

**West Hants Regional Municipality
District Councillor Activity Report**

To: Mayor Zebian and members of the West Hants Regional Municipal Council

Submitted by: Chrystal Remme, Councillor District 3

Date: June 19, 2026

The following highlights my activities from late May through mid-June.

- **May 20 – Meeting with Brooklyn Fire Department Executive**

The CAO, Councillor McLean and I met with the Executive of the Brooklyn Fire Department to discuss their budget, current and future needs, and the services they provide to our community.

We often see the response side of the fire department's work, but there is a lot happening beyond those calls. It was a good opportunity to discuss ways Council and our fire departments can communicate more effectively during budget discussions, so Councillors have a better understanding of their needs and priorities.

- **May 22 – Valley Community Fibre Network Meeting**

I attended the Valley Community Fibre Network meeting virtually. The meeting included updates on current projects and plans for the network. It is always interesting to hear about the work supporting connectivity throughout the region.

- **May 25 – Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board Meeting**

The Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board met to ratify decisions from the facilitated session, including the closure of five library branches across the region and changes to library services throughout the system.

The months leading up to this decision involved significant work by Board members and staff. We reviewed financial information, explored options, asked difficult questions, and spent a great deal of time discussing the impacts various decisions would have on staff, communities, and library users across the region.

While there were no easy solutions, it was clear throughout the process that everyone involved cared deeply about the future of the library system and the communities it serves. The conversations were thoughtful, respectful, and often difficult.

The response from residents throughout this process has reinforced just how valued libraries are in our communities.

- **May 26 – Regular Council Meeting**

- **May 28 – Valley REN Liaison and Oversight Committee Meeting**

I attended the Valley REN Liaison and Oversight Committee meeting. Updates were provided on the organization's ongoing work, future direction, and the adjustments being made following changes to provincial funding.

- **May 28 – Accessibility Advisory Committee**

The Accessibility Advisory Committee met at Council Chambers. The committee received updates on accessibility improvements being incorporated into the Causeway Trail project and the Windsor waterfront area, including several recommendations previously brought forward by the committee.

A significant portion of the meeting focused on how the committee can continue supporting accessibility throughout the Municipality. Discussions included developing self-directed accessibility walkthrough materials and educational resources that organizations and community groups can use to assess their own spaces and events.

The meeting also highlighted the value of community members, staff, and committee members working together to identify barriers and opportunities for improvement that may otherwise go unnoticed.

- **May 30 – Day of Care Event**

I attended the Day of Care event as a Board member representing Christmas Angels. The event, organized by the Municipality, brought together several organizations and service providers to share information, provide support, and help residents access services.

It was a great opportunity to learn more about the resources available in our community and meet some of the people doing this work. There was a real focus on helping people connect with the supports they need and reducing barriers to accessing services.

- **June 1 – Annapolis Valley Regional Library Staff Town Hall**

Members of the Library Board met with staff to share the service changes and branch closures resulting from the current funding situation.

Staff were provided with information about the decisions made and their impacts on the library system moving forward.

Throughout the process, one thing has been very clear: library staff care deeply about the communities they serve. Many have dedicated years of service to their branches and the people who rely on them, and that commitment has been evident throughout this transition.

- **June 1 – Pride Flag Raising**

It was great to see so many in attendance at the Pride Flag Raising in Windsor. The remarks shared by community members were powerful, and it was encouraging to see people come together in support and celebration.

- **June 3 – Public Information Meeting**

I attended the Public Information Meeting regarding the proposed townhouse development in Three Mile Plains.

I appreciated hearing residents' perspectives. Many of the concerns raised have been discussed in the area for several years, particularly around traffic, speeding, dust, and safety, and it was clear from the discussion that they remain important issues to the community.

- **June 6 – Pride Parade**

I attended the 5th Annual Pride Parade. It was great to see so many people out supporting the event and celebrating together. The parade continues to grow each year, and it was wonderful to see residents of all ages taking part, including many youth.

The sense of community throughout the day was incredible. There was a great deal of support, positivity, and celebration, and it was clear that many people felt welcome and safe participating in the event. I continue to be proud of our communities and the way people show up to support one another.

- **June 6 – Falmouth Tug-of-War**

I made it to the Tug-of-War event in Falmouth. It was great to see so many people participating and supporting the event.

There were people of all ages getting involved, a great crowd, lots of energy, and plenty of friendly competition. Events like this are a great reminder of how important community events are in bringing people together.

- **June 9 – Committee of the Whole Meeting**

- **June 11 – Hants Learning Network AGM**

I attended the Hants Learning Network AGM and had the opportunity to hear about the work the organization continues to do throughout our communities.

Over the past year, the organization supported 191 adult program registrations, 48 families through Family Literacy Fun programming, and 43 participants through the Learning Together tutoring program. Unfortunately, funding for the tutoring program was not renewed, meaning free tutoring support for elementary and middle school students will not be available next year.

The AGM also included recognition of Wayne Young, who is stepping down from the Board after nine years of service. Wayne has been a dedicated supporter of the organization and its learners, and his contributions were recognized during the meeting.

Having previously served on the Board, I know how much work goes on behind the scenes to support learners throughout our communities. The staff, Board members, volunteers,

and community partners all play an important role in making that happen. I don't think many people realize how many lives this organization touches each year or the impact it has on individuals and families throughout West Hants and beyond.

- **June 18 – Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board Meeting and AGM**

I attended the Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board meeting and AGM. I was happy to accept the position of Vice Chair for another term.

While decisions regarding service changes have been made, a significant amount of work remains as staff continue to manage the transition. I want to recognize the staff for the work that has gone into this process and the work that continues behind the scenes.

Throughout the past several months, one thing has been very clear: people care deeply about their libraries. We have seen that through community meetings, letters, emails, read-ins, marches, conversations, and the many people who have taken the time to share what libraries mean to them and their communities.

For residents seeking information about the changes, the Annapolis Valley Regional Library has developed an FAQ section on its website that addresses many of the questions being raised across the region.

Discussions/Calls/Concerns:

Over the past several weeks, I've heard from residents on a variety of topics:

- **Library Services:** Libraries continue to be one of the most common topics people are reaching out about. While opinions on the recent service changes vary, one thing has been consistent: people care deeply about their libraries and the role they play in our communities.

For anyone looking for more information, the Annapolis Valley Regional Library has developed a comprehensive FAQ section on its website that answers many of the questions being raised.

- **Speeding Concerns:** I've heard from several residents about speeding concerns in Greenhill and have observed it myself while visiting family.

With the nicer weather, more people are out walking, biking, and spending time outdoors, and residents have raised concerns about traffic speeds and safety. I have encouraged residents to report concerns directly to the RCMP, as they are responsible for traffic enforcement and need to be aware of where issues are occurring.

- **Dry Weather and Drought Concerns:** I've also heard from residents who are concerned about the dry conditions and the potential for drought this summer.

Following the challenges many residents faced last year, particularly those who rely on wells, people are paying close attention to water levels and weather conditions. This is a topic I expect we'll continue hearing about throughout the summer months.

- School Zone Speed Sign: I have heard positive comments regarding the recently installed speed sign near the school. It appears to be helping remind drivers to slow down, and I am hopeful we will continue to see improvements.
- Smiley's Bridge: I've heard positive feedback from residents about the reopening of Smiley's Bridge. With summer arriving and more people out enjoying our communities, it's good to see the bridge back open and available for use.

Summer is finally here, and there is no shortage of things happening throughout our communities. It has been great to see people out enjoying local events, supporting community organizations, and spending time in our parks, trails, and public spaces.

As always, if there is something on your mind, please reach out. I appreciate hearing from residents and value the conversations, questions, concerns, and ideas they share with me.