

We are Spryfield.

We know who we are best

Sometime over the last few months, you, your mother or even your cousin has been asked what you think about Spryfield. Maybe it was through a survey, a one-to-one conversation or visit to your community group. The idea is to get a good picture of our community today—the good, the bad and the ugly.

This information is being collected as part of a project called **Action for Neighbourhood Change**. As Spryfielders, we are part of this unique, nation-wide program. It encourages people to help one another make their neighbourhood a better place to live.

So take a look and see what we think about ourselves and our community. These are our voices, and our lives.

A recent survey showed overwhelmingly that people are friendly and helpful to each other. Almost as strongly, we can find enough ways to meet and talk with each other and most importantly, many of us have a strong purpose in life.

We are also very proud of those things that are uniquely Spryfield. Our Lions Wave Pool, the Captain William Spry Community Centre and the thousands of acres of green space are three powerful points of pride. We are Spryfield proud.

Still, we know we have our problems. But to tackle these challenges, everyone knows you need heart and commitment to move forward.



Our Challenges

The opinions of Spryfielders are:

- We have a reputation as being a bad place despite our average crime stats.
- Litter, graffiti and boarded-up buildings make our community look unattractive.
- There is a lack of local job opportunities.

The research shows these trends for Spryfield, compared to HRM and Nova Scotia.

- Our average household income has not risen for many years.
- We have a high number of single-parent families.
- A smaller proportion of adults are in the labour force.
- Our 15- to 24-year-old youth have difficulty finding work.
- Fewer of us have passed Grade 9, graduated from high school or gone on to university or community college.

Unless action is taken now, Spryfield will continue to fall behind. The time to act is now.

We need to prepare for the next stage of HRM's regional plan, which focuses on community vision and action.



Action for Neighbourhood Change



CWSCC Board

The Solutions Start with Us

With this project, Spryfield has an opportunity to turn things around and plot our own course of action for a brighter future.

Now, it is up to us. We must build on our strengths. Our Heart, our Pride and our People.

Action for Neighbourhood Change can help us get together, but it is up to each and every one of us to take the first steps toward changing.



The Next Step

Spryfield needs you! Come and attend our Community meeting on:

**Saturday, January 21,
1:30 to 4:30 p.m.,
Captain William Spry
Community Centre.**

Start improving Spryfield by coming out to develop a strategy and actions plans!

For more information: 475-3783
E-mail: spryfieldaction@ns.aliantzinc.ca

And look for regular **Action** updates in the coming weeks and months.