

## Halifax North West Trails - Trail Talk for the fall

Recently we celebrated the official launch of the **Cabin Lake Trail** and the new Interpretive panel. This trail can be approached from Transom Drive, off lower Starboard – see map on the website. <http://www.halifaxnorthwesttrails.ca/Trails/Cabin-Lake-Trail/> Check it out!

Thanks to Kelly Regan for helping us to gather signatures in support of the name, as a part of the ongoing provincial process in officially naming this tiny lake! Three years and counting!

September is one of the best months for exploring trails around Nova Scotia. Take a look at the **Hike Nova Scotia** offerings which includes the walk to Blue Mountain on September 29. There are 17 hikes posted around the province, all led by volunteers. [www.HikeNovaScotia.ca](http://www.HikeNovaScotia.ca) Keep tuned to the trails website as we post other guided walks or hikes on the local trails throughout the fall.

**Lecture:** Join the Halifax Cycling Coalition to hear Toronto's Chief Planner, Jennifer Keesmaat. She is committed to creating places where people flourish and is recognized for her innovative work in Canadian municipalities as founder of *Project Walk*. Check out her TED talks, *Walk to School* and *Own Your City*. Potter Auditorium, Rowe Building, Dalhousie at 7 pm, Thursday, September 26.

**Transit:** On July 23rd, HRM Council passed a motion to locate the new Lacewood Transit Terminal adjacent to the Mainland Linear Trail on Lacewood. The trails association and transit users were not consulted on this site. Neither were the residents and taxpayers, who help pay the bills! This busy trail is dark and lonely after nightfall, so not a safe or welcoming Active Transportation route, on the Mainland Common, our HRM Major Park in the community. You may want to contact the Mayor or Council member to suggest revisiting the options at a safer, more economical commercial site and save parkland habitat. An alternate Transit Oriented Development approach has been presented to the Transit team by Dalhousie Cities and Environment Unit.

Local Councillor Reg Rankin called an Open House to look at design of a terminal, with 500 new parking spaces, for the Mainland Common but did not attend the meeting. Perhaps transit and the environment is not a priority for District 12 although he is chair of the Transportation Committee. If you have thoughts about the transit situation in your neighbourhood, follow-up with comments, before October 15 to [movingforward@halifax.ca](mailto:movingforward@halifax.ca) and/or [hughesp@halifax.ca](mailto:hughesp@halifax.ca) Fill in their online survey. For additional background reports re the Lacewood terminal, go to [www.halifax.ca/metrotransit/](http://www.halifax.ca/metrotransit/) and insert Lacewood - lots of reading!

HNWTA is working to link trails with transit to make this a more walkable community that respects the environment. We look forward to release of the HRM Active Transportation Report, after co-hosting an Open House in April.

**Volunteer recruitment:** Our group is always looking for volunteers to help with the associated tasks and duties of a nonprofit group - our 7 trails and their stewardship and maintenance, grant writing and such tasks. If you are interested in helping with a work party on a trail or 'behind the scenes' activities, please let us know. New board members are always needed. Contact Bob McDonald at 443-5051 or [bobathome83@gmail.com](mailto:bobathome83@gmail.com) to learn more.

Get to know our users as we do a 'trail count' on October 5 on the Linear Trail. Please get in touch if you are available to help count walkers and cyclists.

Canada Games Centre 1<sup>st</sup> **Annual Food Run** on a new trail (at Geizer Hill) on October 20...participants and volunteers are needed. [www.canadagamescentre.ca](http://www.canadagamescentre.ca) We hope to have a community booth at the event.