

[View this email in your browser](#)



Happy New Year!

Here's to a great New Year and the start of all new things to come. I hope that you and your families enjoyed the Holiday Season and that you've stayed happy and healthy throughout. Now that 2021 is here, it's time to start thinking about resolutions and things to do to make this year better than the last.

HNWTA Upcoming Events!

Tuesdays in February we will be offering a "Walking and Talking" group for seniors. Walks will take place on the track in the Canada Games Centre. Details are still being ironed out, so check out our [Events page on the website](#) and our social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) for more information! We also hope to hold a snow shoeing event this winter when Halifax gets a nice dumping of snow. This will be very impromptu, and therefore will not have that much notice. Continue to monitor our website or social media to see when this event will occur!



Make a hiking resolution!

If you want to get outside more this year, make a hiking resolution that encourages you to get out walking, hiking, or strolling through the neighbourhood, wilderness, and/or new places in the province! Start small and grow from there! Why not plan to walk a new trail this month? Check out our different trails and post photos of you and your friends/family enjoying the trails to our different social media platforms! We would love to see the adventures you are getting up to. For more hiking options, Hike Nova Scotia is hosting the [Winter Hike Series](#) again, so check out the different guided hikes that are offered from now until March! If you're really ambitious with your hiking resolution, join Hike Nova Scotia's [Hiker Challenge](#) and earn badges for distances hiked! Get out there and enjoy the trails!

Take the Roof Off Winter

[Take the Roof Off Winter](#) is a great program hosted through Recreation Nova Scotia that encourages people to get outside and stay active during the cold winter months. If you need motivation to get outside, try taking part in the different video/photo challenges! When you post your videos/photos through social media, make sure to tag us if you're on one of our community trails!

Maskwa Parking Lot is Open Again!

We are happy to let you know that the parking lot of the Maskwa Aquatic Club is again open for public use and for access to the Blue Mountain-Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Area! Please be respectful if you are parking there, and obey all No Trespassing and Private Property signs, and of course, Leave No Trace!



Winter Hiking Safety

You may have already noticed that many of our trails are not plowed throughout the winter. The only one of our trails with winter maintenance is the Mainland North Trail, so use caution if you decide to venture out on our other trails. Most are commonly used and get packed down quickly, but stay alert for icy conditions under the snow. A great pair of ice cleats/snow grippers will boost your confidence on winter hikes.

If you wanted to try snowshoeing this year, but were hesitant to start without advice from knowledgeable sources, check out the Hike Nova Scotia [Webinar about Snow Shoeing](#) on January 26. One important topic being covered is what to pack in your backpack when heading out in the winter. Definitely important things to consider!

If you like to skate on the ponds and lakes of Halifax throughout the winter, please make sure to check the ice thickness before you go! Halifax records the ice thickness on many lakes, so make sure to visit [this site](#) before heading out!

Halifax winter maintenance

With the snow coming more and more frequently now, Halifax has removed the garbage cans at some parks and trails to make way for snow clearing and winter maintenance. Keep this in mind as you prepare for your time outside and remember to take garbage home with you if there are no garbage cans around.

Join us!

Follow these links to learn more about projects and areas that we are always looking for volunteers to help us with!

[Naturalist HNWTA Project](#)

[Calling all Volunteers!](#)

[USE THE ONLINE MEMBERSHIP](#)

Use the button below to become a member and use our NEW online membership option! You can now fill out a registration form and pay your membership fees online

[Online Membership Application](#)



Copyright © 2021 Halifax North West Trails Association. All rights reserved

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.

