

WELCOME JULY!



Happy Canada Day!
As we celebrate this
wonderful, diverse country
on July 1, I hope you take
time to appreciate what
this country means to

many: a welcoming refuge for those fleeing civil unrest, opportunities to fulfill hopes and dreams, a multiculturally rich population that we see growing by leaps and bounds, why? Because we are Canada: the true north, strong and free!. The most wonderful place to call home!

Keep reading for information on Kana'ta Day, Halifax Pride Festival, Dartmouth Concert Series, changes to Halifax Transit Scotia Square terminal, supervised beaches open and much more!

To discuss a municipal program or service, please contact me at:

Shawn.Cleary@halifax.ca or 902.579.6746.

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JULY MEETING DATES

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

Regional Council:

Tuesday, July 9 at 10:00 a.m.

Halifax & West Community Council:

Tuesday, July 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Regional Centre Community Council:

Wednesday, July 24 at 6:00 p.m. (If required)

Standing Committees:

Wednesday, July 17 at 10:00 a.m.

• Audit & Finance Standing Committee

No scheduled meeting at this time

 Community Design Advisory Committee

Next meeting is scheduled for September 9

• Investment Policy Advisory Committee

Wednesday, July 25 at 1:30 p.m.

• Transportation Advisory Committee

Please confirm dates and times on our <u>municipal website</u> as they are subject to change.

DID YOU KNOW...

That July is Plastic Free July

July 1 - Canada Day

July 1 – Africville Reunion

July 5 - Calgary Stampede

July 6 - International Day of Cooperatives

July 6 - International Kissing Day

July 7 - World Chocolate Day

July 9 - Nunavut Day (NU)

July 11 - World Population Day

July 11 - International Town Criers Day

July 12 - Orangemen's Day (NL)

July 12 - National French Fry Day

July 15 - World Youth Skills Day

July 17 - National Hot Dog Day

July 17 - National Tattoo Day

July 17 - World Emoji Day

July 18 - Nelson Mandela International Day

July 24 – International Self-Care Day

July 28 - Day of Commemoration of the Great

Upheaval

July 29 — World Heart Day

KANA'TA – CANADA DAY 2024



You are invited to participate in **KANA'TA:** Canada Day 2024 on Monday, July 1.

Featured performers include Logan Staats, Dee Dee Austin, Jah'mila, Joe Henry and more.

The KANA'TA: Canada Day format was developed in collaboration with Indigenous

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communities to create programming that honours the traditions of the Mi'kmaq Nation and celebrates pan-Indigenous communities that call the municipality home. For a full list of events, click here.

The annual Canada Day fireworks, supported by Canadian Heritage, will take place on Monday, July 1 at 10:30 p.m. The best viewing points will be the Halifax Waterfront Foundation Wharf stage, the Dartmouth Ferry Terminal Park stage – or most locations on the Dartmouth and Halifax waterfronts.

The municipality is attentive to safety concerns related to fireworks and remains in consultation with Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency on this issue. The municipality would also like to reassure residents that there are measures in place to ensure the fireworks used at municipal events are used in a safe manner and in accordance with any relevant fire regulations.

As always, the status of fireworks for events is subject to change. Notification of changes will be shared via the municipality's Civic Events' Facebook page and Twitter channel.

For more information on the municipality's KANA'TA: Canada Day 2023 programming, visit hrmcanadaday.ca.



ALL AGES BIKE RIDE - WEST END



The All-Ages Bicycle Ride will begin and end at Cogswell Park, located at the intersection of Windsor Street, Welsford and Parker Streets on Sunday, July 7. You are asked to arrive at 9:30 a.m. for a 10:00 a.m. start. The ride will be led and marshalled by community volunteers.

This is an opportunity for people of all ages to ride their bikes together on city streets including local street bikeways and pathways. There will be activities, prizes and giveaways!

Coffee, drinks and snacks will be provided at the beginning and end of the ride.

See map above for route details.





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WEEKLY GREEN CART COLLECTION



Effective Saturday, June 29, weekly green cart collection began in all communities across the Halifax Regional Municipality.

The summer weekly green cart collection service will be in effect for the months of July, August and September. Collection services can begin as early as 7 a.m. To ensure collection, residents are asked to place materials curbside the evening prior to collection day. Residents can look up their collection schedules by clicking here.

The last day for weekly green cart collection is Friday, September 27.

Bi-weekly green cart collection will resume on Monday, September 30.

UPGRADES TO CHOCOLATE LAKE TENNIS / BASKETBALL COURTS



The Chocolate Lake tennis and basketball courts, as well as the trail connecting the parking lot to the beach, were upgraded recently.

This work was awarded to Ocean Contracting as part of tender 2024-0104. The scope included:

- New fencing around the tennis and basketball court.
- New asphalt.
- New acrylic surfacing on the tennis
- 3 new basketball standards (2 at 10' and 1 at 8.5').
- Repaving a portion of the existing trail connecting the parking lot to the beach. This also includes removal of the vehicle gate and a new pedestrian gate.

Most of the work was completed by the end of June with the acrylic surface application coming later.



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HALIFAX COMMON AQUATICS OPEN





The Halifax Regional Municipality is pleased to announce that the <u>Halifax Common Aquatics</u>
<u>Facility</u> has opened for the 2024 summer season.

The Halifax Common Aquatic Facility, located at 5838 Cogswell Street, is an integral municipal recreation facility offering a range of community and regional programming. The 350-person capacity pool holds over 60 free public swims weekly during the summer months – while the 75-person capacity multipurpose room, which includes a kitchenette, and the modular stage provide a versatile space to accommodate a range of programs and events year-round.

Over 150,000 users are anticipated to use the facility this summer. For the Facility's schedule, visit our website.



OUTDOOR POOLS & BEACHES OPEN



Chocolate Lake Beach

The Halifax Regional Municipality advises residents that all outdoor pools and supervised municipal beaches are now open for the 2024 season.

Swim passes can be purchased <u>online</u> for both the Bedford and Cole Harbour outdoor pools. Memberships for the Bedford Outdoor Pool can also be purchased in-person at the LeBrun Recreation Centre, and memberships for the Cole Harbour Outdoor Pool can be purchased in-person at the Cole Harbour Recreation Centre.

The Bayers-Westwood, Cole Harbour, Halifax Common, George Dixon, Isleville Street, Sackville, and Westmount and Shirley's splashpads opened for the 2024 season on Friday, June 14.

The municipality will also begin testing water quality for bacteria levels and monitoring for blue-green algae at all municipally supervised



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beaches on Monday, July 1. Testing will continue until Saturday, August 31.

High bacteria levels can be caused by a number of factors, including dogs, birds, wildlife, heavy rainfall and impacts from climate change such as high temperatures, lower water levels and decreased rainfall.

In the event of a recreational water quality advisory due to high bacteria levels, staff will continue testing the water and lift the recreational water quality advisory when the results are within Health Canada guidelines for swimming. In the event of a closure due to a possible blue-green algae (cyanobacteria) bloom or mat, staff will investigate the bloom and reopen the beach when the risk of high levels of blue-green algae toxins has passed. For more information, click here.

ABOUT BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



Blue-green algae, or cyanobacteria, are naturally found in freshwater environments like lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams. They thrive in warm water and can be harmful to people and fatal for pets.

Algae blooms can look like fine grass clippings in the water, spilled paint, pea soup or sometimes like a thick scum on the surface.

Algae mats can look like clumps of vegetation, and can appear black, brown, or dark green in the water. On the shoreline they may appear brown or grey.

When visiting a lake, river, stream, or pond, always scan the water and shoreline before entering the water or letting children or pets play in it.

- Pets may be attracted to the smell of algae mats. Do not allow pets to play with or eat algae mats, as it could be fatal.
- If a beach is closed, do not swim or play near the water.
- Swimming in contaminated water may cause itchy and irritated eyes and skin, including hives, rashes, or blisters.
- People or animals that consume contaminated water are at risk of headaches, fever, diarrhea, vomiting, cramps, muscle, joint pain, and liver damage.
- Do not drink or cook with water where blue-green algae are present. Boiling water will not remove toxins.

Watch for advisories by visiting the municipal website and following ahfxgov on Twitter/X. Report suspected algae contamination by calling 1-877-9ENVIRO (1-877-936-8476) and 311. Learn more by clicking here.



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ANNUAL NATAL DAY PARADE REGISTRATION



The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that registration remains open for participants in the annual Natal Day parade.

The 127th Pepsi Natal Day Parade will take place on Monday, August 5 at 10 a.m. This annual event attracts hundreds of residents from across the region and is a key piece of the municipality's annual Natal Day programming.

Registration will close on Friday, July 19.

For more information, including application forms and a full schedule of programming, click <u>here</u>.



COGSWELL DISTRICT – NEW TRANSIT HUB



Wondering
how the
Cogswell
District will
look following
completion of

the project? Wondering where the new transit

hub will be located? The Halifax Regional Municipality's website provides a detailed description of the plan that addresses accessibility, public art and commemorative features, parks and open spaces, multi-use paths, streetscapes, and a transit hub for the new neighborhood. It also details the construction phases for the project.

Connectivity

- Four key connections to the Waterfront are highlighted in the 90% plan with enhanced entrances, plazas and pedestrian linkages.
- The redeveloping commercial district on Gottingen Street is connected via Cogswell Street and Barrington Street to the commercial centre downtown, mending the gap left by the interchange and creating continuous corridors of pedestrian-oriented retail.
- New pedestrian linkages are provided between the Halifax ferry terminal and Historic Properties and the transit hub through Granville Park.
- A multi-use path connects to the existing trail along Barrington Street north of the development through Poplar Park to Cogswell Street. Future opportunities may include conversion of part of the trail to a new street that connects to Albemarle Street.
- A pedestrian greenway with separated bike lanes connects existing active transportation routes at Barrington Street north of the roundabout,

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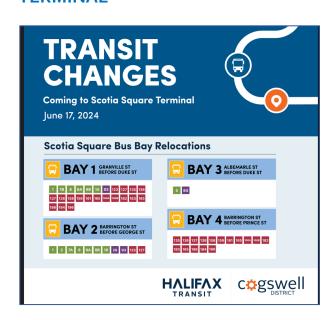
Brunswick Street south of Cogswell Street and Lower Water / Hollis Streets, creating a continuous active transportation network from north to south and east-west. Future improvements to Cogswell Street will complete the network to the Halifax Commons and the AT network west of the downtown.

- East-West connectivity is greatly improved through new pedestrian connections with crosswalks in several locations where there is no current connection, including:
 - Along the waterfront at Historic Properties, Bells Lane, Upper Water Street and Barrington Street, and Cornwallis Street through the roundabout.
 - An improved access with a plaza, stairway and elevator connecting Barrington Street to Upper Water Street through Granville Park.
 - A new park in the former location of Hurd's Lane connects the multi-use trail to Barrington Street.
 - Street improvements along Proctor Street and Cornwallis Street enhance connectivity to the North End neighbourhood.
 - The extension of Granville Mall along its historic route through Granville Park to Bells Lane.



Approved Design Plan – Cogswell District

HALIFAX TRANSIT – SCOTIA SQUARE TERMINAL



A necessary major closure in the Cogswell District project got underway on June 17 in the Barrington Street area, resulting in significant traffic and Halifax Transit disruptions over the next six months.

What is happening?

Barrington Street, from Upper Water to Duke Streets, is closed for approximately six months. By closing this area, crews will realign the

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street; lower the grade of the street; install underground services such as district energy, water and power; and remove the overpass, the last aerial structure from the old Cogswell interchange. The closure will also allow crews to finish construction of the new Transit hub, dramatically transforming the area and improving the future Transit experience for passengers with new heated shelters, additional seating space, wider sidewalks and layover space.

While Barrington Street will be closed, this phase also marks the re-opening of Cogswell and Albemarle Streets, reconnecting a key East-West corridor downtown.

The closure of Barrington Street will have significant impacts for travelling to and from the downtown area, particularly for Transit users, as the Scotia Square bus bays will be temporarily relocated to four nearby locations (see image showing the relocated Scotia Square bus bays).

The Barrington Street entrance to Scotia Square will be closed and alternate entrances will need to be used during this time. All other entrances will be maintained, as well as the pedway network.

There is some good news – by re-opening Cogswell and Albemarle streets, vehicles will be able to turn right out of the Scotia Square parkade, reducing congestion on Albemarle Street. Access to and from the P1 parkade level, the Enterprise ramp and the Hotel Halifax lobby area will be maintained with a drive lane joining the new Cogswell Street.

I encourage you to plan your route in advance and visit <u>halifax.ca</u> to see the full list of Halifax Transit service disruptions.

Thank you for your patience and understanding while we continue construction on the biggest city building project in our region.

For more information, click here.



DARTMOUTH FESTIVAL SERIES



The Halifax Regional Municipality is pleased to share the schedule of events for the <u>Dartmouth</u> Festival Series.

Throughout the summer, the municipality will be working with our signature festival partners

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to provide free programming at Ferry Terminal Park.

There will be a mix of nighttime concerts and daytime events for the whole family. Concert programming this summer will include a matinee with Joel Plaskett, Dartmouth PRIDE with Priyanka, The Desi Summer Fest, Halifax's very own Vibrancy Festival and more.

Family event highlights will include the 25th Anniversary of SpongeBob SquarePants with a "Under The Sea" theme and the 40th Anniversary celebration for the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles with a fantasy themed event. This will be the new home for the municipality's Canada Day and Natal Day main events as well. For a full list of events including fireworks, click here.

EV TEST DRIVE



The Halifax Regional Municipality has partnered with Next Ride and the Clean Foundation to offer a number of free electric vehicle (EV) test drive events to residents across the municipality, including in rural, urban and suburban areas. These events will take place from June to August.

During each test drive event, residents can expect a free test drive in an electric vehicle and information on electric vehicles, electric vehicle rebates, and the Municipal Electric Vehicle Strategy.

Many of the events will take place next to the locations of the municipality's EV chargers – a project currently underway to install public EV chargers across the region. Both the EV test drive events and EV charger installation are in support of the Municipal Electric Vehicle Strategy and efforts to support the decarbonization of transportation.

Registration for each event will open approximately two weeks before the event date. Residents are encouraged to register online to guarantee your test drive. Limited walk-in spots may be available.

Schedule of Events:

July 6 – Point Pleasant Park, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

July 7 – Bicentennial Theatre, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

July 18 – Horizon Recreation Centre, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

July 20 – RBC Centre, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Electric Avenue event)

July 23 – Musquodoboit Harbour Public Library and Recreation Centre, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

July 26 - Halifax Forum, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

July 27 — St. Margarets Bay Centre, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Aug. 12 — Centennial Arena, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Aug. 15 – Cole Harbour Place, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Aug. 19 – Greenfoot Energy Centre, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Aug. 22 — Alderney Gate, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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To schedule a test drive at one of these events, head to <u>Next Ride's website</u>. While registration is not required, it's strongly encouraged.

HALIFAX PRIDE FESTIVAL



This year's Halifax Pride Festival takes place from July 18 to 28. The festival honours the first Pride march in Halifax, which took place in July 1988. This year's theme is *Then, Now and Forever*.

See the full calendar of Halifax Pride Festival events <u>here</u>. Click <u>here</u> to view the new parade route for 2024.



STAY SAFE IN EXTREME HEAT

Information about staying sun safe, including <u>heat stress guidelines</u>, can be found on the provincial website.

Heat illnesses are preventable. Below are some tips for keeping cool, if possible:

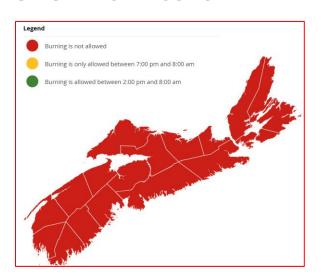
- Take a break from the heat by spending a few hours in a cool place. It could be a tree-shaded area, swimming facility or an air-conditioned spot such as a public building, shopping mall, grocery store, place of worship or public library.
- Schedule your outdoor activities carefully and try to keep them limited to early mornings and evening hours when it is cooler.
- Drink plenty of cool fluids, especially water, before you feel thirsty to decrease your risk of dehydration. Thirst is not a good indicator of dehydration. Stay away from sugar and alcoholic drinks these cause you to lose more body fluid.
- Wear a hat, sunscreen and loose layers of light-coloured clothing.
- Keep curtains closed during peak sunlight.
- Take a cold shower or spray cold water on your skin.
- Keep pets hydrated and in shady areas.

Visit <u>halifax.ca</u> for additional heat safety and precautions for the summer.



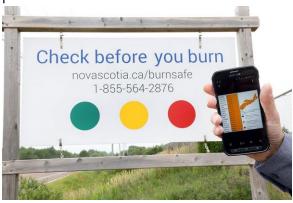
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CHECK BEFORE YOU BURN!



March 15 through October 15 is wildfire risk reason. Help reduce wildfire risk by following all considerations within the municipality's Open Air Burning By-Law and reviewing provincial restrictions.

For more information, click <u>here</u> for the provincial BURN SAFE website.



"Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass on a summer day listening to the murmur of water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is hardly a waste of time."

CANADIAN WALK FOR VETERANS



The Canadian Walk for Veterans, hosted by Terry Kelly and Dan Hennessey, will take place on September 21 at the Emera Oval in Halifax. The funds raised from this year's walk will be donated to Paws Fur Thoughts, an organization who provides service dogs to veterans of the RCMP and Military.

Your registration fee will help to provide a life changing gift. Check out this link and be part of this event and don't forget the awesome Challenge Coin that you will receive as a lasting memory. Any questions please <u>click here</u>.

CANDIDATE INFORMATION SESSIONS

Interested in running in the 2024 Municipal and Conseil scolaire acadien provincial (CSAP) Election? You're invited to attend an upcoming candidate information session.



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The sessions will take place on the following dates/times/locations:

- Wednesday, July 10 | 6 p.m. | Prospect Road Community Centre, 141 Prospect Road
- Monday, August 12 | 6 p.m. | Henry G.
 Bauld Centre, 35 Wilfred Jackson Way,
 Cherry Brook

Learn more by clicking <u>here</u>.

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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:

- Transportation Standing Committee
- Community Design Advisory Committee
- Audit and Finance Standing 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.