


# Role of Government

In Ensuring the Health of Nova Scotians

HRM



Health  
VS  
Healthy Communities

- 
- Mandate is absent from the MGA that speaks to provision of healthcare
  - Various roles of municipal government with respect to proactive health & well being and population health

# Municipal Role

- Level of government closest to citizens
- Direct provision of services
- Advocators/influencers
- Community development
- Partnering
- Marketing and promotion
- Research and communication
- Planning and development

# MOU with Capital Health

- To be one of the most liveable cities in the world “that enhances the economic development, social, cultural and recreational attributes of the region”
- Coordination & alignment of initiatives in areas of shared interest
- Foster strong & continued communication
- Maximize resources in our community
- Utilization of space

# Partnerships

- Universities
- Community based service delivery organizations Boys & Girls clubs, home & school & residents association, Ecology Action Centre
- Provincial & Federal governments
- Other public & private partnerships - EOI
- Not for profit agencies and associations
- MOU with Capital Health

# Partnerships

- Cost sharing on Municipal Physical Activity Leadership Program
- Active Halifax
- RFD
- B-FIT
- Regional Development grants
- Planning assistance
- Lots of other “no cost” type of partnering
  - Volunteer strategy
  - Playground development
  - Program initiatives

# Physical Activity Strategy

- HRM region – wide
- Partners include - Heart & Stroke, Capital Health, NS Dept of Health Promotion & Protection, HRM, Dalhousie University, Halifax Regional School Board
- Overall governance and direction to the development of a region wide physical activity strategy

# Draft Goals

- To provide information that supports HRM residents to adopt physically active lifestyles
- To adopt planning practices and policies that support physical activity in the planning, design, and development of the built environment
- Ensure the adoption of policies and practices to enhance the attractiveness, accessibility and safety of all physical activity venues
- Promote and increase the number of walking initiatives
- Promote the inclusion of physical activity in special events, outdoor active play and structured activity

# Effective Strategies

- Comprehensive, integrated, multi-disciplinary, and multi-level, targeting individuals, communities, physical and social environments and policies. This requires key stakeholders from education, health, mun. and prov. Govs and others.

# Municipalities Directly Provide (HRM)

- Infrastructure for recreation: parks, playgrounds, ball diamonds, soccer fields, recreation centers, tennis courts, swimming pools, walkways, pathways, trails, wading pools, beaches, & arenas
- Create access, opportunities, programs and scheduling for citizens to enjoy recreation & leisure

# Advocacy/Other Roles

- Child tax credit
- Gender equity
- HRSB:
  - Joint use agreement
  - Service level agreements
  - “Imagine Our Schools”
  - Advocate for daily physical activity
  - Advocate for “B” teams
  - Provincial policy on rec centres attached to new school construction
  - 4+ program

# HRM Regional Plan

- By helping shape development to cluster settlement patterns and more compact growth centres where people can easily walk to reach public transit and do their errands, HRM can encourage lifestyles where physical activity is built into citizen's daily routines

# HRM Regional Plan

- “More compact development enables us to reduce our dependence on automobiles and relieve some pressure to develop natural areas, so we can breathe air, reduce the frustrations & hazards of traffic & have more opportunities to enjoy nature.”

# HRM By Design

- This is one of the 5 Campaigns for a Great City – A City of Liveable and Complete Neighbourhoods. The concept relates to:
- -providing more opportunities to live near your work and school
- -encouraging more street level retail and commercial activities within walking distance of work and home
- -beautifying streetscapes and the pedestrian experience to promote more active transportation (walking, cycling)
- -providing more public open space amenities and connections, such as parks, seating, trees and plazas to foster a culture of walking and provide an incentive to urban living.




# A CITY OF LIVEABLE AND COMPLETE NEIGHBOURHOODS



# Active Transportation

- HRM has an Active Transportation Plan
- Links active transportation to land use & transportation planning
- Increase options for traveling – wheeling, walking, skateboarding, etc.
- Create a safe environment for using active modes of transportation



“Traveling through the region by human power is not only healthy but environmentally smart and a great way to see scenic wonders”

# Community Facilities Master Plan

- Mapping the future of community facilities throughout HRM
- Regional Plan
- Arenas
- Outdoor facility planning
- Construction, retrofits, decommissioning of facilities over the next 20 years
- Funding & representation from Province

# Immigration Strategy

HRM is currently looking at methods for increasing the accessibility of programs and services to diverse communities. The provision of better and more culturally mindful information is necessary to communicate how newcomers are able to participate and increase their involvement in the community.

# Homelessness/Housing

- Access to affordable, safe & adequate housing
- Research - HRM
- Influence other levels of government, community & private sector to encourage the development of more affordable housing
- Tax concessions & grants – emergency service organizations

# Smoke Free By Law

- HRM demonstrated leadership in encouraging the province to move forward
- Currently continuing to examine the issues
- Examining smoke free beaches

# Quality of Life

- On going data base – community, decision makers
- Compare data across 20 cities
- Learning and best practices
- Life in urban communities
  - Crime rates
  - Environment
  - Incomes
  - Occupations
  - Over 20 indicators

# Clean Air

- Climate SMART – climate change strategy
- Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Plans – 20% by 2012
- Bus Rapid Transit – Enhanced system – emission reduction
- Bio fuels – buses and buildings
- Reduced idling campaigns
- Methane capture – former landfill
- Clean air strategy

# Clean Land

- Regional Plan – 25 year sustainable land use planning
- Solid waste management – high waste diversion rates
- Sustainable landscape maintenance practices – corporate and community
- Pesticide use reduction – residential areas and HRM properties

# Clean Water

- Harbour solutions project – clean harbour
- Waterwater/stormwater strategy – 25 year plan
- Wastewater discharge regulations
- Water and sewage extensions
- Road salt management
- Septic stewardships
- Biosolids program
- Upgrade WWT facilities

# Clean Water

- Drinking Water that meets or exceeds the Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines
- Ongoing research through a partnership between Halifax Water and Dalhousie [Pilot Plant at Pockwock Lake]
- Halifax Water is a leader in reducing leakage in the distribution system [35 million litres per day has been recovered]
- Halifax Water has expanded mandate to look after water and wastewater services [source to tap and back to source]

# Recreation/Leisure

- Benefits – personal & social, economic, environmental
- Socialization, self esteem, leadership, team work, physical activity, creative expression, confidence, skill development
- Employment, retail, relocation, productive employees & reduced absenteeism

# Programming (Physical Activity)

- Sports: basketball, flag football, horseback riding, rock climbing, cardio tennis, sea kayaking
- Martial arts: karate, tae kwon do,
- Active play programs
- Yoga, tai chi, pilates
- Fitness: step, low impact, cardio, kick boxing stability ball
- Dance: belly, ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop
- Gymnastics, skipping, cheerleading, Can Bike, walking & hiking, swimming

# Programming (self expression & mental health)

- Painting , pottery, drawing, bridge, water colours, tole painting, arts & crafts, photography, drama, rug making, creative play, music
- Cultural Plan

# Environmental Health

- Earth education: walking lightly on earth and appreciating natural treasures
- Winter treasures
- Vision 2020
- Sunship Earth
- Outdoor adventure programs
- HEAT

# Youth

- Youth engagement,
- Youth leadership,
- Youth volunteerism
- Youth advocacy
- Youth special events
- Youth inclusion
- Youth employment

# Municipal Roles

- Level of government closest to citizens
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