



## COUNCILLOR SHAWN CLEARY

### DISTRICT 9 ONLINE NEWS

### HALIFAX WEST ARMDALE

## WELCOME OCTOBER!

Happy Thanksgiving! Each year, at this time, I express gratitude for family, friends and also to all volunteers who give selflessly of their time, expertise, and compassion. This year, more than ever, I am grateful for volunteers that stepped up to assist during the spring wildfires and summer floods. From volunteer firefighters, who battled many long days to save lives and property, to those who assisted the many residents seriously impacted by the floods: thank you from the depths of my being!

I am also grateful, and thankful, for our rich Indigenous culture, and treaties. Without the collaboration of First Nations people, our society would not be where it is today. I invite you to partake of the events planned during [Mi'kmaw History month](#) and learn more about the rich cultures and heritage of the First Nations people.

This month's newsletter is filled with important information on the solid waste strategy, a

volunteer conference opportunity, the household waste depots, the short-term rental levy and much more!

Contact me at: [Shawn.Cleary@halifax.ca](mailto:Shawn.Cleary@halifax.ca) or by phone at 902.579.6746, to discuss a municipal program or service.

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### OCTOBER MEETING DATES

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

#### Regional Council:

Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.  
Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.  
Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

#### Halifax & West Community Council:

Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

#### Regional Centre Community Council:

Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

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

### DID YOU KNOW...

That October is [Mi'kmaw History Month](#), [Breast Cancer Awareness Month](#) and [Disability Employment Month](#).

October 1<sup>st</sup> is [Treaty Day](#)  
October 1<sup>st</sup> is [International Coffee Day](#)  
October 1<sup>st</sup> is [International Day of Older Persons](#)  
October 2<sup>nd</sup> is [World Habitat Day](#)  
October 5<sup>th</sup> is [World Teacher's Day](#)  
October 6<sup>th</sup> is [World Cerebral Palsy Day](#)  
October 9<sup>th</sup> is [Thanksgiving Day](#)  
October 10<sup>th</sup> is [World Homeless Day](#)  
October 10<sup>th</sup> is [World Mental Health Day](#)  
October 12<sup>th</sup> is [World Sight Day](#)  
October 12<sup>th</sup> is [World Arthritis Day](#)  
October 13<sup>th</sup> is [World Egg Day](#)

October 14<sup>th</sup> is [World Hospice and Palliative Care Day](#)

October 15<sup>th</sup> is [Global Handwashing Day](#)

October 17<sup>th</sup> is [International Day for the Eradication of Poverty](#)

October 18<sup>th</sup> is [Global Dignity Day](#)

October 18<sup>th</sup> is [World Menopause Day](#)

October 20<sup>th</sup> is [World Osteoporosis Day](#)

October 22<sup>nd</sup> is [International Stuttering Awareness Day](#)

October 24<sup>th</sup> is [United Nations Day](#)

October 25<sup>th</sup> is [International Artist's Day](#)

October 28<sup>th</sup> is [International Animation Day](#)

October 29<sup>th</sup> is [World Stroke Day](#)

October 29<sup>th</sup> is [World Psoriasis Day](#)

October 31<sup>st</sup> is [Halloween](#)

### NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION



In its commitment to reconciliation and ensuring that the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools is never forgotten, the Government of Canada recently passed legislation to make September 30<sup>th</sup> a federal statutory holiday called the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

Formerly known as Orange Shirt Day, this day provides an opportunity to recognize and



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commemorate the legacy of residential schools and provides a day of quiet reflection or participation in a community event.

Here are some resources to help you plan and learn more about this important day:

- Read the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Final Report](#) and think about how you can implement the Calls to Action in your own life.
- Read *Out of the Depths: The experiences of Mi'kmaw children at the Indian Residential School at Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia* by Isabelle Knockwood, and other memoirs by survivors.
- Watch *We Were Children* (available on Amazon Prime), *Indian Horse* (available on Netflix), and *Little Bird* (available on Crave).
- Watch Gord Downie's *Secret Path*.
- Learn about the Mi'kmaw communities whose land you live on and visit the three First Nations in Halifax Regional Municipality.
- Visit Indigenous cultural heritage sites to learn about the traditions, culture, and resilience of your local communities.
- Visit the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre, and Peace and Friendship Park in Halifax.
- Have conversations with the people in your life about what reconciliation means and why it's important.
- Support Indigenous artists, drummers, singers, dancers, language learners and

small business owners. They are helping communities heal.

### OCTOBER - DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH



Removing systemic barriers and creating opportunities for the full participation of all Halifax residents and municipal employees.

October is Disability Employment Awareness Month (DEAM) a time to recognize the contributions of people with disabilities in the workforce. Throughout the month, DEAM initiatives aim to bring awareness to barriers experienced by those living with disabilities and encourages workplaces across country to create inclusive and accessible environments for all.

Did you know that 30 per cent of Nova Scotians over the age of 15 identify as having a disability? This number is expected to grow as our population ages, making the municipality's commitment to improving accessibility and inclusion across our organization, in our programs and services and in the communities we serve increasingly important.







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### DISTRICT CAPITAL FUNDS



Compliments of the District 9 District Capital Fund, Sir Charles Tupper Elementary School now has a new bike rack! It's great to see it full of bikes.

The Halifax Regional Municipality encourages [active transportation](#) and supporting this initiative was in line with our goals.

### COMMUNITY CONVERSATION – EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT



I have been asked by the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

to share the following community consultation invitation with you.

*Dear parents and primary caregivers,*

*This October, the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development will be hosting community conversations in several locations across the Province to listen and learn from you. Sessions will explore early learning and [childcare](#) needs and opportunities within childcare centres, family home based care and before and after school care. Sessions will not explore the pre-primary and public school system.*

#### **What you need to know:**

*In-person sessions are limited to 30 spaces each so that meaningful conversations can take place and everyone's voice is heard. Sessions will be highly interactive. Those that register should be eager to take part and openly participate in discussions with the Department and other attendees.*

*Sessions will take place between **October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>** in locations across the province. The time for all sessions is **6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.***

*Visit [here](#) to register.*

#### **Can't attend? We still want to hear from you!**

*An online survey and exchange of ideas is available for all Nova Scotians, including those that attend sessions and those that do not. You can learn more [here](#).*

#### **What's Next?**

*The next step in the process is to hear from Early Childhood Educators, Operators, and sector partners. This will take place in the new year.*



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*The results of the entire consultation process will be shared in a public report once all sessions have been completed.*

*We look forward to hearing from you!*

*The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.*

### NEW DATASETS ON OPEN DATA

#### HALIFAX DATA, MAPPING & ANALYTICS HUB

The Halifax Regional Municipality has released seven new datasets on [Open Data](#), as part of an ongoing commitment to provide public access to data created and managed by the municipality.

The seven new datasets include:

- [Cityworks Work Orders](#)
- [Cityworks Work Orders Custom Fields](#)
- [HRFE Incidents Initial Response](#)
- [Commuter Permit Parking Streets](#)
- [Proposed Bus Rapid Transit and Ferry Stops](#)
- [Proposed Rapid Transit Network](#)
- [Proposed Rapid Transit Walksheds](#)

The addition of these datasets brings the total number of Open Data datasets to 227.

In addition, the 10 following existing datasets have been modified:

- [Bike Infrastructure and Suggested Routes](#)
  - New winter maintenance fields added.

- [HRCE School Boundary – Early French Immersion Elementary](#)
  - Updated school boundaries and new fields added (including civic address, community, postal code, phone number and website).
- [HRCE School Boundary – Early French Immersion High](#)
  - Updated school boundaries and new fields added (including civic address, community, postal code, phone number and website).
- [HRCE School Boundary – Early French Immersion Junior High](#)
  - Updated school boundaries and new fields added (including civic address, community, postal code, phone number and website).
- [HRCE School Boundary – English Program Elementary](#)
  - Updated school boundaries and new fields added (including civic address, community, postal code, phone number and website).
- [HRCE School Boundary – English Program High](#)
  - Updated school boundaries and new fields added (including civic address, community, postal code, phone number and website).



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- [HRCE School Boundary – English Program Junior High](#)
  - Updated school boundaries and new fields added (including civic address, community, postal code, phone number and website).
- [HRCE School Boundary – Late French Immersion High](#)
  - Updated school boundaries and new fields added (including civic address, community, postal code, phone number and website).
- [HRCE School Boundary – Late French Immersion Junior High](#)
  - Updated school boundaries and new fields added (including civic address, community, postal code, phone number and website).
- [Volunteer Recruitment Areas](#)
  - New field added identifying whether the Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency Volunteer Recruitment Area is actively recruiting volunteer firefighters.

A wide range of data can be sourced for free through the catalogue, such as transit routes and schedule data, solid waste collection schedules, and area rates. New data releases occur several times throughout the year, with the most recent release on [June 28, 2023](#).

The Open Data initiative was launched in early 2014 to help improve resident engagement and

enhance transparency on municipal data. The program was formalized by Regional Council later that year through the adoption of [Administrative Order 2014-006-ADM Respecting Open Data](#).

For more information on the municipality's Open Data program, and to access all datasets, visit the catalogue on our [Halifax Data, Mapping & Analytics Hub/Open Data](#) website.

## SOLID WASTE STRATEGY REVIEW



The Halifax Regional Municipality is conducting a review of its solid waste strategy. This review will focus on strategic initiatives that need to be implemented over the next five to seven years to achieve 2030 objectives and work toward meeting 2050 objectives, including:

- Maximizing reduction, reuse, and recycling of waste resources
- Maximizing environmental and fiscal sustainability of the waste program
- Fostering public stewardship and conservation





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- Aligning with [HalifACT goals](#) (new)
- Contributing to the [2022 Environmental Goals and Climate Change Reduction Act](#) (new)

From September 25<sup>th</sup> and October 31<sup>st</sup>, residents will be able to provide feedback on the future of our municipality's solid waste system through a [survey](#). The survey is focused on obtaining residents' input on the proposed objectives of the strategy review, levels of service delivery, and resident satisfaction with current solid waste services. Several options will be available for residents to access the survey:

- [Online](#)
- Printed copies (regular and large font) may be mailed to residents by contacting 311
  - Requests for mailed copies must be received by October 25<sup>th</sup> to allow for return mail
- Printed copies will be available for pick-up at each of the municipal [Customer Service Centres](#) at Alderney Gate, Bayers Road and Musquodoboit Harbour locations.
- Solid Waste staff will be present at various events to promote and conduct surveys in person
  - A list of dates/locations will be updated on [Shape Your City](#)

Anyone who requires assistance completing the survey may request an in-person, online or phone meeting by calling [311](#).

This project is funded in part by the [Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund](#) – a Nova Scotia provincial grant initiative administered by the [Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities](#). In part, this fund supports the implementation of initiatives that avoid and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to Nova Scotia's targets for emission reduction. Through this grant, the municipality will receive up to \$306,000 towards eligible expenses associated with the strategy review (approximately 60% of the project budget).

Further questions about the Solid Waste Strategy Review may be directed to: [wasteless@halifax.ca](mailto:wasteless@halifax.ca).

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLACEMAKING



The Halifax Regional Municipality is advising residents that applications have opened for the [Neighbourhood Placemaking Program](#). This annual program supports initiatives encouraging neighbours to connect with one another through a community project.

Recipients receive training, guidance, and up to \$1,500 in funding for their neighbourhood





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project. Projects may include street paintings, neighbourhood benches, community film screenings, and more. This work aligns with the municipality's vision of supporting welcoming and livable communities.

For more information on the Neighbourhood Placemaking Program, including this year's application form and eligibility criteria, please visit our [website](#). The deadline for applications is October 31<sup>st</sup>.

### HURRICANE SEASON – BE PREPARED



Hurricane season's arrival emphasizes the vital importance of preparedness.

In coastal areas like ours, readiness is imperative due to the potential for catastrophic winds, rain, and devastation. Being prepared aims to save lives, protect property, and ensure community resilience.

#### **Make a Plan:**

Every household needs an emergency plan. It will help you and your family know what to do in case of an emergency. Your family may not be together when an emergency occurs. Plan how to meet or how to contact one another and discuss what you would do in different situations.

When making your home emergency plan, you will need to think about the following:

- Safe exits from home and neighbourhood
- Meeting places to reunite with family or roommates
- Designated person to pick up children should you be unavailable
- Contact persons close-by and out-of-town
- Special health needs
- Place for your pet to stay
- Risks in your region
- Location of your fire extinguisher, water valve, electrical box, gas valve and floor drain
- Photocopy your emergency plan and keep it in your car and/or at work.

#### **Protecting Property**

Securing your property against hurricane damage is essential. This may include reinforcing windows and doors, clearing gutters and drains, and ensuring that the roof is in good condition. For those living in areas prone to flooding, elevating electrical systems and sealing basement walls can help mitigate water damage.

#### **Staying Informed**

Monitoring weather updates is vital. Our government agencies provide timely information on storm tracking, severity, and projected paths. Pay attention to evacuation orders and warnings issued by local authorities. Having a battery-operated weather radio on hand can ensure you receive information even



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if the power goes out. Sign up for HRM emergency alerts [here](#). Check Halifax.ca frequently and follow [@hfxgov](#) on twitter for municipal updates and information during a storm.

### Review and Practice

Periodically review your emergency plan and supplies to ensure they remain up to date and functional. Practicing evacuation procedures with your family can minimize confusion and anxiety during a crisis.

In hurricane-prone regions, preparedness for the impending storm season is not an option; it's a responsibility. By understanding the risks, creating an emergency plan, safeguarding property, staying informed, engaging with your community, and regularly reviewing your preparations, you can increase your resilience in the face of these powerful natural forces. Learn more by visiting the municipal emergency preparedness website [here](#).

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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

## 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. One way the municipality has demonstrated this is by formalizing the official Land Acknowledgement. In Nova Scotia, we are all Treaty People; with that comes roles and responsibilities.

