

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Fwd: Letter of support – Annapolis Valley libraries
Date: June 5, 2026 11:05:41 AM
Attachments: [AVRL letter of support June 2026.pdf](#)

From: Stacey Cornelius
Date: June 5, 2026 at 11:01:29 AM ADT
To: mayorboyer@annapolisroyal.com, mayor.corkum@countyofkings.ca, dleblanc@annapoliscounty.ca, Abraham Zebian <Mayor.Zebian@westhants.ca>, commissioner.fowler@kingstonnovascotia.ca, breid@synovacorp.com, gsmith@town.middleton.ns.ca
Subject: Letter of support – Annapolis Valley libraries

Caution [External Email]

This email comes from an outside sender. Verify the sender and use caution with any requests, links or attachments.

Good morning. I've sent the message below to the Premier, Finance Minister, and area MLAs. I'm sending a copy to you, the Mayors, Commissioners, and Wardens in the Annapolis Valley Library region, to clearly state our support for Nova Scotia's public libraries.

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I'm writing to you on behalf of the Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award, a literary program and award for children in grades 4-6 across Atlantic Canada. A vital part of our mission is to instil a love of reading great books – especially Canadian books – in French and English.

Children participate in Hackmatack at a crucial stage in their development. As they move from middle grade reading to young adult and beyond, libraries continue to support both literacy and lifelong learning.

In our 25+ years working with librarians, teachers, and community volunteers, we know libraries are about far more than books. We've witnessed libraries evolve into critical community hubs.

- They provide resources for residents who don't have internet access, or a

- printer, or a computer.
- They help build and sustain communities in a time when people have become increasingly isolated.
 - They are sources of reliable information when deepfakes and disinformation have reached alarming levels.

Many libraries offer children's programming. This is not a luxury or an "extra." It's an opportunity for social contact, support, and sometimes a source of safety.

We know many libraries are struggling as their funding hasn't kept pace with increasing expenses. And we know library use is up.

Providing proper funding to libraries is an investment in Nova Scotia that will have positive ripple effects across the entire province. It's an investment in our future.

We urge you to support our public library system to prevent service cuts and closures. Libraries are a renewable resource we cannot afford to lose.

A PDF of this message is attached.

Yours sincerely,

Stacey Cornelius
Executive Director

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Stacey Cornelius, Executive Director (she/her/elle)
Hackmatack Children's Choice Book Award | Le choix des jeunes
1113 Marginal Road, Kjipuktuk / Halifax, NS B3H 4P7
Phone: 902 418 9859

Visit us: hackmatack.ca | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)

Hackmatack is based in Kjipuktuk, Mi'kma'ki,
which is ancestral and unceded Mi'kmaq territory.



5 June 2026

Premier Tim Houston
MLA David Bowlby
MLA Chris Palmer

Finance Minister John Lohr
MLA Melissa Sheehy-Richard
MLA Jill Balser

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Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stacey Cornelius".

Stacey Cornelius,
Executive Director