

# Issue no.02

## A SUCCESSFUL SEASON



### *What is the Woodlawn Residents Association?*

What a great year so far for the Woodlawn Residents' Association! We started forming in May 2022 and became an officially registered non-profit in August. In the fall we held a wildly successful Woodlawn Harvest Festival complete with highland dancers, free food, and meeting neighbours. In the winter we held a Hot Chocolate Social event where some neighbours gathered out in the cold for the warmth of conversation. Now we are having the Woodlawn Community Yard Sale event in the Spring where you get to combine clearing out your unwanted items with meeting new people and making some money!

Join the Woodlawn Residents' Association (it's free) at [WoodlawnResidents.ca](http://WoodlawnResidents.ca) to find out about our next event which will be later in the summer.

- Ian Lawless

### *Meet Your Neighbour: Robert Campbell*

I'm Robert Campbell from Woodlawn and I want to introduce you to my new project, "Songwriters From Here And Away," a radio & video show, podcast, and interview series that brings you the best of local and international songwriters, right here from Halifax and beyond!

Our show features exclusive interviews with accomplished songwriters, who share their insights, stories, and inspiration behind their music. From established artists to emerging talents, we bring you a diverse range of voices and genres, showcasing the richness and diversity of the songwriting community.

We also host live concerts in the Halifax area, featuring both local and visiting songwriters. These concerts are a unique opportunity to experience the magic of live music, hear the stories behind the songs, and connect with fellow music enthusiasts in an intimate setting.

And if you miss our radio show or concerts, don't worry! Our podcast allows you to catch all the episodes at your convenience. Tune in on your favorite podcast platform, or here on our distributor, Podbean and listen to our talented guests whenever and wherever you want.

So, whether you're a music lover, a songwriter, or simply curious about the creative process, "Songwriters From Here And Away" has something for everyone. Join us as we set out on this exciting journey as we celebrate the art of songwriting, showcase local and international talent, and foster a community of music enthusiasts. Stay tuned for upcoming episodes, concerts, and more!

Visit: [linktr.ee/SongwritersFromHereAndAway](https://linktr.ee/SongwritersFromHereAndAway)



### *Backyard Bungalows Allowed in Woodlawn*

In September 2020, HRM City Council approved having backyard bungalows within HRM. This means that, if you have the space, you're allowed to build a small home in your backyard! A separate free-standing building could potentially be up to 90 metres squared as long as you meet the same zoning requirements as used for building a garage. This building could be built on top of a garage or simply on its own. They are often referred to as granny suites, carriage flats and could be in the form of a tiny house.

You can also build a secondary suite, which is a separate dwelling unit that is completely contained within a home. They are often referred to as in-law suites or basement apartments.

According to the city, "allowing secondary and backyard suites more broadly is intended to support the creation of complete communities as well as meet affordable housing targets for Halifax that were adopted under the Housing and Homelessness Partnership."

- Ian Lawless



## Real Estate in Woodlawn

Woodlawn is quickly becoming one of the most sought-after neighbourhoods in Dartmouth. With the mass migration east, we have seen a massive uptick in desirability, which has resulted in increased home prices. In fact, the neighbourhood has experienced one of the largest jumps in home prices on this side of the harbour, making it a hot spot for buyers and sellers alike. We are very much on the map, and we are continuing to grow!

Several exciting developments have been proposed and approved within the neighbourhood, including student housing at NSCC Akerley Campus containing 100 rooms, and 74 contentious residential units at Portland & Carver. While these developments are not always welcomed with open arms, they will bring positive growth to the area and its local businesses. With Woodlawn Plaza and Tacoma Drive projects also in the works, we can expect even more positive changes in the near future. We can rest easy knowing that we are playing a part in adding housing inventory and creating new places for people to live, helping to relieve some of the pressure on the current housing crisis.

Despite the skyrocketing housing prices, many people continue to move to Nova Scotia, and Woodlawn is a prime destination for those looking for a great place to call home. In the last 12 months, 186 homes have been sold in the neighbourhood, with an average sale price of \$410,000 in April 2023, up from roughly \$260,000 in April 2020. While this may pose a challenge for some homebuyers, it is a testament to the desirability of the neighbourhood and its strong housing market. With over 28,000 new residents moving to the province between July 2021 and July 2022, it is likely that the trend will continue in the years to come. All in all, Woodlawn is a great place to live, work, and play, and we can't wait to see what the future holds.

- Ryley Norman

## Gardening in Woodlawn

Gardening season is finally here in Woodlawn! After a long and cold winter, gardeners are excited to get their hands dirty and start planting. With the warmer weather and longer days, it's the perfect time to start planning and preparing your garden for the summer months ahead.

Whether you're a seasoned gardener or a beginner, there's something for everyone in Woodlawn. From vegetables and herbs to flowers and shrubs, there are endless possibilities when it comes to creating a beautiful and bountiful garden. And with our nurseries and garden centers, it's easy to find everything you need to get started, while supporting local businesses.

So, grab your gardening gloves, grab your little helpers if you have some, and get ready to dig in! With some hard work and a little bit of luck, you'll be rewarded with a thriving garden that will bring joy and beauty to your home and to our neighbourhood all season long. Happy gardening!

- Erika Campbell

## No Mow May - Do It For The Bees!

No Mow May is a campaign that encourages homeowners to wait until June to mow their lawns. This allows wildflowers (including the dreaded dandelion) to grow and provide food for pollinating insects in the spring. Bees, bats, butterflies, moths, flies, beetles, and hummingbirds are all pollinators in Nova Scotia. Nectar and pollen are what flowers provide these pollinators as food. Pollinators support healthy ecosystems that clean the air, stabilize soils, protect from severe weather, and support other wildlife. Pollinating insects and animals are also responsible for bringing us one out of every three bites of food.

Although dandelions aren't the most nutritious food for bees, they start to flower in early spring when nectar and pollen are hard to find in Nova Scotia. Dandelions also flower repeatedly over the summer, providing food for hundreds of bees and other pollinators throughout the season. No Mow May is a simple way you can help support the ecosystem by providing more feeding habitats for our neighbourhood pollinators.

- Gabby Cote

