



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY
DISTRICT 9 ONLINE NEWS
HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

WELCOME JANUARY!

Happy New Year!

Every new year, just like every new day, brings an opportunity for us to be the best we can be. As I say goodbye to 2023 and all its challenges, I remember this saying: " *My goal is not to be better than anyone else, but to be better than I used to be.*" If the challenges of 2023 taught me anything, it is to cherish what is most important: family, friends, health and compassion. With these foremost in my mind, and everything I have learned from 2023, I look forward to being the best me I can be in 2024. I wish the same for you.

Keep reading for updates on the overnight winter parking ban, street tree pruning, Community Grants Program 2024-25, the 2023/24 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.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME JANUARY!.....1

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....1

JANUARY MEETINGS..... 2

BUSINESS UNIT BUDGET PRESENTATION SCHEDULE 2

DID YOU KNOW.....3

OVERNIGHT WINTER PARKING BAN IN EFFECT 3

CYCLICAL STREET TREE PRUNING PROGRAM ..5

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2024-25..... 6

2022/23 STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE REPORT ... 6

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, & ACCESSIBILITY7

ROOFTOP SOLAR PANEL SYSTEMS 8

E-SCOOTERS PERMITTED ON SELECT MUNICIPAL TRAILS..... 8

HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE – WE’RE HIRING!.. 9

WILLIAMS LAKE DAM UPDATE..... 9

COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY 9

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....10



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

JANUARY MEETINGS

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

Budget Committee:

Wednesday, January 24th at 9:30 a.m.

Friday, January 26th at 9:30 a.m. (Contingency Date)

Wednesday, January 31st at 9:30 a.m.

Regional Council:

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

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

Tuesday, January 30th at 6:30 p.m.

Halifax & West Community Council:

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

Regional Centre Community Council:

Wednesday, January 24th at 6:00 p.m.

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

BUSINESS UNIT BUDGET PRESENTATION SCHEDULE



Regional Council has begun the 2024/25 municipal budget process by presenting the [2024/25 Budget Direction on November 28th](#).

The annual municipal budget funds all costs to service a growing municipality. This includes day-to-day municipal operations (i.e. transit, police, fire, garbage collection, snow clearing, staffing

January 2024

costs), capital priority initiatives approved by Regional Council (i.e.: HalifACT, Cogswell District project, Integrated Mobility Plan), as well as capital projects and investments to purchase, construct, rehabilitate and replace municipal assets such as buildings, roads, active transportation, parks and bridges.

The Budget Direction is presented annually to Budget Committee with recommendations for tax and non-tax revenues to accommodate changing operational costs, capital investments, as well as debt and reserve changes. It is also reflective of on-going and emerging opportunities and challenges. Municipal staff will present their business unit proposed budgets on the dates outlined below. Information on each of these items will be posted on Halifax.ca the Friday before the meeting.

Business Unit presentation schedule:

Wednesday, January 24th

Contingency date: Friday, January 26th

- Assessment/Budget Direction Update and Capital Plan

Wednesday, January 31st

Contingency date: Friday, February 2nd

- Corporate Services
CAO's Office
Finance & Asset Management
Human Resources
Information Technology
Legal & Legislative Services;
Auditor General
Property, Fleet & Environment

Friday, February 2nd

Contingency date: Wednesday, February 7th

HALIFAX



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

- Halifax Public Libraries

Wednesday, February 7th

Contingency date: Friday, February 9th

- Halifax Regional Police; RCMP

Friday, February 9th

Contingency date: Tuesday, February 13th

- Public Works

Tuesday, February 13th

Contingency date: Wednesday, February 14th

- Planning & Development

Wednesday, February 14th

Contingency date: Wednesday, February 28th

- Parks & Recreation

Wednesday, February 28th

Contingency date: Friday, March 1st

- Halifax Transit

Friday, March 1st

Contingency date: Wednesday, March 6th

- Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency

Wednesday, March 6th

Contingency date: Friday, March 8th

- Community Safety; Fiscal

Tuesday, April 2nd

Contingency date: Wednesday, April 3rd

- Budget Adjustment List (BAL) Review

Tuesday, April 23rd

Contingency date: Tuesday, April 30th

- Budget Approval

DID YOU KNOW....

January is [Alzheimer's Awareness Month](#).

January 1st is New Year's Day

January 2nd is [World Introvert Day](#)

January 4th is [World Braille Day](#)

January 6th is [Epiphany Day](#)

January 11th is [Sir John A. MacDonald Day](#)

January 14th is [World Logic Day](#)

January 15th is [Martin Luther King Day](#)

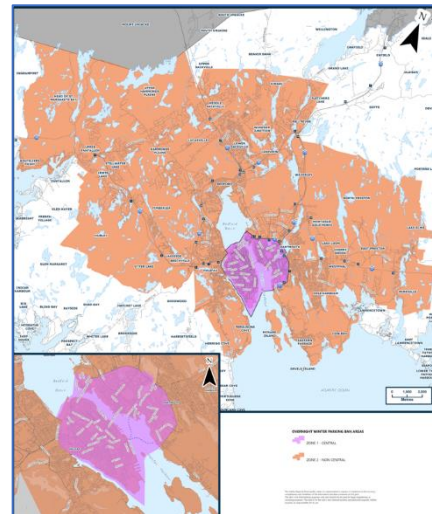
January 24th is [International Day of Education](#)

January 24th is [World Day for African and Afrodescendant Culture](#)

January 26th is [Bell Let's Talk Day](#)

January 27th is [International Holocaust Remembrance Day](#)

OVERNIGHT WINTER PARKING BAN IN EFFECT



As of Wednesday, December 13th, the municipal overnight winter parking ban is in effect through to March 31st, 2024. The overnight winter parking ban is enforced from 1:00 a.m. to

6:00 a.m. during declared weather events and snow removal operations only.

Weather conditions and snow clearing operations will determine how long an overnight winter



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

parking ban will be enforced, as it may be in place for more than one night. The easiest way to stay informed about the status of overnight winter parking bans is to register for automated notifications by [signing up for hfxALERT](#). Subscribers will receive timely alerts by phone, email, and/or text message when the ban is in effect and again when it is lifted. Residents are encouraged to plan ahead when snow is in the forecast and secure off-street parking when the overnight winter parking ban is enforced.

The municipality has two zones for the overnight winter parking ban: **Zone 1 – Central** and **Zone 2 – Non-Central** (see attached maps).

Zone 1 – Central refers to the Halifax Peninsula and downtown Dartmouth within Highway 111 (the Circumferential Highway) and some surrounding areas. **Zone 2 – Non-Central** is a designated area outside of Zone 1 – Central. Residents are able to determine which zone they're in by searching their address using the interactive tool available [here](#), or by referring to the attached maps.

The following overnight winter parking ban scenarios may occur before, during or following a declared weather event:

- **Municipal** overnight winter parking ban is in effect/has been lifted
- **Zone 1 – Central** overnight winter parking ban is in effect/has been lifted
- **Zone 2 – Non-Central** overnight winter parking ban is in effect/has been lifted
- **Zone 1 – Central** overnight winter parking ban has been lifted, but will continue to be enforced in **Zone 2 – Non-Central**

- **Zone 2 – Non-Central** overnight winter parking ban has been lifted, but will continue to be enforced in **Zone 1 – Central**

Sometimes, targeted snow removal in certain downtown areas is required. Having two zones enhances service delivery by implementing overnight winter parking bans that accommodate targeted snow removal.

Overnight winter parking bans will continue to be communicated to residents via [public service announcements](#), [hfxALERT](#), [halifax.ca](#), and [@hfxgov](#) on X. Residents who are signed up for hfxALERT will receive notifications for all overnight winter parking ban scenarios.

Compliance

When and where you park this winter can have a big impact on snow clearing. To help ensure the streets are properly cleared, the municipality has enhanced enforcement in areas around hospitals, schools, bus routes and problem streets to ensure unobstructed access for snow equipment and emergency vehicles.

Officers will be ticketing vehicles obstructing sidewalk clearing. Vehicles hanging out of a driveway or parked on the sidewalk are prone to damage and become dangerous obstacles for crews. Such obstacles prevent crews from clearing sidewalks properly, which can quickly become an accessibility issue.

Regardless of the status of the overnight winter parking ban, vehicles can be ticketed or towed, at any time, if their vehicle is interfering with snow clearing operations as outlined in Section 139 of the [Nova Scotia Motor Vehicle Act](#).



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

To avoid a ticket and the costs of being towed, residents should ask themselves these questions when considering parking on the street this winter:

- Is the overnight winter parking ban currently being enforced?
- Is my vehicle making the road impassable?
- Is my vehicle impeding snow operations in the area?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, do not park on the street. The municipality does not want to ticket or tow — the objective is to keep vehicles off the streets to facilitate efficient and safe clearing. This, in turn, ensures emergency vehicles, buses and other vehicles have proper access.

Safety

Planters, lawn decorations and any other portable objects near the sidewalk should be removed before the winter. Any permanent structures or objects too big to move should be marked with a reflector that will be visible above the snow to help crews identify obstacles. Safety is our top priority for residents and crews. We ask for residents' continued co-operation and diligence during declared overnight winter parking bans.

Important reminders to all property owners

Never clear snow from your property onto the street or sidewalk. Property owners must ensure the snow they clear is piled on their own property. It is against [By-Law S-300](#) to throw or pile snow in the street or on the sidewalk. This is a serious problem that can cause safety issues for pedestrians and other users as it complicates snow clearing. The municipality has [enforcement tools](#) in place to address non-compliance with the by-law.

For more information on municipal winter operations, please visit halifax.ca/snow.

CYCLICAL STREET TREE PRUNING PROGRAM



The Halifax Regional Municipality's cyclical tree pruning program is now underway. Proactive tree pruning activities, as outlined in the [Urban Forest Master Plan](#), improve the health of the urban canopy of street trees, ensuring longer lived trees, while reducing damage to trees and local infrastructure due to weather events.

Crews will complete the tree pruning program according to best practices regarding tree health and infrastructure clearances (relating to roads, sidewalks, power lines and signage). Municipal trees are assessed for maintenance and removal on an individual basis. If removal is deemed necessary, a new tree will be planted in its place.



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

To learn when tree pruning may take place in your area, visit our [website](#) to view detailed schedules and maps. Work schedules are approximate and weather dependent. The tree pruning program is expected to be completed in March 2024. There may be temporary street and sidewalk closures while work is underway.

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2024-25

2024-2025

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

This program provides cash grants to registered non-profit organizations and charities.

HALIFAX

Halifax Regional Municipality's Community Grants Program will begin accepting applications from registered non-profits and charities located within Halifax Regional Municipality on January 3rd. The application deadline is April 1st, 2024.

Application forms and program guidebooks are available from:

- [The municipal website](#)

- Visiting one of our [Customer Service Centres](#):
 - Alderney Gate, 40 Alderney Drive, - Dartmouth, 1st floor.
 - Musquodoboit Harbour Strip Mall, Corner of Hwy #7 & East Petpeswick Road
 - Bayers Road, 7071 Bayers Road, 2nd floor.
- Contacting 311
- E-mail - nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca

Organizations considering an application to the Program are encouraged to review the guidebook.

For further information, please email nonprofitgrants@halifax.ca or call 902.497.0479.

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



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

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.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, & ACCESSIBILITY



Regional Council has approved the decision to incorporate new standards for diversity and inclusion in all staff reports presented to Regional Council

moving forward.

Staff reports are the primary method through which staff communicate to Halifax Regional Council about projects, decisions, and programs. Applying a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) lens during the preparation of staff reports is an important process for ensuring transparency and highlighting how DEIA was considered during the project. For this lens to be genuine and effective, consideration of DEIA must occur at every step of the process, from scoping onwards.

The guidelines adopt an approach focusing on the needs of underrepresented groups and serve as a resource for report authors and collaborators to inform the direction of municipal services, programs, and projects to better meet these needs. They are designed to help report authors and collaborators inform the direction of municipal services, programs, and projects with a clearer focus and intersectional perspective. This approach ensures that inclusion and participation of all



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

residents can be achieved and that the insights from groups who face systemic barriers and inequities are sought and reflected in reports, recommendations, and outcomes.

The checklist provides a resource that delineates multiple ways to ensure diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility are taken into consideration when planning, designing, and managing projects related to municipal policies, services, and programs that may result in the preparation of a council report. For more information, read the [staff report](#).

ROOFTOP SOLAR PANEL SYSTEMS



Ragged Lake Transit Terminal, 80 Grassy Lake Drive

The Environment & Climate Change team has begun the installation of rooftop solar panel systems at nine municipal sites across the region. These efforts support the goal to decarbonize corporate buildings by 2030 as part of the municipality's transformational [HalifACT](#) plan. The Sackville Transit Terminal was the first site to receive a rooftop solar panel system earlier this fall, with installations expected to be completed at the following sites by the end of 2024, pending a structural analysis for some.

- Keshen Goodman Library
- Ragged Lake Transit Centre
- East Preston Community Centre

- North Preston Community Centre
- Carroll's Corner Community Centre
- Cole Harbour Place
- Sackville Sports Stadium
- Wallace Lucas Community Centre

Installation work will take place as to not impact regular operations at each site. These rooftop solar panel systems are in addition to those installed at five other municipal sites between fall 2022 and summer 2023, which included the Acadia Centre, Dartmouth North Community Centre, Halifax Commons Aquatics Facility, Kiwanis Grahams Grove Community Building and Mackintosh Depot.

Altogether, the rooftop solar panel installations are expected to produce more than three million kWh of renewable energy annually, which will save more than \$350,000 in electricity costs each year.

Residents are encouraged to learn more and participate in the [Solar City program](#), which offers property owners access to innovative solar energy options and is financed through the municipality.

For more information on solar energy systems at municipal sites, visit halifax.ca/solarenergy.

E-SCOOTERS PERMITTED ON SELECT MUNICIPAL TRAILS



The operation of e-scooters is now being permitted on the following municipal trails:

- Mainland Linear Trail
- Chain of Lakes Trail
- Halifax Common pathways



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

- McIntosh Run Trail
- AT Trail around Lake Banook
- Park and Brookdale Crescent)
- Dartmouth Waterfront Active
- Transportation Trail (between Alderney and Woodside ferry terminals)
- Portland Lakes Trail (between Baker Drive and Freshwater Trail to Waterside Terrace)

The use of e-scooters is guided by By-law M-300, the Micromobility By-law and the Province of Nova Scotia's Motor Vehicle Act (MVA).

HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE – WE'RE HIRING!



[#JoinHRP](#) We are hiring experienced police officers. Make a difference in the Halifax region. Serve with us. Apply today by [clicking here](#).



Working together to keep
our communities safe.

WILLIAMS LAKE DAM UPDATE



Photo courtesy of Ryan Taplin, Saltwire

According to Chris Lambies article in the [Saltwire December 21st, 2023](#) edition, preliminary work is underway for a new dam for Williams Lake. There are three (3) studies involved with this project: 1) geotechnical work – currently underway; 2) an archaeological assessment; and 3) a biodiversity probe. These studies are expected to be completed by early spring 2024.

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
and West Community Council, Regional Centre

January 2024

HALIFAX



COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

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

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.

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



January 2024

HALIFAX