

Making Models of Abandoned Houses

By Dan Hutt

John Eaton loves Nova Scotia history and he loves old abandoned houses. He combines these passions by making exquisite miniatures of abandoned houses he's found and photographed around the province.

"When I see an abandoned house

that's collapsing, I can see the bones of the structure," Eaton said. "I love the textures, and I love the juxtaposition of seeing the inside and outside of the house at the same time. You feel the history and it's exciting for me to preserve these dying homes as miniature models."

You can check out John Eaton's amazing miniature abandoned houses at his show at the Marigold Cultural Centre in Truro (www.marigoldcentre.ca) in November.





Lake Echo & Area Lions Club

Happy Halloween   



The Lake Echo and Area Lions Club is starting up again after taking the summer off. Our goal this year, in addition to continuing our charitable work for the community, is to get new members to assist in reaching our goals.

As an example of our charitable work, it is our pleasure to announce the winners of our post-secondary education scholarships for 2023. The winners of the Lake Echo Lions Club Scholarships for 2023 are: Hilary Wells, Ethan Watson, Ella Golding, and Brenna Murrant. They are pictured in the photo below with our Scholarship Committee Chair and presenter, Lion Dwayne Provo.



Lake Echo & Area Lions Club \$1000 Scholarship recipients 2023
 Left to right: Presenter Lion Scholarship Chair Dwayne Provo, Hilary Wells, Ethan Watson, Ella Golding, Brenna Murrant.

LAKE ECHO LIONS CLUB NEEDS NEW MEMBERS!
 Our Lions Club consists of dedicated women and men who care about our community and who strive to make our wonderful and growing community a better place to live, to raise our children and support our seniors. To continue to do so into the future, we need new members who support the same goals. Please call Jim Inch at 902 220 7208 if you wish to come to a meeting to see what we are about.

REGIONAL PLAN REVIEW

The municipality is inviting residents to participate in the Regional Plan Review. The new Regional Plan is a plan to address housing, environmental protection, transportation, population growth, the upcoming suburban plan, and more. Share your thoughts to help plan equitable, healthy, and sustainable communities.



We will be holding in-person events in communities across the municipality in September and October. For more information on events and other ways to participate, visit shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/regional-plan, scan the QR code, or call 902-943-3248.

Please share your feedback by October 27, 2023.



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HALIFAX

DISTRICT 2 COUNCILLOR'S COMMUNIQUE OCTOBER 2023 — ISSUE #311 — HAPPY HALLOWEEN

MI'KMAQ HISTORY MONTH

Each October, there are several community activities and events that showcase and share the history and heritage of the Mi'kmaw people. October is Mi'kmaw History Month because it coincides with the anniversary of English settlers signing the inaugural Peace and Friendship Treaty with the Mi'kmaw people. Treaty Day is October 1 and on this designated date, the Mi'kmaw people received a promise of peace, along with compensation for appropriated lands, resources and the impact of conflict on people and communities across Mi'kma'ki. In an effort to assist all Nova Scotians in increasing their knowledge and awareness of Mi'kmaw culture, history and heritage, a Mi'kmaq History Month Committee was established to promote and encourage educational and cultural activities during the month of October. For more information, go to <http://mikmaqhistorymonth.ca>.

CADETS DAY – OCT. 7

Under the Sea, Army, Air and Navy League Cadets Day Act, the first Saturday in October is recognized as Cadet Day in Nova Scotia. It is held to honour cadets, volunteers and supporters of the Cadet program. The Cadet Program is a dynamic, funded program for young Canadians aged 12 to 18 across the country. This program offers young people a variety of activities that teaches valuable life lessons and work skills that cadets can use for the rest of their lives. Nova Scotia has 86 cadet units with nearly 3,500 cadets representing air, sea and army units. In District 2 there are three Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps: RCACC #117 Preston-Westphal; RCACC #2610 Sheet Harbour; and RCACC #2741 Musquodoboit Harbour – Gaetz Brook. For more information on sea, army and air cadets, visit www.cadets.ca. For more information on navy cadets, visit www.navyleague.ca.

OUTDOOR COMMUNITY RINK GRANTS

Applications are now open for the Outdoor Community Rink Program that allows community groups to operate a community rink on municipal-owned property. Applicants can also apply for a grant of up to \$5,000 to cover insurance costs associated with operating the rink. For more information on the Outdoor Community Rink Program, including this year's application form and eligibility criteria, please visit www.halifax.ca/parks-recreation/parks-trails-gardens/outdoor-rink-insurance-grant-program. The deadline is October 13, 2023.

OPEN-AIR BURNING SEASON

As of October 16, (weather permitting) and whether the NS Forest Weather Index (FWI) www.novascotia.ca/burnsafe is at a low or moderate reading, the time of day burning restrictions will be lifted. For more information about winter open-air burning and safe burning practices, visit www.halifax.ca/fire-police/fire/burning-permits/burning-rules-regulations. Please be careful whenever burning!

PROPERTY TAXES DUE - OCT. 31

HRM invoices property tax bills to all property owners twice each year. The tax year covers the fiscal period of April 1 to March 31. The first tax bill was sent out (either by mail or e-post) in March and was due on the last working day of April. The second and final bill will be sent out (either by mail or e-post) in September and is due on the last

working day of October (Monday, October 31). The first (or interim) invoice is based on 50 per cent of the current year's estimated taxes but based on last year's rates. The final invoice is calculated using the current assessment with the current year's tax rates, less the amount you already paid from the first invoice. The total amounts billed must be paid by the due date to avoid interest charges. Interest is applied daily to all outstanding taxes at a rate of 10 per cent, per annum. For more information; please call 311, or 902-490-4000 or visit HRM website www.halifax.ca/home-property/municipal-payments/making-a-payment.

TAX CHANGE FOR STORMWATER

The Ditch Tax / Stormwater Right-of-Way flat rate charge of \$40 will disappear from the Halifax Water invoices and will reappear on your HRM October 2023 property tax bill as a separate line item as a new amount instead and it will be based on the assessed value of the property. This change will only impact the HRM Road Exchange Service Boundary area. To learn more visit <https://hrm.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/lookup/index>.

VULNERABLE PERSONS REGISTRY

Vulnerable Persons Registries are used to record pertinent information of vulnerable individuals, for first responders or volunteers to use during emergency events, such as prolonged power outages or severe weather events. Information within Vulnerable Persons Registries can be used during an emergency, and that information can be used for emergency management staff when preparing emergency plans. HRM Emergency Management (EM) Division has been tasked to establish a Vulnerable Persons Registry (VPR) and to maintain overall administration capacity over the VPR including public education provision, hfxALERT contact list updates, support to community and other first responding agencies. 311 and 211 can provide information on how to assist residents with registration on the system.

The program will be based on self-referral. This registry would be available to any resident who is without 24-hour support who experiences severe difficulty with any of the following conditions: limited mobility; vision impairment; hearing impairment; developmental disabilities; cognitive impairment; mental health conditions; or any resident who requires electricity for life-sustaining equipment such as life support, oxygen, dialysis, etc.

Residents who are not eligible that are receiving 24-hour support from a caregiver or homecare (exceptions may apply); or receiving care or assistance from a long-term care home or supportive housing facility. And residents under the age of 18 and receive parent/guardian support (exceptions may apply). However, children with intensive needs or children that require electricity for life-sustaining equipment can be considered for eligibility.

Potential registrants should call 311, HRM EM staff providing their information. An online registration form is in the works and should be ready soon. Once received, designated staff would then reach out to confirm/verify the information. At this point, if the registrant meets the proposed applicability requirements, they would be added to the registry.

DRAFT REGIONAL PLAN REVIEW

You're invited to participate in the latest Regional Plan (RP) Review through a variety of online and in-person engagement opportunities until October 27. The RP sets out a common vision and long-range, region-wide planning policies outlining where, when, and how future growth and development should take place. The original RP was adopted in 2006 and is reviewed approximately every five years to ensure that the Plan still reflects the municipality's goals for growth and development. The latest Draft RP envisions what HRM may look like with 1 million people. Please share your thoughts on this RP to respond to the current demand for housing, with a focus on developing healthy communities, protecting natural and cultural resources, acting on climate and fostering equity.

Look for updates on the RP Review website: www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/regional-plan or by emailing regionalplan@halifax.ca or calling 902-943-3248.

AT EDUCATION & PROMO GRANTS

HRM offers Active Transportation (AT) Education and Promotion Grants that are intended to support community organizations interested to propose projects that address, or partially address the municipality's objectives identified in the 2014 AT Priorities Plan and 2017 Integrated Mobility Plan to increase the number of people walking and bicycling and improving the safety of people using these modes.

Projects may include:

- Safety and skills training programs
- AT promotions and marketing programs
- AT education and engagement
- Transportation Demand Management programs
- AT related events
- Etiquette programs

Submission Deadline for the Fall - Winter Intake applications is October 13, 2023. Projects can only start after October 25, 2023 and should end before March 31, 2024. To make an inquiry about project eligibility before applying, contact: Emma Martin, HRM Active Transportation Community Projects Coordinator by phone 902-499-6742 or via email ATGrants@halifax.ca and visit www.halifax.ca/transportation/cycling-walking/active-transportation-grants-program.

HFXALERT NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

hfxALERT is the municipality's mass notification system for informing residents about emergencies and operations updates. hfxALERT will send urgent and non-urgent notifications from Halifax Regional Police, Halifax Fire & Emergency's Emergency Management Division, as well as municipal winter parking ban notices. You must sign up with hfxALERT to receive certain notifications. This will ensure the municipality can reach you to share important information quickly based on set locations, such as your home or workplace. Sign up and learn more at www.halifax.ca/hfxalert.



Councillor David Hendsbee
Councillor—Counciller municipal—Comhairlaiche—Wunaqapeme'
District 2: Preston—Chezzetcook—Eastern Shore

Railway Museum – #7895 Highway #7
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Letter to the Editor: Appreciating the Eastern Shore

My husband and I want to give a BIG THANK YOU to the following people and businesses we encountered during our recent 2-week vacation on the Eastern Shore. We had a FABULOUS time! We only scratched the surface in terms of things to do and businesses/attractions to visit. Hopefully, we'll get a chance to return, and take in some more of what your area has to offer. The scenery was outstanding, but the people we met, including the following, were the best part of our trip!

- **Sherry Hilchey & Marvin Williams:** Thank you for your hospitality (including seeing you feed the eagles and showing us your trout pond).
- **Sammy Keizer Automotive:** Thank

- you for letting us use your grease gun on our enclosed trailer. Even though we offered to pay, you insisted on doing it for free.
- **Ian and Nancy Lobban:** Thank you for the tour of the Ostrea Lake Fire Department and exchanging fire department patches. It's always great when firefighters get together to exchange stories!
 - **Martinique Desserterie:** We devoured your amazing sweet treats! The Butter Bars, Raspberry Gay Bars, and Date Bars were out of this world!
 - **Musquodoboit Farmers Market:** There were so many great vendors, including Still Fired Distilleries (Adam savored your Night Owl Coffee Moonshine and Strawberry

- Rhubarb Moonshine) and R & J's Freeze-Dried Tasty Treats (our grandson loved your Skittles and Ice Cream Sandwich treats).
- **Musquodoboit Harbour Facebook Group:** Thank you for all your answers to my questions about your area, including, "How do you pronounce Musquodoboit?"
 - **Musquodoboit Railway Museum:** This is a true gem! Please don't let it disappear.
 - **Noor's Mediterranean Restaurant:** Your Chicken Shawarma and Baklava were so delicious! Your staff was welcoming and kind, especially our server who gave us 2 polished stones with Canadian designs on them, and her wishes to us for safe travels.

- **Ostrea Lake Pleasant Point Facebook Group:** Thank you for all your responses to my questions.
- **Provincial Park Crews:** Our trips to various Provincial Parks were wonderful. Your parks were so well-maintained and clean.
- **Ralph's Downeast Diner:** Great lunch at the diner, and thanks for all the inside info about the antique hot rod out front!
- **Sheet Harbour Information Centre:** We learned so much about genealogy resources from one of the volunteers!
- **Chris Williams:** Our grandson LOVED your hand-tied fishing flies!

— Mary & Adam White, Gorham, New Hampshire USA

Letter to the Editor: Lessons from Our Stolen Cargo Trailer

On July 4, 2023, our 16' cargo trailer was stolen from our property in Watt Section. This trailer contained all of our personal belongings for our building once completed. We put a call out on social media, with details, once it was discovered missing. The support from the community and the province with sharing the post, was heart-warming during this very difficult time. The comments and feedback gave us hope that the trailer would be located and returned.



Now over two months later, still nothing has surfaced with the location and whereabouts of the trailer. Now looking back, and reflecting on what transpired as we continue to pick up the pieces and rebuild our lives, some points that came to mind right away:

1. When the incident was reported to the RCMP, we were made to feel it was our fault for the theft; even though, we are the victims of the crime and questioned why we did not have trail cams, surveillance, etc. to prevent this theft.
2. A neighbour stopped by with a picture of a suspicious vehicle in the area that was forwarded onto the RCMP. We had to follow-up a number of times on this as well the case file number. To date this is the only interaction we have had with the RCMP. The RCMP have not been to site to look at the scene or asked for any type of inventory of what was inside the trailer.
3. With the location of the trailer we feel someone from the community had an idea or details of the theft.
4. People in the community that have stepped-up to support us has not gone unnoticed. The emotional support has gotten us through some very difficult moments, as we realize what is gone and

cannot be replaced. The physical support of household items, tools, etc. coming from all walks of life opened our eyes that we choose the right community to move to, as did the spiritual support that people are thinking of us and praying for the return of the trailer. Finally the financial support has allowed us to continue moving forward and ensuring we are part of this community for the long run. Some of the biggest support has come from people that may not be in the best position themselves. This all put together will allow us to continue paying it forward.

5. General information our insurance will not cover the trailer and its contents because it was not attached to our personal vehicle.
6. Theft has been on the increase/rise in rural Nova Scotia which is not just impacting the victim of the crime but also the community that it happens in. So please keep an eye open an ear to the words being said around you to help prevent this from happening again.

Thank you for the opportunity to express ourselves in this article and share what has happened to us.

— Matt & Shona Hause

Employment Opportunity

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Gaetz Brook Legion

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