



Minister Karen Casey, Premier Stephen McNeil, MLA Iain Rankin & Cassidy Megan

Timberlea - Prospect

As your MLA for Timberlea – Prospect, it is my pleasure to update you on my activities over the past few months. I am enjoying my role as your Provincial representative in the House of Assembly and I am learning daily about the successes and challenges that face our community.

The winter season was long and the weather was eventful with numerous Wednesday storms and school cancellations. My Constituency Office developed an open and dynamic communications network with the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal staff, HRM elected officials and their staffs, and residents of the riding that allowed snow removal issues to be addressed in a timely manner.



Thank you plow operators!

Given the winter we had I would like to extend a sincere "thank you" to the plow

drivers and their supervisors for their tremendous efforts and collaboration in handling one of our worst winters in recent years and keeping our roads safe. Well done everyone!

Besides addressing winter road conditions I was able to attend a number of community meetings in the riding over the past couple of months, including the Prospect Road Business Network, the Hubley Community Centre, several Homeowner groups and associations. In addition I hosted two "Town Hall" meetings, one at the Prospect Road Community Centre and the second at the Hubley Community Centre.

I look forward to holding a number of these "Town Hall" meetings throughout the riding over the course of each year. Please keep your eyes and ears open for the next "Town Hall" meeting near you. To date at these sessions we have been fortunate to have other elected officials who represent the area joining me, making it an ideal opportunity for residents to get answers to their questions from all levels of government.

MLA
Iain Rankin

Like me on Face book 

facebook.com/IainRankinMLA

Follow me on Twitter 

@IainTRankin

Spring 2014



Animal Protection advocates

Some of the issues, meetings and project initiatives that have come to my attention are as follows:

- Lack of recreation facilities serving the Beechville, Lakeside, and Timberlea area
- Collaboration between community, HRM and the Province on improving trail connections through the Five Bridge Wilderness Area continuing through to the Western Commons and opening up access along the "Old Coach Road" in Goodwood.
- Anti-tethering and the subsequent amendment to Animal Protection Act to include cats
- Meetings with Efficiency NS, the Greater Halifax Partnership, HRM Recreation, local business

owners looking to increase immigration, several area residents employed as Home Support Care Workers and Nurses with Capitol Health

I have also had many opportunities to learn more about the various department of the Provincial government and I have joined my colleagues to tour:

- Department of Economic & Rural Development
- Department of Justice
- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Additionally I was able to tour the Irving Shipyard and get an update on activities there.

It was my great pleasure to join my colleague Jocham Stroink MLA for Halifax Chebucto, in accompanying two constituents as they visited their elderly parents living in a care facility in Halifax to witness firsthand the challenges facing society and our healthcare system with our aging demographic.



Visiting constituents' family in care.

Over the past few months I have had many requests for financial donations and/or sponsorship, especially for youth to attend high level sporting events at the Provincial, National and International level. I am blown away by the dedication and commitment of many local youth to excel in their chosen sport, and by their families who give so much to support their young athletes' dreams.

Unfortunately MLAs' are not allowed to make these kind of financial contributions. We are however allowed to buy advertising space in sports programs or at events hosted locally. If you would like me to support your event or cause by advertising, please contact my Constituency Office to find out details and guidelines.



African Heritage month launch

It has been a great honour for me to attend and participate in a number of sporting and community events since taking office. If you would like me to attend an event in your local area, please contact my Constituency Office and my assistant will do her best to accommodate your request.

The House is now sitting for the second session for the 62nd General Assembly. Since being elected I have had the opportunity to recognize a number of local residents through Resolutions put before the House of Assembly. Below is a list of all resolution I have had approved to date:

- Resolution # 32 Community Monitoring Committee – Otter Lake
- Resolution # 62 Sir John A MacDonald Flames – Tourentment win
- Resolution # 239 Dr Ryan Legere – Timberlea Dental Clinic
- Resolution # 560 Rev. Lisa Vaughn – 10th Anniversary of Ordainment
- Resolution # 702 Cassidy Megan – Purple Day
- Resolution # 767 Jessie Bower – Mental Health Awareness
- Resolution # 786 Mabels Farm Market – local business

Please let my Constituency Office know if someone you know has done something worthy of recognition, I would be delighted to have a Resolution passed in acknowledgement.

The Constituency Office is located at:

1268 St. Margarets Bay Road in Beechville, between Pope Construction and the Automotive Services approx. 1km past the Bayers Lake Park entrance. The Constituency Office is fully accessible and residents are welcome to drop by or call **902-404-7036** for an appointment. We will also be glad to arrange a more convenient meeting location to for you if you so choose.

On March 25th 2014 I accompanied Premiere McNeil and the Honourable Karen Casey, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, on a visit to two of our local schools. Firstly we visited Prospect Road Elementary, where we joined the students and staff for a wonderful assembly that included insightful questions for the Politicians from the young audience. We took this visit as an opportunity to bring forward some of the challenges around maintenance facing Prospect Road Elementary with Minister Casey.

Next we visited Brookside Junior High school, where we joined students and staff in celebrating the enormous achievements of Cassidy Megan, a grade 9 student who started the Purple Day campaign for Epilepsy Awareness back in 2008. The audience, including elected guests, were in awe of the profound effect of Cassidy's work as it has rippled out across the world shedding light and educating people about epilepsy. Cassidy is to be commended on her work, which is why I put forward Resolution # 702 to honour her achievements.

In addition to my constituency responsibilities I also sit on the following standing committees.

Vice Chair of the Public Accounts Committee and a member of the Human Resources and Private & Local Bills Committees.

Last Fall I stood in for The Honourable Michel Samson representing Nova Scotia as part of Canadian Branch of the "Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie" (APF) Assembly held in Chisinau, Moldova from Nov. 17th through to Nov. 22nd 2013. I will have another opportunity to practice my French language skills and stand in for Minister Samson in April 2014, when I will be travelling to Guinea Bissau in Western Africa as part of the European Union's Election Observation Mission. This is an exciting opportunity, and I am sure it will be a rich and valuable learning experience.