



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY
DISTRICT 9 ONLINE NEWS
HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE



WELCOME AUGUST!

Happy Emancipation Day! Happy Natal Day!
Welcome Buskers!

Thank you, first responders and transportation & public works crews, both municipal and provincial, for our hard work during the recent flooding events in HRM and across the province. As we recover from yet another devastating event, I am heartened by the compassionate and caring residents who are offering assistance to those in need. I am humbled by the dedication of our first responders. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

For information on [Disaster Financial Assistance](#), please visit the provincial website [here](#).

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

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AUGUST MEETING DATES

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

Regional Council:

Tuesday, August 22nd at 10:00 a.m.

Halifax & West Community Council:

There is no August meeting. The next meeting will be held on September 19th at 6:00 p.m.

Regional Centre Community Council:

There is no August meeting. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 27th at 6:00 p.m.

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

DID YOU KNOW...

That August is [Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month](#)

August 1st is [World Lung Cancer Day](#)

August 1st - 7th is [International Clown Week](#)

August 4th is [International Beer Day](#)

August 5th is [International Traffic Light Day](#)

August 6th is the date the [Sandwich](#) was created

August 9th is [International Day of World's Indigenous People](#)

August 12th is [International Youth Day](#)

August 13th is [International Left-handers Day](#)

August 19th is [World Humanitarian Day](#)

August 19th is [World Honeybee Day](#)

August 20th is [International Geocaching Day](#)

August 22nd is [International Day – Slave Trade Abolition](#)

August 27th is [World Rock, Paper, Scissors Day](#)

August 30th there will be a [Blue Moon](#)

HALIFAX-DARTMOUTH PEPSI NATAL DAY PARADE



The 2023 [Halifax-Dartmouth PEPSI Natal Day](#)

Parade will take place Monday,

August 7th starting at 10 a.m.



Halifax Dartmouth Natal Day Parade Route

For more information contact: Morgan Foster, HRM Civic Events Natal Day Coordinator at 902-490-6773 or email: morgan.foster@halifax.ca.



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ROCK THE HARBOUR



A classic rock festival like no other! This 3-day outdoor event will feature an outstanding line-up of Canadian Classic Rock bands performing the hits you've loved for decades at the Alderney Landing Events Plaza, 2 Ochterloney Street. Line-up, schedule and set times are subject to change without notice. Click here for [tickets](#).

Friday, August 18th

6:30 p.m. - Toronto - Prism – Gowan

Saturday, August 19th

4 p.m. - Lee Aaron - Helix - Headpins - Kim Mitchell

Sunday, August 20th

4 p.m. - Harlequin - Streetheart - Honeymoon Suite - Tom Cochrane

Guests are encouraged to bring their own lawn chairs. Festival is general admission.

HALIFAX PUBLIC GARDENS



Tours & Activities

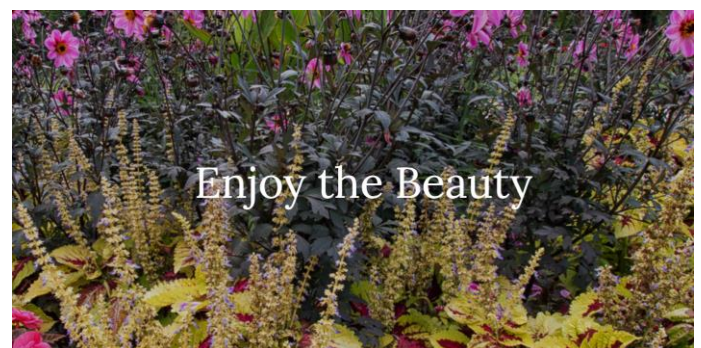


Weekly Bird Walk
Meet at Camp Hill Cemetery,
Summer Street entrance
Every Wednesday morning
7:30-8:30am

Children's Storytime
Recommended for children aged 2-6
Tuesdays and Thursdays
10:30am-11:15am

Guided Tours of the Public Gardens
Meet at Horticultural Hall
Every Day
10:30am, 12:00pm, 1:30pm, & 3:00pm

The [Halifax Public Gardens](#) has lots of fun activities planned for your summer enjoyment. For a list of August activities, click [here](#). Activities include bird walks, children's storytime, guided tours and more!



Enjoy the Beauty



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WE'RE HIRING – DISTRICT FIRE CHIEFS



Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency (HRFE) is inviting applications for 2 (two) permanent full-time positions of [District Chief](#) in the Operations Division. **Deadline for applications is August 4th.**

Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) is committed to reflecting the community it serves and recognizing Diversity and Inclusion as one of the Municipality's core values. We have an Employment Equity Policy and we welcome applications from African Nova Scotians and Other Racially Visible Persons, women in occupations or positions where they are underrepresented in the workforce, Indigenous/Aboriginal People, Persons with Disabilities and 2SLGBTQ+ Persons. Applicants are encouraged to self-identify on their electronic application.

Under the direction of an Assistant Chief, the District Chief is responsible for the planning, organizing, coordinating and directing of fire suppression activities, emergency response services and successful completion of ongoing and special projects. In conjunction with the Division Chiefs of Training, Safety and Compliance and Fire Prevention, the District Chief is responsible for coordinating training and the delivery of public education programs and fire prevention initiatives for both career and volunteer members.

The District Chief is a key member of the HRFE leadership team.

SUMMER FUN WESTWOOD PARK





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OUTDOOR SUMMER FUN!

Beaches and outdoor pools are waiting for you this summer season and the fun is not over yet! Click [here](#) for information on municipally supervised beaches, outdoor pools and splashpads. The new [Halifax Commons Aquatics Facility](#) is open, too!

Rec Van 2023

The REC van is stocked with equipment for many activities including: baseball, basketball, soccer, washer toss, giant checkers, archery, skipping and more. Check out our [daily stops scheduled](#) every Monday through Thursday to August 25th.

BIKE HELMET SAFETY

Don't forget your helmet!

Halifax Regional Police is reminding everyone to fasten on your helmet before hopping on your bike, strapping on your rollerblades or pushing off on your scooter.

The Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act requires a helmet to be worn for all wheeled activities, whether on public or private lands and roads, skate parks or playgrounds.

Wheeled activities include:

- bicycles
- skateboards
- rollerblades/skates
- scooters (both self-propelled and motorized)
- Segways



A proper helmet should:

- Fit comfortably on top of your head and sit low on your forehead, just above the eyebrow.
- Not move if you shake your head.
- Have an outer shell, inner protective liner, chin straps that hold the helmet firmly in place and adjustable sizing pads.
- Meet CPSC, CSA or Snell standards.

More information on helmet safety is available at the following

links:

- [Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act](#)
- [Child Safety Link](#)
- [Parachute Canada](#)

CONGRATS TO EXTRA CARE TAXI

Congratulations to [Extra Care Taxi](#) on their first year in service! This partnership with the Halifax Regional Municipality has helped to provide more accessible transportation options to residents throughout the region. Since July 2022, Extra Care Taxi has completed more than 11,000 trips.

Currently, Extra Care Taxi is completing an average of 48 trips per day, a 600 per cent



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increase in service compared to their first month in operation!

NEW HORIZONS FOR SENIORS PROGRAM (NHSP)



The Government of Canada has launched the annual [New Horizons For Seniors Program \(NHSP\)](#) Community-based stream 2023-2024 Call for proposals (CFP) to invest in projects across Canada.

Organizations will have a total of six weeks to submit their applications from August 1st to the September 14th deadline. Find more information on the [NHSP Funding Page](#).

Eligible projects must meet the CFP criteria, including:

- be no longer than 52 weeks
- request no more than \$25,000
- meet at least 1 [program objective](#)
- seniors will lead or play a vital role in its planning and/or delivery
- seek to benefit seniors and communities
- demonstrate cost effectiveness.

To receive automatic email notifications for [ESDC's](#) funding opportunities, follow this [link](#).

MOWING THE ROW



Back in 2007, concerns arose about inconsistent mowing along arterial streets, prompting Regional Council to include certain areas in municipal mowing contracts. This decision aimed to ensure the upkeep of grass between the curb and sidewalks along these streets, especially since many property owners in those areas were non-residential. As part of Regional Council direction at the November 13, 2007 meeting, select areas were included in mowing contracts managed by the municipality with an approximate yearly cost of \$50,000.

The 2023/2024 Budget has directed a \$50,000 reduction for these mowing contracts; therefore residents are now responsible for the maintenance and mowing of the right of way frontage of their properties and including any grass between the curb and sidewalks along various streets. More information on the decision can be found [here](#).



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As non-residential property owners constitute a significant portion along these streets, maintaining consistency is crucial along our main routes. Remember, By-law S-300 requires all property owners to maintain the grass abutting their property.

While the municipality will still handle maintenance in certain areas, such as those owned by the municipality, center medians, and islands, we urge you to embrace this opportunity to contribute to the beauty and consistency of our city's main routes.

Let's work together to ensure the beauty and upkeep of our community. It's time for property owners to play their part in maintaining our right of way. Together, we can create a cleaner and more vibrant city!

BOULEVARD GARDEN



What is a Boulevard Garden?

The boulevard, also referred to as the public right-of-way, is the strip of vegetation between the sidewalk and the road. Boulevards appear in neighbourhoods throughout the municipality. As of 2021, residents are allowed to plant gardens in the boulevard in front of their home. Urban boulevards typically consist of sod (lawn) and weedy species like monocultures of Kentucky bluegrass.

From May to October of each year, the municipality cuts the grass at 2,500 individual sites across the region and maintains over 6.2 million square metres of grass found in parks, Halifax Regional Centre for Education (HRCE) properties, athletic fields, municipal facilities, and rights of ways. Grass cutting is delivered

through contractors, community partnerships and in-house resources.

In previous seasons, some right of way areas were included in municipal grass cutting service operations, but that practice will not be continued, following budget decisions as of 2023/24.

The municipality has grass cutting service guidelines in place. Our service guidelines outline what residents can expect from the municipality regarding grass cutting, including how often sites are maintained and the maintenance activities for each site. See our grass cutting service guidelines mapping tool [here](#).

Consider choosing a few plants that offer food and shelter for pollinating insects, like swamp milkweed – a food of choice for the endangered

monarch butterfly. Planting gardens that support pollinators supports the whole ecosystem by providing food sources for birds and other wildlife and increases biodiversity in our communities.



Aclepias incarnata
(Swamp milkweed)



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INADEQUATE WELL WATER & SEPTIC SYSTEM PROGRAM



[The Water Supply & Sewage Disposal System Program](#) is a voluntary financing program that enables property owners to finance the cost of water supply or sewage disposal system improvement. Property owners may enter into an agreement with the HRM to access funds to offset the cost of installing the systems on their property.

To apply for the program, please complete and submit the program [application](#). Various conditions apply for eligibility so please review [By-law C-1000](#) and our [Frequently Asked Questions Page](#) for information.

Tips for Choosing a Contractor

For basic guidance when selecting a well contractor, please click [here](#). Please note contractors must hold a certificate of qualification from [Nova Scotia Environment](#) or be approved in advance by HRM.

For any questions or comments regarding the program, please send an [email](#) and someone from our Water Supply System team will contact you accordingly.

DISASTER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Please visit the provincial website for information on [Disaster Financial Assistance for Storm Flooding](#). The deadline for applications is October 31st.

The provincial Disaster Financial Assistance Program is for small businesses, non-profits and residential property owners and tenants who have suffered uninsurable damage or loss from storm flooding.

[Disaster financial assistance for residential property owners and tenants: July 2023 floods](#)

Residential property owners and tenants can apply for disaster financial assistance for damage or loss from the July 2023 floods.

[Disaster financial assistance for small businesses: July 2023 floods](#)

Small businesses can apply for disaster financial assistance for damage or loss from the July 2023 floods.

[Disaster financial assistance for non-profits: July 2023 floods](#)

Non-profits can apply for disaster financial assistance for damage or loss from the July 2023 floods.



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HALIFAX TRANSIT SERVICE



Due to ongoing staffing challenges, the changes made to transit service on February 27th will

remain in place until further notice. Click [here](#) for Halifax Transit service disruption updates.

Ferry and Access-A-Bus services are not impacted by these service reductions and are expected to continue as scheduled.

REGIONAL PLAN REVIEW



The Halifax Regional Municipality is inviting residents to provide feedback on the Draft Regional Plan, both [online](#) and through [in-person public engagement events](#). The public engagement period will run until October 27th.

Feedback received will be summarized in a *What We Heard* report and used to refine key regional policy directions.

The [Regional Plan](#) sets out a common vision and long-range, region-wide planning policies outlining where, when and how future growth

and development should take place. The Regional Plan was adopted in 2006 and is reviewed approximately every five years to ensure it is reflective of the municipality's goals for growth and development.

The Draft Regional Plan is responding to the Halifax region's population growth and need for housing, to act on climate and equity, as well as updating policies to reflect Priority Plans.

Residents may submit feedback at any time on the Draft Regional Plan, including any requests for site-specific amendments.

For a full schedule of public engagement events, click [here](#). For any questions, contact 902.943.3248 or regionalplan@halifax.ca.

To provide your feedback online, click [here](#).

CLAM HAROUBR BEACH SANDCASTLE COMPETITION



On Sunday, August 13th, take the family and head out to the Eastern Shore to enjoy the Clam Harbour Beach Sandcastle competition!



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Yes, it's back! This beloved event is now in its 43rd year.

The sandcastle and sand sculpturing contest attracts over 10,000 people every year to the Eastern Shore of Nova Scotia. There is an on-site bus shuttle service to transport people to and from the beach after the park opens at 9 a.m. Only registered "Service Dogs" are permitted on the buses.

This event is rain or shine. Bring sunscreen, sun hat, sunglasses, insect repellent, water, snacks, and appropriate beach attire. Various food vendors will be on-site.

For full details, click [here](#).

ROAD SAFETY – IMPAIRED DRIVING



As we step into the month of August, road safety takes center stage with a crucial theme - Impaired Driving. Throughout this month, we emphasize the importance of making responsible choices before getting behind the wheel. The key messaging is clear: Never drive

impaired, always plan ahead, and consider options like having a designated driver, using public transportation, or staying overnight. For more details, check out the additional resource link [here](#).

Recognizing the signs of an impaired driver can be instrumental in preventing potential accidents. Watch out for erratic driving behavior such as speeding, drifting between lanes, tailgating, and making unusually wide turns. If you suspect an impaired driver on the road, don't hesitate to report it by calling 911.

In addition to raising awareness about impaired driving, the road safety initiatives in Halifax, Nova Scotia, are making noteworthy progress. Left-Turn Traffic Calming is being reintroduced to five locations this summer, employing temporary speed bumps to slow down left-turning vehicles. When navigating these calming measures, approach the intersection with caution, wait for a clear crosswalk, and drive carefully around the speed bumps.

The municipality is committed to a "Towards Zero" approach, aiming for a 20% reduction in fatal and injury collisions by the end of 2023, as per the Council-approved Strategic Road Safety Framework. Road safety is a shared responsibility, encompassing all road users, whether they are walking, cycling, rolling, or driving.

Investments in road safety continue to be a priority as the municipality strives towards zero fatalities. Every year, traffic calming and control measures are identified and



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implemented, improving the safety of our roads for all users. For more insights into these initiatives, click [here](#).

If you're eager to learn more about road safety progress and collision data in Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM), the Road Safety Dashboard provides a comprehensive overview of ongoing initiatives and achievements. It enables users to track the municipality's progress on various road safety goals, reinforcing the collaborative effort to achieve our "Towards Zero" objectives. You can find collision details on the Open Data Catalogue. Stay informed about traffic calming initiatives across the Municipality by clicking [here](#).

Let's make August a month of heightened road safety awareness and action. By uniting against impaired driving and embracing responsible road habits, we can collectively create safer streets for everyone in HRM and beyond. Together, let's drive towards a future of zero accidents and safer journeys for all!

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

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

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."

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