WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information☐	Recommendation ☐	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐

To: Mayor Zebian and Members of Council

Submitted by: Deanna Snair, Municipal Clerk

Date: November 10, 2026 Committee of the Whole

Subject: 2026 – 2028 Councillor Appointments to Advisory Committees and Community Boards

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LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Nova Scotia Municipal Government Act – Sections 24-27 (Standing, special and advisory committees; Vacancy on Boards, Commissions and Committees; Citizen Advisory Committees; and Community Committees).

RECOMMENDATION or DECISION REQUEST

To be determined based on Councils discussions

Committee of the Whole recommends…

1. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Accessibility Advisory Committee and_____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

2. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board Committee and _____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

3. ***Council approves _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____ be appointed to the Audit Committee for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

4. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Bear Lake Wind Farm Liaison Committee and _____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

5. ***Council approves _____, _____ and _____ be appointed to the Climate Action Committee for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

6. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Davidson Lake and French Mill Brook Watershed Advisory Committee and_____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

7. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Diverse, Equitable and Inclusive Communities Committee and _____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

8. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Fences Arbitration Committee for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

9. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Highway 101 Liaison Committee (CLC) and _____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

10. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Landfill Liaison Advisory Committee and _____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

11. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Mills Lake Watershed Advisory Committee and _____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

12. ***Council approves _____, _____ and _____ be appointed to the Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

13. ***Council approves _____ and _____ be appointed to the Police Advisory Board for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

14. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Region 6 Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee and _____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

15. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Valley Community Fibre Network (VCFN) Committee and _____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

16. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the Valley Regional Enterprise Network (VREN) Committee and _____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

17. ***Council approves _____ be appointed to the West Hants Housing Coalition Committee and _____ be appointed as Alternate for the term November 1, 2026 to October 31, 2028.***

BACKGROUND

Property ☐	Public Opinion ☐	Environment ☐	Social ☐	Economic ☐	Councillor Activity ☐

Advisory committees play an important role in municipal governance by providing a forum for residents, community stakeholders, Council members, and staff to work together on matters that affect the community. Through research, discussion, consultation, and recommendations, advisory committees help ensure Council's decisions are informed by a broad range of perspectives, expertise, and community experiences.

Ultimately, advisory committees provide a valuable forum for collaboration between residents, Council, and staff. They help strengthen public trust, encourage community engagement, and ensure Council benefits from informed advice that reflects the diverse needs and priorities of West Hants residents. By bringing together experienced members and new voices, advisory committees support innovative thinking, informed decision-making, and meaningful community involvement in local governance.

Council remains the final decision-making authority; however, advisory committees provide valuable advice and recommendations that support informed, transparent, and responsive governance.

DISCUSSION

Councillors appointed to advisory committees play an important role in connecting the work of each committee with Council. As members of the committee, they participate in discussions, share Council perspectives, and help ensure committee recommendations align with the municipality's goals and priorities.

Councillor representatives also help strengthen communication between the committee and Council by bringing forward community concerns, ideas, and recommendations. While they contribute to committee discussions, they do not make decisions on behalf of Council within the committee setting.

Advisory committees are intended to provide advice and recommendations to Council. Councillor appointments help support collaboration between residents, staff, and elected officials, ensuring that a variety of perspectives are considered before recommendations are brought forward.
Final decisions remain the responsibility of Council

WHRM has several Advisory Committees of Council. Councillors are elected to various committees and boards every two (2) years, or as required by other legislation, policies or agreement, at the November Committee of the Whole meeting and ratified at a Special Council meeting immediately following to ensure there are no interruptions in the November committee meeting dates.

Current appointments

Committees of Council	***Existing Appointments***	***New Appointments***
Accessibility Advisory	Councillor Chrystal Remme Councillor Kayla Leary-Pinch (A)	Appointment: Alternate:
Annapolis Valley Regional Library Board	Councillor Chrystal Remme Councillor Kayla Leary-Pinch (A)	Appointment: Alternate:
Audit Committee	**Mayor Zebian** Councillor Rupert Jannasch Councillor Paul Wheadon Councillor Remme Councillor Ivey Councillor McLean	**Chair: Mayor Zebian** Appointment: Appointment: Appointment: Appointment: Appointment:
Bear Lake Wind Farm Liaison	Councillor Kayla Leary-Pinch	Appointment: Alternate:
Climate Action Committee	Deputy Mayor Debbie Francis Councillor Bonnie Smith Councillor Jim Ivey	Appointment: Appointment: Appointment:
Davidson Lake and French Mill Brook Watershed Advisory Committee	Councillor John A. Smith Councillor Paul Morton(A)	Appointment: Alternate:
Diverse, Equitable and Inclusive Communities Committee	Councillor Kayla Leary-Pinch Councillor Jim Ivey (A)	Appointment: Alternate:
Fences Arbitration Committee	Deputy Mayor Debbie Francis	Appointment:
Highway 101 Liaison Committee (CLC)	Councillor Bonnie Smith Councillor Jim Ivey (A)	Appointment: Alternate:
Landfill Liaison Advisory Committee	Councillor Paul Wheadon Councillor John Smith (A)	Appointment: Alternate:
Mills Lake Watershed Advisory Committee	Councillor John Smith Councillor Paul Morton (A)	Appointment: Alternate:
Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee	Mayor Abraham Zebian Councillor Kayla Leary-Pinch Councillor Jim Ivey	Appointment: Appointment: Appointment:
Police Advisory Board	Councillor Paul Morton Councillor Rupert Jannasch	Appointment: Appointment:
Region 6 Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee	Councillor Scott McLean Councillor Paul Wheadon (A)	Appointment: Alternate:
Valley Community Fibre Network (VCFN) Committee	Councillor Chrystal Remme Councillor Jim Ivey (A)	Appointment: Alternate:
Valley Regional Enterprise Network (VREN)	Councillor Chrystal Remme Councillor Bob Morton (A)	Appointment: Alternate:
West Hants Housing Coalition Committee	Councillor Paul Wheadon	Appointment: Alternate:

NEXT STEPS

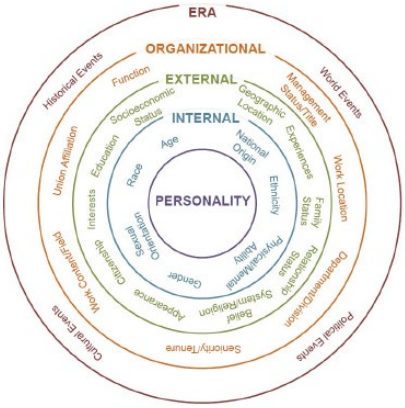
If approved by Council, staff will take the necessary steps to update the Regional Committees Councillor and Resident Member Appointments and advise each committee of the new appointments.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial considerations as committee members appointed to a Committee of Council receive remuneration in accordance with the Council Remuneration Policy, which is identified in the annual Operating Budget.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND ACCESSIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Councillor participation on advisory committees helps promote inclusive and collaborative decision-making by encouraging diverse perspectives, respectful dialogue, and meaningful community engagement. Through their role on committees, Councillors help ensure recommendations reflect a broad range of community needs and experiences while supporting equitable and transparent governance through a regional lens.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no direct environmental impacts associated with these appointments.

ALTERNATIVES

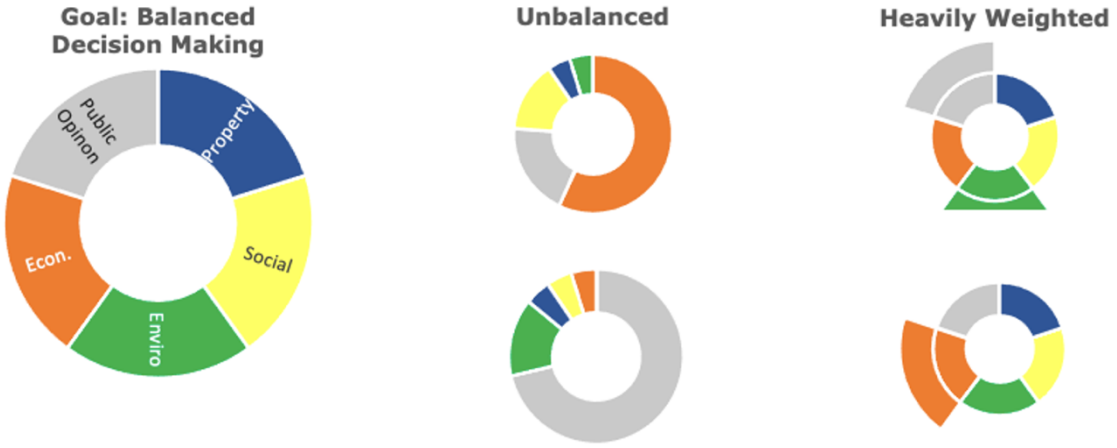
None as delaying the process would negatively impact the Committees of Councils work plans.

ATTACHMENTS

None

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW

Council has been provided with a reference taken from the Meeting and Committee Procedural Policy , Appendix C "Decision Making by Council and Committee of the Whole" as a reminder of the principles highlighted for good decision making.



Report Prepared by: _____
Deanna Snair, Municipal Clerk

Report Reviewed by: _____
Carlee Rochon, Director Financial Services

Report Approved by: _____
Mark Phillips, Chief Administrative Officer