

COUNCILLOR WAYE MASON

HALIFAX SOUTH DOWNTOWN DISTRICT 7 NEWSLETTER



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

SUMMER/FALL 2022



DEAR RESIDENTS,

Fall is here again, and as always, students, both in P-12 and post secondary, are returning to our streets and our neighbourhood.

We knew last year was going to be challenging with two years and it was. I am feeling optimistic this year will be better. We will always have the disruption and settling in caused by a new school year, but this fall is far closer to normal than last fall, coming out of COVID, was.

Let's work together to welcome new members to our community and help them navigate the complexities of living here, be it noise, or what to put on the curb on garbage day, or any of other issues we see year after year. **I've included my annual letter to students on the back page of this newsletter.**

This newsletter also includes information about HRM's support for addressing Housing and Homelessness, complete streets and traffic calming, District 7 capital grant disbursements, and congrats to the Volunteer and Citizenship award winners this year.

I look forward to seeing you all around our community this fall! Thanks you, stay safe, be kind,

NEWS SIGNUP

In addition to this paper newsletter, I have been sending regular email updates approximately once a month for the last ten years.

This is the best way to keep up-to-date on what is happening in our district and in the Halifax area. Please visit wayemason.ca/mailling-list and enter your information.

You will receive an email to confirm subscription, you must click on the link supplied.

You can unsubscribe at anytime and email addresses will not be shared.



Delivery Note: Due to the delivery routes followed by Canada Post, it is possible that some of these newsletters may appear in other Districts. If you receive it in error, I apologize for any confusion and hope you find its content useful.

CONTACT US

CALL 311

Call 311 or visit halifax.ca/311 to report a municipal issue. Please call 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday except Christmas & New Year's Day.

CALL MY OFFICE

Contact Vicki Palmeter at 902.490.2012 or email victoria.palmeter@halifax.ca

CONTACT ME

Email is usually faster, so try waye.mason@halifax.ca but do call if required 902.430.7822

STAY CONNECTED

facebook.com/wayemasonhrm
twitter.com/wayemason
instagram.com/wayemason
wayemason.ca
halifax.ca

OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS

Police, Fire, emergency:

911

Police non-emergency:

902.490.5020

Fire non-emergency:

902.490.5530

Halifax Water emergency:

902.490.6940

Councillor Support Office:

902.490.4050

HALIFAX



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HRM VOLUNTEER AWARDS

Each year the municipality recognizes volunteers who are nominated by community groups and organizations for their significant contributions to our community.



District 7 Volunteer Award recipients Linxi Zhang, Aline Maybank, and Aarushi Patil.



District 7 Volunteer group of the year, the Halifax Central Library's English Conversation Group

CITIZENSHIP AWARDS FOR HRM YOUTH

Each year the Halifax Regional Municipality's Citizenship Award is presented to outstanding Grade 9 students in our municipality. Each school has one award recipient, and schools choose their award recipient based on leadership qualities, service in the school and community, and academic performance. I extend my congratulations to each award recipient; your hard work and service to our community is so appreciated. **Congratulations on your well-deserved recognition!**



Caleb Hounsell



Ayla Brown



Heather Clarke



Maria MacDonald

HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS UPDATES

The municipality is supporting the Province of Nova Scotia in providing housing and shelter for those most vulnerable in our community.

HRM provides regular updates on the work to complete the items on its Affordable Housing Work Plan, responding to shortage of adequate shelter and affordable housing space, and much more.

You can learn more about municipal efforts to help address homelessness and assist in accommodating unhoused individuals in our region by visiting <https://www.halifax.ca/about-halifax/regional-community-planning/helping-address-homelessness>, or click the link from the top page of [halifax.ca](https://www.halifax.ca)

TRAFFIC CALMING & SAFETY

Traffic calming to create complete streets is a top goal of the HRM. Complete streets are safe for all users, regardless of age, ability, income, race, ethnicity, or mode of travel. By using a Complete Streets approach to designing and rebuilding road networks, we can create spaces that allow all users to thrive, not only motorists.

Part of complete streets goal is to slow car traffic by narrowing travel lanes, through use of tools like speed humps and curb extensions. Narrowing the street at an intersections achieves two goals, one is that cars cannot park near the crosswalk or the intersection and block the views of drivers of potential pedestrians or cars, and the second is it reduces the amount of time pedestrians are in the travel lane exposed to vehicle traffic when crossing.

Examples for this kind of thing are found on the NACTO website - <https://nacto.org/publication/urban-street-design-guide/streets/>

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2022/23 DISTRICT CAPITAL UPDATE

Once again this year I decided to pause Participatory Budgeting due to COVID concerns, and were unable to have a face-to-face meeting.

This year I invited residents and community non-profit groups in District 7 to apply for District Capital Funding in April. There were two project streams - a big projects category that funds up to \$10,000 and a small project category that will fund up to \$5,000 or less.

District Capital Funds are for permanent projects that provide publicly accessible benefits in the community and that provide widespread community benefit.

Priority is given to projects that are intergenerational or focused on youth or seniors, and which work to address equity, inclusion, and systemic racism in our community.

Projects must provide the broadest public benefit, and meet all HRM policies and guidelines

Vicki and I reviewed the applications and I approved the projects listed below, and all of these have money set aside or cheques mailed to them, and much of the work is complete (as you can see from the pictures above from Central Halifax Junior High.

This list also includes some other projects, like the Pride crosswalks.

I am really looking forward to bringing back in-person voting and the fun of Participatory Budgeting in 2023/24!

2022/23 FUNDED PROJECTS:

Pride Crosswalks	\$3,000.00
Halifax Argos - Helmets	\$1,947.50
Quinpool Road Mainstreet District Association - Planter Boxes	\$3,333.33
Quinpool Road Mainstreet District Association Cogswell Park Placemaking Project	\$5,000.00
Parker Street Food & Furniture Bank support new truck	\$10,000.00
St. Paul's Church - Garden Nature Habitat	\$7,500.00
LeMarchant St Thomas Elementary School - Green Space Community Playground	\$7,500.00
Joseph Howe Elementary - aesthetic improvement to exterior walls around the playground	\$7,500.00
Downtown Halifax Business Commission - tree wrapped lighting in 2 public green places	\$5,000.00
Turret Arts Space Society - building renovations	\$5,000.00
Saint Mary's Elementary School Bike/Scooter Rack	\$4,000.00
Canoe Kayak NS - canoe and kayak rack	\$5,000.00
Halifax Central JH - courtyard improvements	\$7,500.00
Halifax Lancers - ventilation system	\$7,500.00
Cathedral Church of All Saints - website	\$4,219.17
LCW Halifax - upgrades to the washroom	\$10,000.00



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WELCOME NEW & RETURNING STUDENTS

One of the things that makes this neighbourhood so great is the diverse mix of residents.

There is no “student neighbourhood” in Halifax. This area has students mixed in with many others and you are as likely to live next to your professor, an emergency room doctor, retired people, seniors, preschool and school-age children, babies, and people of all kinds.

Halifax is one of the best cities in Canada, and it takes all of us to work together to make that true. We all need to work together to share this community respectfully.

Some students are new renters and don't know you have legal rights or obligations as tenants and neighbours, so I've included a short list of things for you to consider.

Know your rights:

Halifax is responsible to ensure the building you live in meets minimum standards, including things like fire and other safety items, heat, water and sewer. More info on minimum standards is here: <https://www.halifax.ca/fire-police/fire/fire-prevention-safety/codes-regulations/m-200>

The Province is responsible for tenancy, which is rent, leases, and arbitrating conflicts with a property owner. If you are having tenancy issues visit here for more info <https://beta.novascotia.ca/documents/residential-tenancy-guides>

Here are three things that seem to cause most of the friction: noise, booze & mess. You can have fun but make sure that it doesn't impact others' enjoyment of their neighbourhood!

Noise: You have the right to enjoy yourself with friends, but your neighbours have the right to a good night's sleep. Please do not “unreasonably disturb or tend to disturb the peace and tranquillity of a neighbourhood.” Noise fines can start at \$463.95 and rise to \$1,268.95 for a third offence.

Drinking: The drinking age in Nova Scotia is 19. Underage drinking can result in a fine of \$463.95. It is also never ok to carry open liquor in public, not even on St Patrick's Day! Fines run from \$130.45 and \$463.95. Y

Mess: This is often a result of a party. Clean up after! Talking to your neighbours and building a relationship can go a long way. Also, you would be surprised how many neighbours ask me to remind students not to go to the bathroom outside.

Getting the right garbage out on Monday morning is important. There is street-side collection of compost (green bin), recycling of paper & cardboard (clear bag) separately from (some) plastics (blue bag), and solid waste/garbage (clear bag). Some things like batteries and electronics have to be taken to a depot. For the schedule visit <https://www.halifax.ca/home-property/garbage-recycling-green-cart>