



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY
DISTRICT 9 ONLINE NEWS
HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

WELCOME DECEMBER!

Happy Chanukah! Merry Christmas! Happy Kwanzaa! Happy New Year!

As we come to the close of another year and prepare to enter a new year filled with possibilities, I reflect on this quote by [Michael Altshuler](#): "*The bad news is time flies. The good news is that you're the pilot.*" I wish you a smooth journey with a gentle tailwind in 2024 as you navigate your life's goals.

Keep reading for updates on HRM's action on homelessness, the voluntary vulnerable persons registry, strategic performance report and much more!

If you have questions about a municipal program or service, contact me at Shawn.Cleary@halifax.ca or call 902.579.6746.

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DECEMBER MEETINGS

Regional Council, Budget Committee, Halifax & West Community Council and Regional Centre Community Council meetings will be held on the following dates:

Budget Committee:

Tuesday, December 12th at 10:00 a.m.

Regional Council:

Tuesday, December 12th following Budget Committee

Halifax & West Community Council:

Tuesday, December 5th at 6:00 p.m.

Regional Centre Community Council:

Wednesday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m.

Please check our [website](#) to confirm dates and times as the meeting schedule is subject to change.

DID YOU KNOW....

December is HIV/AIDS Awareness Month, Seasonal Affective Disorder Awareness Month, Universal Human Rights Month.

December 1st is [World AIDS Day](#)

December 3rd is [International Day of Persons with Disabilities](#)

December 5th is [International Volunteer Day](#)

December 6th is [National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women](#)

December 10th is [Human Rights Day](#)

December 10th is [International Animal Rights Day](#)

December 31st is [New Year's Eve](#)

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The International Day of People with Disabilities (IDPWD), recognized annually on December 3rd, is a time to raise awareness of, and mobilize support for, the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. This year's theme is *Human rights: the foundation for a Quality-of-Life for persons with disabilities*. We all play a part in shaping an integrated, accessible future.

There are many ways to get involved:

- Attend the [International Day of Persons with Disabilities Holiday Breakfast](#), hosted by the Nova Scotia League for Equal Opportunities, in partnership with the municipality and community organizations. December 1st from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Hotel Halifax.
- Learn more about the municipality's dedication to [advancing access and inclusion in our community](#), including the [Accessibility Strategy](#), unanimously approved by Regional Council. The strategy sets the course for the municipality as an organization to align with the Accessibility Act, which aims at achieving an accessible Nova Scotia by 2030.
- Explore an [online collection of stories, resources and more](#), collaboratively curated by the municipality, Halifax Public Libraries and other community groups in celebration of IDPWD.



ACTION ON HOMELESSNESS



The Halifax Regional Municipality's priority has been, and continues to be, treating those experiencing homelessness with dignity – and continuing to work with community partners to find ways to provide support to them within our organization's capacity and scope. The following is an update on ongoing efforts to help address homelessness in our region.

New Emergency Shelter

- The municipality is supporting the Province of Nova Scotia in the operation of an emergency shelter for those experiencing homelessness. The 24-hour shelter, located at 197-199 Windmill Road in Dartmouth, opened on Friday, November 17th and will remain open for the next 30 months, until May 2026.
- Starting with 50 beds for people of all genders – including youth aged 16 and older, if needed – the shelter can add more beds based on community need and extreme weather events as well as accommodating people with pets.

- The municipality will be providing in-kind property maintenance support for the shelter site, including required inspections and any necessary work to bring the site to compliance. The municipality will also be providing regular garbage pickup and snow clearing.
- The province will be prioritizing those living in encampments for placement in the shelter. Municipal staff will ensure those staying in encampments are aware of the shelter, how to access it, and facilitate relocation to the shelter.
- For more information, see the Province of Nova Scotia's [news release](#).

Grand Parade

- With the new emergency shelter that is now open, there is an alternative location for those currently sheltering in Grand Parade.
- Municipal outreach workers and street navigators engaged with those sheltered in the Grand Parade to assist in their relocation.
- There are 8 [designated outdoor sheltering locations](#) on the Grand Parade.





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Status of Halifax Christmas Tree Lighting

- The Christmas Tree was placed in the Grand Parade on November 16th. Holiday festivities, typically associated with the tree lighting, took place at Peace and Friendship Park on Saturday, November 25th.
- The lighting of the tree in Grand Parade occurred at the conclusion of the Saltwire Parade of Lights on November 25th.

Waverley Inn Shelter

- The former Waverley Inn in Halifax's south end is set to host a new temporary supportive housing facility for women and gender-diverse people experiencing homelessness. The shelter is planned to open in December.
- YWCA Halifax will provide 24-hour on-site support for up to 32 residents, including referrals to mental health and addictions counselling, employment services and skills training.
- The municipality will be providing in-kind property maintenance support for the shelter site, including required inspections and any work required to bring the site to compliance. The municipality will also be providing regular garbage pickup and snow clearing.

Tiny Home Community

- The municipality is working with the Province of Nova Scotia to build a tiny home community. This pilot community will have 52 units, providing housing for about 62 people. The community will be built on surplus municipal land in Lower Sackville.

This surplus land is currently being used as a designated outdoor sheltering location.

- It is anticipated that 30 units will be complete by next spring and people will be in them next summer. The remaining 22 units are expected to be complete by next fall. If successful, similar communities may be created in other areas of the municipality and across the province.
- Rent will be geared to income, which means that rent will be no more than 30 per cent of a person's income. Community residents will be selected from the HRM By Name List and will receive the wraparound support they need to help them connect to employment and more permanent housing.
- The municipality is providing the land at no cost and will also be providing regular garbage pickup, snow clearing and general property maintenance.

Pallet Shelters

- In partnership with the Province of Nova Scotia and service providers, 100 pallet shelters will be installed in the municipality. The provincial funding will also provide bed frames, mattresses and desks, as well as support operations for the pallet shelter village.
- Pallet is a North American leader in rapid-response shelter villages designed by people with lived experience. These communities will include single occupancy rooms, plus bathroom and laundry units and on-site supports by local service providers.



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- The Province of Nova Scotia will provide two parcels of provincial land in the municipality to host the pallet shelter villages. The municipality is providing additional land, land servicing and preparation support, as well as operational oversight of the 100 units.

Informational video series via social media

- The municipality will be launching a series of informational videos addressing commonly asked questions about the current homelessness situation in the region.
- Each video will feature municipal staff – including Max Chauvin, Director of Housing & Homelessness – as well as community partners and will be posted on the municipality's Instagram, Facebook, Twitter (X), LinkedIn and YouTube accounts. Residents will be encouraged to leave their questions in the comments, where they will be answered and potentially form the topics of future videos.
- This initiative supports one of the four roles within the mandate of the municipality identified in the Framework for Addressing Homelessness: supporting public education efforts.
- The videos will be published on the [Helping address homelessness webpage](#) at the end of the series.

For more information about ongoing efforts by the municipality to help address homelessness in our region visit the municipal website [here](#).

IMPROVEMENTS, AMENDMENTS AND ADVANCEMENTS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN THE MUNICIPALITY

On November 14th, Regional Council passed a [series of motions](#) to amend, improve, and advance affordable housing in the municipality. A full overview of the motions and background information can be found in the [staff report](#).

The motion was advanced that the [Administrative Order Number 2020-007-ADM Respecting Incentive or Bonus Zoning Public Benefits](#) and [Administrative Order Number 2020-008-ADM Respecting Grants for Affordable Housing](#) both be amended, so that money collected through the [Interim Density Bonus Program](#) can be used to fund eligible public benefits, including affordable housing, in the Suburban Area (outside the Regional Centre). This will ensure that the Halifax Regional Municipality can fund affordable housing projects throughout the entire municipality to ultimately support more residents in need.

Staff also recommended expanding eligible partnerships between private businesses and Non-Profit Organizations (NPO), by allowing eligible NPOs to lease privately owned property or housing and maintain their eligibility for Affordable Housing Grants Program funding.

Additionally, on November 14th, in light of [Bill 329](#) and the Interim Density Bonus Program, staff also recommended that, for the 2023/2024 Grant year, \$200,000 be allocated from the Housing



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Accelerator Fund to support suburban and rural affordable housing projects.

The motion was advanced for a review of the Affordable Housing Grant Program to be undertaken before the 2024/25 grant year to ensure the ongoing effectiveness of this program. For more information, read the full [staff report](#).

HRM RECEIVES A GRADE FOR CARBON DISCLOSURE PROJECT



The Halifax Regional Municipality received an A grade from the [Carbon Disclosure Project \(CDP\)](#) for our commitment to climate action and environmental protection. CDP is a global, non-profit charity that runs the world's disclosure system for investors, companies, cities, states and regions to assess their environmental impact.

Only 13% of cities got an A for their efforts in 2023. Being in CDP's top tier means that our ambitious climate action plan [HalifACT](#) is being recognized internationally for its emphasis on transparency and its bold climate leadership.

CDP reporting is a commitment of Regional Council. We are going to keep working to sharply reduce our greenhouse gas emissions as a way of protecting our residents from the effects of climate change and ensuring the health of our economy.

We don't do it for the good grades, we do it for the future of our community. Getting an A from an organization like CDP is an important sign that we're on the right track.

HALIFAX TRANSIT SERVICE CHANGES



As our city grows, so do our transit needs. Starting on November 20th, Halifax Transit introduced new service to Bayers Lake, Burnside, and Dartmouth Crossing; brought back 55 trips on 26 routes, 12 of which will be returning to full service!

In District 9, the **Route 28 Bayers Lake** has undergone a routing adjustment to add service to the new [Bayers Lake Community Outpatient Centre](#) on Susie Lake Crescent. Learn more [here](#).

PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS VENUES STUDY



The Halifax Regional Municipality is seeking public input on the Performing & Visual Arts Venues Study.

Happy Cities, on behalf of the municipality, are conducting a study of performing and visual arts



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venues across the region. The Study will help improve the municipality's understanding of professional art venue operations, identify challenges facing existing art venues, identify the needs of the local arts and culture community and inform the municipality's long-term approach to supporting, renewing and investing in professional arts venues.

As part of the Performing & Visual Arts Venues Study's engagement program, Happy Cities is seeking feedback from users of performing and arts venues on their experience with these facilities. Happy Cities is also releasing a second survey to collect input from Indigenous artists and peoples.

The two surveys are available here: a [Public Survey](#) and an [Indigenous Residents Survey](#). The surveys will remain open until Friday, December 15th.

The Performing & Visual Arts Venues Study is expected to be completed by June 2024, and may lead to the creation of a Professional Arts Venues Plan.

The municipality is asking for the cooperation of residents to efficiently complete this work. Temporary 'No Parking' signs will be posted in neighbourhoods prior to cleanup. In order to facilitate proper cleanup, residents are asked to abide by posted signage and not park on the street. Residents are also asked to respect municipal by-laws which prohibit the sweeping or depositing of leaves along the gutter of the street or in the roadway.

Minimizing fallen leaves not only ensures the good operation of stormwater systems, but it also contributes to safer roads for all road users. The potential for street flooding increases greatly when catch basins are clogged with debris.

Cleanup on private property is the responsibility of the property owner. Leaves and yard waste are collected during regular green cart (organics) collection weeks with any excess placed in large paper bags. For details on the scheduled cleanup, click [here](#).

FALL LEAF CLEANUP PROGRAM



The annual fall leaf cleanup program began on November 20th and will conclude on December 8th.

During this time, crews will collect and remove fallen leaves in the heavily-treed streets of the Halifax peninsula and urban core.

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FALL CYCLING TIPS



Safety tips for cyclists during the fall season:

- Remember to charge your bike lights. You are legally required to have a light at the front of your bike

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(or e-scooter) and a red reflector or red light at the back.

- Use your lights after dark and 30 minutes before dawn + dusk.
- Reduced daylight hours mean reduced visibility. Consider wearing brighter or reflective clothing and be extra aware of other road users around you.
- Fall is a great time for cycling, keep up the good habits with some extra preparation.

Learn more about cycling in the Halifax region [here](#).

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

The [National Fire Protection Association](#) (NFPA) offers safety information and tips in a variety of languages on many subjects including: smoke alarms, cooking safety, electrical safety, escape planning and heating safety – see sample sheet below in English and Arabic.



PUBLIC ART – SPRING GARDEN ROAD



The Halifax Regional Municipality is proud to announce five public art installations along Spring Garden Road, as one of the final stages of the Imagine Spring Garden Road project.

The pieces are located between the Public Gardens and the Halifax Central Library and feature five silhouettes representing the diverse histories of the Public Gardens, the Halifax Central Library and the land on which they are located: Mikjiki, Qalipu, Paqtesm, Diana, and Queen Victoria & Kji-kaquaj. The silhouettes are informed by the stories and characters of the community – whether from books, myths or history. More information on each of these characters will be found on the pieces when plaques are added at a later date.

Artists involved in the project were Jacqueline Metz and Nancy Chew in collaboration with Gerald Gloade, Mi'kmaq artist and cultural educator. The artists' collaboration with Gerald Gloade provided the artists with historical insight and cultural commentary. The artists were selected by peer jury as part of the municipality's Public Art Policy. Once



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the artists were selected, they worked directly with WSP Canada – the project team involved in the streetscape design updates for the Imagine Spring Garden Road project. For more information, click [here](#).

VOLUNTARY VULNERABLE PERSONS REGISTRY



Vulnerable Persons Register

The [Voluntary Vulnerable Persons Registry](#) (VVPR) provides essential information to first responders, Emergency Management staff and volunteers to help prioritize responses to residents' needs in situations such as sustained power outages or severe storms.

The VVPR is a voluntary, self-referral list intended for residents without 24-hour support who experience severe difficulty with any of the following:

- mobility
- vision impairment
- hearing impairment
- developmental disabilities
- cognitive impairment
- mental health conditions
- any resident who requires electricity for life-sustaining equipment such as oxygen, dialysis, etc.

Those not eligible include (exceptions may apply):

- residents receiving 24-hour support from a caregiver or home care aide

- residents receiving care or assistance from a long-term care home or supportive housing facility
- residents under the age of 18 who receive parent/guardian support; however, children with intensive needs that require electricity for life sustaining equipment may be considered

Applications can be submitted only by individuals seeking to become part of the VVPR or their representative/legal guardian. All applications will be reviewed by municipal staff to confirm eligibility and verify personal information upon submission of the [self-referral online application form](#).

When the VVPR program is activated, a warning will be sent through [hfxALERT](#), the municipality's mass notification system, to registrants, their representative/legal guardian and emergency contacts.

Emergency Management staff will then conduct phone calls, if needed, or attempt door-to-door contact through Emergency Management volunteers.

After the event, Emergency Management staff will provide check-in communications through [hfxALERT](#) to registrants, their representative/legal guardian and emergency contacts. Prioritization checks will be conducted based on personal information included in the registration form, with door-to-door contact, as necessary.



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PARTICIPATE VIRTUALLY IN REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETINGS

VIRTUAL REGIONAL COUNCIL

As of November 14th, virtual public participation for in-person meetings held in Council Chamber has been available.

This option is available for any meetings taking place in Council Chamber where there is an opportunity for the public to speak, including meetings of Budget Committee. This is in addition to a livestream of all meetings, which is available on the municipality's [YouTube channel](#).

In August 2023, Regional Council passed amendments to [Administrative Order One – Respecting the Procedures of the Council](#) to enable virtual participation. These amendments provided the necessary legislative changes to accommodate virtual participants.

Those who wish to participate virtually must register in advance - by 4:30 p.m. the business day before the meeting. For more information, visit [our website](#).

2024 VOLUNTEER AWARDS NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

The Halifax Regional Municipality is currently seeking nominations for the **2024 Volunteer Awards**.

The annual event puts a spotlight on residents that have made a difference in their community by donating their time and skills to various programs and services.

Nominating an individual or volunteer group is a great opportunity to show appreciation for the work that volunteers do to help build stronger, healthier and more supportive communities. Nominations must be submitted in one of three award categories: adult, youth (ages 13-19) and community group.

For detailed nomination criteria and online applications, [visit here](#).

The deadline for nominations is Thursday, January 11th, 2024.

Successful nominees will be notified in March and will be invited to attend the annual Volunteer Award Ceremony which will take place on Wednesday, April 17th during National Volunteer Week.





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EXPERIENCED POLICE OFFICERS WANTED!



We're hiring! Are you an experienced police officer looking to join Halifax Regional Police? Now is the time. Join Our Team! Make a Difference! To apply, click [here](#).

You must meet the definition of an experienced police officer as outlined by Halifax Regional Police policy and Nova Scotia Department of Justice guidelines. That means you must fall into one of the following four categories:

- a police officer currently serving with a Canadian police service
- a Canadian military police officer (regular service) with qualifications Level 5
- an applicant who successfully completed approved police recruiting training program from a recognized training institution within the last 24 months

- an applicant who successfully completed approved police recruiting training program from a recognized training institution and have been employed with a recognized Canadian police agency within the last 24 months

You must also meet the following minimum requirements:

- 19 years of age by application deadline
- Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- Grade 12 education
- no criminal convictions for which a pardon has not been granted and no adult criminal charges pending
- valid Class 5 Nova Scotia driver's license or equivalent from another Canadian province

CIGARETTE BUTT BINS



You may have noticed these cigarette butt bins popping up around the municipality. We've mounted four of these bins around downtown Halifax, Dartmouth and Sackville as a way to encourage putting

waste in the right place, aka putting cigarette butts in the garbage or one of these snazzy bins!

Did you know that cigarette butts are made of plastic? When cigarette butts are littered, they



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contribute to micro-plastic chemical pollution to groundwater and animals – including people!

2022/23 STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Halifax Regional Municipality has released the [2022/23 Strategic Performance Report](#) – the second annual report providing updates of the [Strategic Priorities Plan 2021-25](#). The [Strategic Performance Snapshot](#), the municipality's public-facing dashboard with key performance indicators aligned to the Strategic Priorities Plan, has been updated with data for 2022/23.

The annual Strategic Performance Report highlights the municipality's progress on delivering Regional Council's priorities and the priorities of the administration in the governance and management of municipal services, staff and finances.

The following are some key highlights from the 2022/23 Strategic Performance Report:

- The creation of the Community Safety business unit, allowing the consolidation of programs and activities in the areas of social policy, housing and homelessness, public safety and emergency management.
- The implementation of the [Framework for Addressing Homelessness](#), which builds on continued work with the Province of Nova Scotia and service providers to better coordinate resources and assistance to persons experiencing homelessness – including the creating of [designated outdoor sheltering locations](#).

- The continued commitment to key climate action deliverables, including transitioning municipal vehicles to electric, retrofitting municipal buildings to align with [HalifACT guidelines](#) and progressing towards decarbonizing the public transit fleet, with electric buses scheduled to be in service in Fall 2024.
- The [Cogswell District Project](#) has entered its second phase of construction and will be complete by the end of 2025.
- The development of the [Draft Regional Plan](#) – the municipality's long-range region-wide plan for growth and development, which was presented for Regional Council review and public feedback.

For more information, visit halifax.ca/budget.

SNOW SEASON IS HERE



With each weather event, snow clearing crews are responsible for approximately 3,844 lane kilometres of streets and about 1,000 kilometres

of sidewalks! We can't control Mother Nature or what this winter has in store, but if we work together, we can all be better prepared for whatever the season may bring.

For more information on our municipality's Winter Operations program, and tips to help you prepare



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for inclement weather, please visit [here](#).

SERVICE STANDARDS:

HRM has service standards for streets, sidewalks, and bus stops and the timing varies depending on the priority level. We prioritize commonly used streets, bus routes and roads that provide access to hospitals and schools. When the snow stops, operators work as quickly and safely to have all the roads cleared by 24 hours and major roads and bus routes within 12 hours.

Before contacting 311 about snow clearing, please ensure the service timelines for your area have expired. You can find detailed information about snow clearing service timelines on the interactive map or in the "when should clearing be complete?" section on the website (www.halifax.ca/snow).

If your street or sidewalk has not been cleared by the indicated time in each chart, please e-mail ContactUs@311.halifax.ca or call 311 so crews can be dispatched to address the issue. If an emergency vehicle needs to access a street, staff dispatch a plow immediately to that street.

Residents should note that in snowfalls greater than 30 centimeters or in blizzard conditions, more time may be needed to complete clearing. The same exception may apply when there are rapidly changing weather conditions. Crews will continue working until all streets and sidewalks are clear and safe. Of course, some roads are taken care of by the province, depending on where you live. Provincial road information can be found [here](#).

WINTER PARKING:

The municipal overnight winter parking ban is in

December 2023

effect annually from December 15th to March 31st.

The ban is enforced from 1:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. during declared weather events and snow removal operations only. Sign up for [hfxALERT](#) notifications to receive important updates from the municipality, including [Winter Parking Ban notifications](#).

For more information, [visit here](#).

WINTER 2023 REC REGISTRATION



Get ready to register for Rec programs happening this winter! Winter recreation registration begins December 6th and 7th at 10:00 a.m. each day.

To preview upcoming program PDFs, visit halifax.ca/myREC to see what's available in your community.

Wednesday, December 6th: All dryland programs
Thursday, December 7th: Skating and aquatics programs
For more information on recreation programming, visit halifax.ca/myREC.

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HRM CHOSEN AS ONE OF NOVA SCOTIA'S TOP EMPLOYERS 2024

The Halifax Regional Municipality is proud to be recognized as one of **Nova Scotia's Top Employers for 2024.**



The municipality is proud to be recognized as one of Nova Scotia's Top Employers for 2024. This is the third year in a row that the municipality has been honoured with this recognition on the Nova Scotia's Top Employers list.

SAFE SCHOOL STREETS ROAD CLOSURE PILOT PROGRAMS TO MAKE SCHOOLS SAFER

Making our schools safer: The municipality to introduce [Safe School Streets](#) road closure pilot program to two schools

The [Transportation Standing Committee](#) has recommended that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to formalize the process for a Safe School Streets Pilot Program within the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Safe School Streets road closures are strategies aimed at creating safer and more vibrant environments for students, pedestrians, and communities by temporarily limiting vehicle access

to certain streets near schools. These initiatives prioritize the well-being and recreational needs of residents, especially children, by repurposing roads for activities such as walking, biking, playing, and socializing.

A Safe School Street is a car-free block beside a school open to walking, biking, and wheeling during pick-up and drop-off. Typically, no motor vehicles are permitted to enter or exit the block when the Safe School Street closure is in effect (unless a valid pass is provided), but parked vehicles may remain.

Safe School Streets originated in Bolzano, Italy in the early 1990s when school communities were struggling to manage traffic during peak pick-up and drop-off hours. The programs have appeared in other countries worldwide and have shown several positive impacts, including decreased levels of vehicular traffic, improved road safety, reduced traffic congestion in and around the schools, opportunities for kids to be active, encouraging active travel to school, benefits to mental health and focus on school, improved air quality at and around schools, and a sense of community.

The Safe School Streets approach aligns with HRM's broader transportation policies and strategic priorities such as the [Integrated Mobility Plan](#), to enhance public safety through active transportation and a focus on pedestrian access. The initiative typically requires strong support and leadership from the school community and surrounding neighbourhood. A Safe School Streets program also aligns with the municipality's [Road Safety](#) and [Vision Zero](#) strategies.

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The pilot program in the municipality will roll out to two schools and will be open for a two-year period.

To read more about the pilot program and the requirements of implementing it within the municipality read the full [staff report](#).

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

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 a crucial step in reconciliation.

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