

West Hants Regional Municipality District Councillor Activity Report

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

Submitted by: **Rupert Jannasch, Councillor for the Hants Shore**

Date: **July 17, 2025**

The following updates reflects a summary account of highlights since our last Council Meeting.

Meetings/Events:

July 8: COTW

July 12: Strawberry Social and Market, Centre Burlington Hall

July 22: Council

Ongoing: Discussions with NS Health regarding transition of Hants Shore Community Health Centre to a provincial “Health Home”

Ongoing: Discussions with Hants Shore Childcare group

Discussions/Calls/Concerns:

Answered questions about the intent of the draft Peace and Good Order Bylaw

Discussed resource development, particularly fracking, with several residents

Continued to deal with dust issues on the Bancroft Road, Walton, and the future of the Walton bridge.

Speeding and hazardous driving continues to be a concern between Brooklyn and Walton

Anything else pertinent to Council:

West Hants Regional Municipality District Councillor Activity Report

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

Submitted by: Chrystal Remme, WHRM Councillor District 3

Date: July 14th, 2025

The following is a summary of meetings, events, and community concerns since our last Council meeting.

Meetings/Events:

Budget Deliberations

Council has spent a lot of time reviewing the budget. There were some long sessions and plenty of tough conversations about how to balance keeping taxes manageable while still moving projects forward and maintaining services. This was my first time going through the municipal budget process, and it's been a real learning experience. I'm looking forward to growing in this role and helping to make the process clearer and easier to follow for residents in the future.

June 19th – AVRL AGM and Board Meeting

I'm happy to share that I'm now serving as Vice Chair of the Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board. At the AGM, we reviewed the funding agreement with the Province, looked over the library's budget, and discussed the summer programs—including the Summer Reading Challenge. Despite staffing challenges, the library was able to bring in student help this summer thanks to grant funding. I encourage everyone to check out the Summer Reading Program and stop by their local branch!

June 26th – Doug MacInnis Retirement Gathering

I had the chance to stop in and wish Doug well in his retirement. We shared some great laughs and memories from our time working together over the years. Doug's commitment to the Municipality has made a real difference, and he'll be missed.

June 26th – Accessibility & Anti-Racism Community Engagement Session

This session was held to gather public feedback on the draft Equity, Accessibility, and Anti-Racism Plan and to show that the Municipality is committed to meaningful action—not just checking boxes. While the turnout was smaller than we hoped, the conversations were powerful. The folks who attended shared personal stories and real-life experiences of living in West Hants, giving us important insights and things to reflect on.

July 5th – West Hants Pride Parade

I attended the Pride event in Windsor, and it was an incredible day. I heard firsthand from

people who shared how welcoming our communities have been—some even said they moved here because of it. That’s something to be proud of, and I’m already looking forward to next year’s event.

July 9th – Public Meeting – SolarBank Community Solar Project

I attended the public meeting on the proposed SolarBank Community Solar Project. This project is part of the Nova Scotia Community Solar Program and is still awaiting approval. If it moves ahead, residents will be able to sign up for power bill credits—up to 2 cents per kilowatt hour—with priority going to those who live near the project site. The project could create 30 to 40 local jobs and aims to be operational by summer 2027. More consultation is expected as things progress.

July 13th – Meet Your Neighbour Event at Sweets Corner Hall

I attended the Meet Your Neighbour event at Sweets Corner Hall. The turnout was small, but it was great to catch up with those who came out. The hall committee is a hardworking group and they’re always looking for ways to improve the space. Right now, they’re fundraising for a small roof over the ramp and planning more community events—stay tuned.

July 14th – Valley REN Liaison and Oversight Committee

We talked about the Regional Marketing Levy Framework, the shift in the Connector Program to focus more on skilled trades and students, and ongoing collaboration with other RENs on supply chain concerns related to tariffs. We also discussed the PESTLE-R project, which will help guide the REN’s next strategic plan.

Discussions, Calls, and Concerns:

Brooklyn Trail Work – People have been asking when work will begin on the section of trail in front of Chambers Road. It’s something that keeps coming up in conversations.

Waste Collection Issue – I received a call from a resident who wasn’t sure where to place an item for waste pickup. I’ve been in contact with the Waste Coordinator and will continue to follow up.

Streetlight Request – Petro Can Intersection – This is a follow-up from a request that was originally made by former Councillor Mark McLean. I’ve reached out to MLA Melissa Sheehy-Richard to continue the conversation about that.

Parking Safety – New Trail Access – A few people have mentioned concerns about parking safety near the new trail access, especially as more folks start to use it.

Water and Sewer Access – I’ve been hearing from residents about the idea of extending water and sewer services to Brooklyn. Some folks are in favour of it, and others have concerns. It’s an ongoing community conversation that I’m keeping an ear on.

West Hants Regional Municipality District Councillor Activity Report

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

Submitted by: Paul Wheadon

Date: July 16, 2025

The following updates reflects a summary account of highlights since our last Council Meeting.

Meetings/Events:

June 28- Always happy to be part of the team at the Ellershouse Breakfast

July 1- Canada Day Barbecue at the Ellershouse Gazebo! Awesome food, great music, and a fantastic day.

July 7- attended the Solarbank community meeting. Proposal is for a solar farm in the Martock area. Early stages of development.

July 8- Committee of The Whole meeting

July 10- Attended the PAC/HAC meeting as a spectator.

Discussions/Calls/Concerns:

Several calls in regard to Beech Brook Road in Ardoise.

Site of the upcoming Bluegrass festival July 24-26

Residents are frustrated with the state of the road. It is an old sand sealed road that has seen better days. Went to the usual channels of reporting the complaint and the NS dept. Public works was able to do some pothole and gravel work. It is far from perfect, but the effort is appreciated.



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORT

To: Mayor Zebian and Council

Submitted by: Deputy Mayor Francis, Councillor District 5

Date: July 22, 2025

Subject: Councilor Activity Report – July

Meetings and Events

July 7 Attended the Public Engagement session for Solar Bank Community Solar, it was well attended and good conversation

July 8 Community of the Whole

July 16 Cunnibel Creek Storm Water update

Had a few communications with residence regarding the paving on the Old Highway 1, residents had concerns with their driveways and the side roads. Passed on their concerns to Provincial Public Works.

Communications with residents on Stark Road, Ski Martock Road and the Road to the water treatment Plant and all their concerns. Public engagement is how we learn from our residents and able to address their issues.

Thank you to the staff who are able to step in and help with these conversations and remedy situations.

Report Prepared by: Deputy Mayor Francis

West Hants Regional Municipality District Councillor Activity Report

To: Mayor Zebian and members of the West Hants Regional Municipal Council
Submitted by: **Bonnie Smith, Councillor District 10**
Date: **July 22, 2025**

The following updates reflects a summary account of highlights since our last Council Meeting.

Meetings/Events:

Attended the June 28 Community Meeting regarding Uranium – great turnout and very informative.

Watched the Pride Parade in downtown Windsor on July 5

Attended the Planning & Heritage Advisory Committee meeting on July 10th. There was discussion around the Bear Lake Wind Farm application.

Helped out with the fundraising table for the Windsor Day Care Centre at the Avon Community Farmer's Market on Sunday.

Discussions/Calls/Concerns:

Spoke with a resident regarding handicap parking spots on Gerrish St needing paint

Took a few calls/messages from residents regarding missing crosswalk paint, brush/plants near crosswalks hindering line of sight,

Spoke with a constituent about the Avon Community Farmer's Market at Victoria Park

Forwarded a concern about the dead trees at Elmcroft Park area to the appropriate people.

WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information ✓	Recommendation ☐	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ✓
---------------	---	---	-----------------------

To: West Hants Regional Municipality Council Meeting

Submitted by: Councillor Jim Ivey, District 11, Windsor South

Date: July 22, 2025

Subject: Councillor Report, Jim Ivey, District 11 Windsor South

I am pleased to provide the following as updates for the month of July to date, reflecting a brief account of highlights since our last Council meeting as well as other items brought to my attention or addressed

- [June 24, 2025](#) Attended the regular monthly Council meeting of the West Hants Regional Municipality
- **July 1, 2025** Attended the Canada Day Celebration in Hantsport as well as the Ellershouse Canada Day Celebrations.



- **July 5, 2025** Happy to be able to view and capture some of the Annual Pride Parade in Windsor.

It was a fantastic turnout of residents in celebration of Pride along with supporting community members, allies and friends to participate.



- **July 7, 2025** Along without other Councillors, I was fortunate to be able to attend an initial public presentation of the provided by Solarbank for a proposed new solar electric generation program at the end of Benedict Lane in the Martock area of West Hants.
- **July 8, 2025** Attended the regular monthly Committee of the Whole Meeting for West Hants.
- **July 10, 2025**, Attended the monthly Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting. At this meeting considerable discussion occurred around the return of the Bear Lak Wind Farm application. Ultimately the Planning Advisory Committee moved the application forward with several items included for Council to consider as part of the development agreement being brought forward.
- **July 12, 2025** Attended the monthly community breakfast at the South West Hants Fire Hall. As with each of the many community halls in our region, it is a wonderful time to have bite and connect with the residents of West Hants, The volunteers are the engines behind the halls among those who give so much of themselves in being part of our region.
- **July 14, 2025** Attended with interest the regular monthly meeting of the Diverse, Equitable Inclusive Community Committee. Council committee member Councillor Kayla Leary Pinch was able to successfully zoom into the meeting from across the big pond in England. Several topics relating to the focus of the group were discussed, most notably plans for an Emancipation Day film to be hosted at

the Three Mile Plains Hall on Avon river Days weekend on August 3rd, featuring “Spoken from the Heart”, by Sylvia Hamilton.

- **July 16, 2025** Attended an informative stormwater information workshop relating to the work being undertaken to address issues of stormwater flooding in the Windsor area.

Calls and Visits:

Issues previously raised with Council continue to be highlighted including speeding, deer, flooding, windmills, uranium mining, the appearance of the lake (bull rushes), completion of the highway, assistance with the unhoused, affordable housing and more. As the temperatures have risen this summer, so too have some of our sidewalks and the growth of hedges along our walkways. Public Works have been quick to address the and the overgrowth of shrubs from private properties creating safety concerns which has been appreciated.

Discussions and comments in the past month relate to the tax rate difference along the borderlines of the former Town of Windsor and West Hants (specifically The Crossing development). This item was raised previously within the Planning Advisory Committee environment, relating to ‘tax rates along border areas’ in 2022 / 2023.

Concerns have been raised with the amount of time it takes to move development agreements through the process and consideration should be given for a faster-track process for developers constructing volumes of properties.

As noted in correspondence, we continue to have concerns raised by residents with respect to our water supply transmission between the former Windsor water utility and the Three Mile Plains distribution system. Specifically, the concerns raised relate to sourcing the point of loss of the treated water between the former utility areas and the volume of water that is unbilled and unaccounted. This is a significant issue, particularly in light of the cost for the installation of new water infrastructure required to address growing demand. Although this matter is currently be reviewed in what was to be a detailed financial and operational review, the cost of unbilled / unaccounted for water (lost), within the system is significant. As identified by the resident, we are only presently tracking the loss between Windsor and Three Mile Plains, we are not reporting or tracking the water within the host communities of the water utilities, specifically Windsor, Falmouth and Hantsport. I will be bringing a report to our next meeting to have the Windsor, Falmouth and Hantsport water included in our reporting.

As it relates to budget matters, questions have been asked about the increase incurred by the rural area of West Hants, which when discussions began, started out with a proposed \$0.09 cent increase and ultimately reduced through expense reductions to a \$0.04 cent increase. While general questions and discussion are undertaken with relative ease, questions about the use and volume of reserves used to offset a larger tax increase are more challenging.

In discussion it was shared that the prior reserves used to reduce any tax increase in West Hants were:

2020-2021: \$265K	2023-2024: \$0.00 (zero)
2021-2022: \$295K	2024-2025: \$1.180M
2022-2023: \$219K	2025-2026: \$1.125M reduced to \$627K

The significant increase introduced in 2024-2025, and continued in 2025-2026, following zero use of reserves in 2023-2024 is difficult to explain. Any guidance able to be provided on this item would be helpful.