hfxmoments](#)

[LinkedIn - Halifax Regional Municipality](#)

ST. MARY'S BOAT CLUB - OPEN HOUSE



Interested in booking the St. Mary's Boat Club for an upcoming wedding or event?

Plan to attend the Boat Club open house on Saturday, April 13th from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Explore the event space, ask questions about the venue. Learn more about the Boat Club [here](#).



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PROPERTY TAX BILL



The Halifax Regional Municipality sends out its tax bills to all property owners twice a year. The Interim bill was mailed mid-March and is due on Tuesday, April 30th. The final bill will be due October 31st.

If you have any enquiries about your tax bill, please call the HRM Contact Centre at 311 or online by clicking [here](#).

RESIDENTIAL RENTAL REGISTRY



In June 2023, HRM passed [By-law R-400](#) that required property owners to register their residential rental

properties by April 1st, 2024.

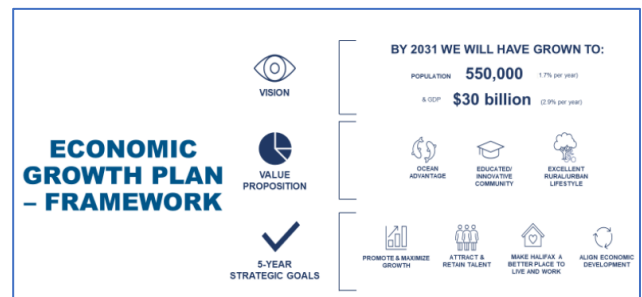
Only rental properties that are located within HRM need to be registered.

The Residential Rental Registry will provide a clearer picture of the rental landscape in the Halifax Regional Municipality. Currently, the accuracy and detail of available building

information is limited. A complete record of rental properties is expected to provide significant benefits for residents occupying these buildings by enhancing the municipality's ability to provide services where needed.

Over time, the registry will help the municipality proactively identify maintenance issues, reduce complaints and non-compliance, and improve the safety and overall living conditions for renters across the region. More details can be found [here](#).

ECONOMIC STRATEGY – UPDATE



The municipality will continue to work closely with the Halifax Partnership to drive inclusive economic growth in our region. The action plan for years three-to-five of People. Planet. Prosperity: Halifax's Inclusive Economic Strategy have been approved by Regional Council. The strategy is a shared roadmap for economic development and will continue to build on promoting and maximizing sustainable growth, attracting and retaining talent, and making Halifax a better place to live and work.

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



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OPEN CITY – MAY



Mark your calendars – Open City Halifax returns on Saturday, May 11th! This annual event celebrating entrepreneurs and the small businesses that our make communities vibrant and welcoming, is happening across 5 districts this year: Downtown Dartmouth, Downtown Halifax, North End, Quinpool Road, and Spring Garden Area.

For more information, click [here](#) and follow on Open City Halifax to keep up to date.

[#DowntownHalifax](#) [#OpenCityHFX](#)
Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission,
Downtown Halifax, North End Business
Association, Quinpool Road Mainstreet District
Association, Spring Garden Area Business
Association.

IN THE COMMUNITY....



I have a new appreciation for Fire Services after spending a day with the crew at Station 5 Bayers Road. I was happy to learn about issues and challenges, and to feel just how heavy and uncomfortable firefighting gear actually is.



**A Special Thank You
to Our Firefighters**

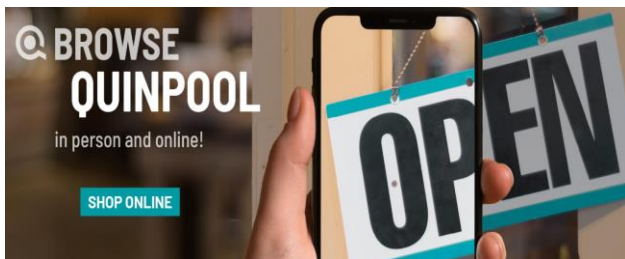


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Honoured to have received a Get Growing Award from Karla Nicholson, Executive Director of the [Quinpool Road Business Association](#), for financially supporting the planters and beautification efforts of Quinpool Road.



Wendy Luther, President & CEO of Halifax Partnership, Bernard Leblanc, Simons President & CEO and me at the grand opening.

I was honoured to be invited to the official grand opening of Simons in the Halifax Shopping Centre. Great for growing our economy and creating job opportunities.



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COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

SHAWN CLEARY, MBA
COUNCILLOR
 DISTRICT 9
 Halifax West Armdale
 Shawn.Cleary@halifax.ca



Halifax Regional Municipality
 PO Box 1749
 Halifax, Nova Scotia
 Canada B3J 3A5

902.579.6746
 Shawncleary.ca
 halifax.ca 311

facebook.com/shawnclearyhalifax |

Chris Newson, Council Constituency Coordinator: 902.490.1562 | Chris.Newson@halifax.ca

I am a member of Halifax Regional Council, Halifax & West Community Council, Regional Centre Community Council and the following boards & committees:

- Transportation Standing Committee
- Community Design Advisory Committee
- Audit and Finance Standing Committee
- Environment and Sustainability Standing Committee
- Halifax Climate Investment, Innovation, and Impact Fund Committee
- Investment Policy Advisory Committee
- Chain of Lakes Trails Association



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY'S LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Land Acknowledgement

The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People.

Halifax is committed to strengthening its relationship with Indigenous communities and honouring the significant contributions of Indigenous peoples. Another way the municipality has demonstrated this is by formalizing the official Land Acknowledgement:

"The Halifax Regional Municipality is located in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq people. The municipality acknowledges the Peace and Friendship Treaties signed in this Territory and recognizes that we are all Treaty People."

Historically, a Land Acknowledgment is a traditional practice shared amongst Indigenous groups to recognize the Indigenous land and territory they are visiting. Making a respectful Land Acknowledgement now, remains a way to express gratitude and respect to Indigenous peoples for being stewards of the land we live and work on. It is an important step in reconciliation.

In Nova Scotia, we are all Treaty People; with that comes roles and responsibilities.