

DISTRICT 7 NEWSLETTER

Summer/Fall 2019

WELCOME STUDENTS! TAKE A MINUTE TO READ THESE POINTERS TO HELP YOU ENJOY HALIFAX



WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME TO DISTRICT 7!

Our community is a very diverse mix of students, renters, long-term homeowners, businesses and more. Our diversity is what makes our neighbourhood great. We're glad you're here! This area is a real mixed bag of housing, with apartments mixed in with other homes. There is no "student ghetto" in Halifax - you are as likely to live next to your professor as to an apartment of undergrads.

This can create challenges, as your neighbours could be emergency room doctors, retired people, seniors, preschool and school age children, babies, professionals of all kinds.

Sometimes students are new renters and just don't know they have legal obligations as tenants and neighbours. We know most students just want to get along with their neighbours. Here are three things that seem to cause most of the friction: noise, booze & mess.

Noise: You have the right to enjoy yourself with friends while respecting that your neighbours have the right to a good night's sleep. You can be **fined if your party or gathering "unreasonably disturbs or tends to disturb the peace and tranquillity of a neighbourhood" starting at \$463.95 and rising to \$1,268.95** for a third offence. Keep noise to a reasonable level. Tickets can be given any time of day. Remember if your neighbour has kids, they are going to expect some late night quiet!

Booze: The drinking age in Nova Scotia is 19. **Underage drinking can result in a fine of \$463.95.** Same goes with walking across the street with an open drink. Being intoxicated in a public place can result in a **fine of between**

\$130.45 and \$463.95. Basically, don't walk around drunk with open liquor (no, not even on St. Patrick's Day)! You can have fun but make sure that it doesn't impact others enjoyment of their neighbourhood.

Mess: This is often a result of a party. Clean up any litter. You would be surprised how many neighbours ask me to remind students not to go to the bathroom outside. Nothing undermines the reputation and dignity of students in general like public urination. Pick up any garbage after a party and see if your neighbours have any concerns, and they are more likely to cut you some slack. HRM can order a property cleaned up and if the work is not done, HRM will clean the property, and bill the property owner, which will upset your landlord! Make sure you put the right stuff out Monday morning, visit <http://www.halifax.ca/recycle/area1and2.php> (we live in area 1). **Fines are \$463.95.**

Final Words: Halifax is your home now too, and we are glad you are here! Nobody wants to fine you, or call bylaw on you, or call the police, but we all have to share this space. Please, respect your neighbours and the community. If your actions or actions of your guests unreasonably and repeatedly disturb the neighbourhood, people will call the city, the police, the universities, and your landlord.

The responsibility for a great neighbourhood belongs to everyone. Halifax is one of the best cities in Canada, and it takes all of us working together to make it so. This is my seventh back to school message since being elected, and I do want to thank you all as the last few years have actually been some of the smoothest back to schools in decades.

HALIFAX