

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: May 20th, 2025

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

Meetings/Events:

April 23rd – Accessibility Advisory Committee

The Committee discussed plans for the 'Day in the Life' video project to raise awareness about accessibility in our region. Progress was also made on the draft work plan, focusing on identifying achievable goals.

April 26th – Bowl for Kids Event

I had the pleasure of participating in the Bowl for Kids event, where our team won the top fundraising award! It was a fantastic event, and I'm already looking forward to next year. I hope we can get more Councillors involved and maybe even challenge municipal staff to join the fun.

April 30th – May 2nd – NSFM Conference (Truro)

I attended the NSFM Spring Conference in Truro, themed The Changing Landscapes of Municipalities. It brought together municipal leaders across Nova Scotia to share ideas, challenges, and successes. Some highlights for me included:

- **Climate Change Adaptation:** Hearing from the Municipality of the District of Digby and the Town of Mahone Bay about their climate change initiatives was incredibly inspiring. Mahone Bay's 80% renewable energy achievement and living shoreline project stood out. I also liked their approach of having committees with similar projects meet regularly to collaborate.
- **NSFM Updates:** The NSFM team provided updates on several important topics, like trade relations with the U.S., critical minerals exploration, and changes to wind turbine setbacks. They also covered progress on things like the Municipal Code of Conduct and extended producer responsibility programs. Learning that funding and resources are available for coastal protection and other initiatives was great.
- **Repurposing Surplus Infrastructure for Housing:** This session was a highlight. The Nova Scotia Co-operative Council has partnered with towns like Westville and Pictou to turn old buildings into housing. For example, the former Highland Consolidated High School is being converted into 64 apartments, a daycare, and spaces for social enterprises.

Pictou's old administration building was transformed into net-zero housing. These projects are a great example of creative problem-solving for housing needs in rural communities.

- **Planning Strategies and Growth:** Chris Markides from zzap Architecture gave a fantastic presentation about making municipal planning strategies "living documents" that are regularly monitored and adapted to reflect growth and community priorities. His ideas for tracking progress and keeping plans relevant were practical and insightful.
- **Stormwater Management:** Jillanna Brown from the Department of Environment and Climate Change discussed creating effective stormwater management plans. It's reassuring to know there's support and guidance available for municipalities on this important issue.
- **Inclusivity:** Tracy Jones-Grant (HRM) and Brittany Traynor (Kings County) shared inspiring examples of the work they're doing to create more inclusive communities. Their ideas showed how small steps can lead to big changes in making everyone feel welcome.

This conference was a great mix of learning and inspiration. Alongside the sessions, the networking opportunities were invaluable. It was wonderful to connect with fellow councillors and municipal leaders, hear about the exciting projects happening in communities across the province, and share ideas on tackling challenges we all face. I've come away with many ideas that could benefit our community, and I'm looking forward to exploring some of them further.

May 5th – Protective Services Discussion/Workshop

I attended the Council discussion/workshop on various topics related to protective services. It was great to hear from those in the field from other municipalities to see how they are doing things to help council consider the municipality's current needs and future directions for our community.

Discussions, Calls, and Concerns:

Water Concerns in Brooklyn

Several residents have voiced concerns about water availability, particularly the challenges businesses face due to insufficient supply.

Speeding and Dangerous Driving

Calls about speeding and unsafe driving practices continue to be a pressing issue.

Road Conditions on Wentworth Road

Residents remain concerned about potholes and road maintenance on Wentworth Road.

Cemetery Grant Inquiry

I received a call from a community member seeking information about potential grants to support the maintenance of a local cemetery.



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

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

Submitted by: Paul Wheadon, Councillor District 4

Date: May 21, 2025

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

Meetings/Events

May has been a busy month regarding council meetings on Budget deliberations.

May 6 was first meeting. Very informative evening.

May 12 was session 2.

May 14 was most in-depth deliberation

May 22 will be next scheduled budget meeting

Council Strategy Session Monday May 5th was very productive.

Committee of the whole Tuesday May 13.

Successfully completed the new code of conduct training April 23.

As always, happy to be part of the volunteer team serving up breakfast at Ellershouse community Hall, Saturday April 26. A very sweet and successful Mother's Day tea and dessert party on May 4th was held at Ellershouse Hall. Special thanks to all the volunteers.

Next delicious feast is Saturday May 31.

Attended the Public Information Meeting for the Everwind Bear Lake wind farm on May 21.

Lots of citizens expressing their concerns at this meeting.

Discussions/Calls/Concerns:

A few discussions regarding roads and repairs. Lots of good work happening along highway #1. Ditching and culverts. Many areas shoulders have been repaired and widened.

Anything else pertinent to Council:

West Hants Regional Municipality District 9 Councillor Activity Report

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

Submitted by: John Smith

Date: May 22, 2025

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

Meetings/Events:

April 24, Chaired French Mill Brook and Davidson Lake Watershed Committee meeting; Chaired Mills Lake Watershed Committee meeting.

<https://www.westhants.ca/mill-lakes-watershed-advisory-committee/6718-2025-04-24-mills-lake-watershead-minutes-incl-report-pdf/file.html>

<https://www.westhants.ca/french-mill-brook-and-davidson-lake-watershed-committee.html>

April 30, Completed Code of Conduct training.

May 5, Attended Fire Service/Protective Service Model discussion in council chambers.

May 6, Attended WHRM Budget Deliberations Meeting in council chambers

May 12, Attended WHRM Budget Deliberations Meeting in council chambers

May 13, Attended Committee of the Whole meeting

May 14, Attended WHRM Budget Deliberations Meeting in council chambers

May 22, Attended WHRM Budget Deliberations Meeting in council chambers

Discussions/Calls/Concerns:

Received one phone call regarding speeding



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: **May 23, 2025**

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

Meetings/Events: May has been a busy month of meetings:

May 5 – attended the Protective Services Discussion in council chambers. It was very informative to hear other perspectives as we consider our protective services moving forward in West Hants

May 6, 12, 14 & 22 – attended several budget deliberation meetings this month with more to come

May 8 – attended the Planning & Heritage Advisory Committee meeting

Discussions/Calls/Concerns:

Message from constituent regarding Green Bin placement on the road on Gerrish St blocking parking spaces. I addressed this issue with our Waste Coordinator for further investigation.

Message from constituent regarding parking on Gerrish St over the 2 hour limit. Addressed this issue with our by-law enforcement who were going to investigate.

Anything else pertinent to Council:

Successfully completed the **Code of Conduct** Training module



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

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|---------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Information ✓ | Recommendation <input type="checkbox"/> | Decision Request <input type="checkbox"/> | Councillor Activity ✓ |
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To: West Hants Regional Municipality Council Meeting

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

Date: May 27, 2025

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

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

Along with Council and Committee of the Whole, I was able to attend Committee's of Council meetings & events which included:

- **May 5, 2025** – Attended the **WHRM Strategy Workshop session** with Council and staff, reviewing the items and initiatives identified and considered as part of the feedback received from residents during the election campaign and received on a regular basis by Councillors. Data gathered was structured in an initial draft format by staff for review and consideration by Council for feedback on core strategic priorities.
- **May 6, 2025** – Attended the [Special Committee of the Whole Budget Session](#) (agendas), with Council and staff, with the presentation of information lead by the Director of Finance. The initial session involved presentation of the agenda information followed by questions, answers and as applicable direction from Council for more information or adjustments.
- **May 8, 2025** – Attended the monthly **Planning Advisory Committee / Heritage Advisory Committee (PAC/HAC)**, with Mayor Zebian, and Councillor Leary-Pinch and me as well as Councillor Bonnie Smith joining us in the gallery. This committee is always active with new and ongoing files of applications. This session involved the presentation and approval of a development agreements for 60 Old Walton Rd, Upper Burlington and (2) an amendment to a pre-existing development agreement in Windsor for Upper Water Street PID 45056363.

The [April Building and Development Activity Report](#) was presented and is available for review at the link. The online directory of previous reports can be found here ([Directory of Building and Development Activity Reports - Annual by Month](#)), for the most recent month as well as prior years data.

Draft minutes with greater detail from the last session are as well as approved minutes from previous meetings in 2025 can be found [here](#).

The next meeting for the Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee is scheduled for June 12, 2025 (second Thursday of the month) at 76 Morrison Drive. The meetings are open to the public, Dates and times should be confirmed closer to the actual meeting date as these could change.

- **May 12, 2025:** Attended the **Special Committee of the Whole Budget Session** with Council and staff, with presentation of information lead by the Director of Finance. The session involved follow up from the prior session as well as presentation of new information followed by questions, answers and as applicable direction from Council for more information or adjustments at its next scheduled budget meeting. The agendas for the individual budget meetings can be found by date at the initial link above for May 6th.
- **May 13, 2025:** Attended the regular **Committee of the Whole** session with Council (second Tuesday of the month).
- **May 14, 2025:** Attended the **Special Committee of the Whole Budget Session** with Council and staff, with presentation of information lead by the Director of Finance. This meeting involved follow up from the prior session as well as presentation of new information followed by questions, answers and as applicable direction from Council for more information or adjustments at its next scheduled budget meeting. The agendas for the individual budget meetings can be found by date at the initial link above for May 6th.
- **May 22, 2025:** Attended the **Special Committee of the Whole Budget Session** with Council and staff, with presentation of information lead by the Director of Finance. This meeting involved follow up from the prior session as well as presentation of new information followed by questions, answers and as applicable direction from Council for more information or adjustments at its next scheduled budget meeting. The agendas for the individual budget meetings can be found by date at the initial link above for May 6th. At this session Council determined that it needed more time to consider the information in front of it with a future date to be determined for the next session.

- **Calls and Visits:**

The same issues within the area continue to revolve around taxes (tax rates), the volume of the deer population within Windsor, speeding, flooding and stormwater management and conclusion / resolution of the report, sidewalks in need of repair and new sidewalks needed where none have previously been installed (Clifton Avenue, King Street, Tremain and many others needing new or repaired sidewalks).

As previously reported by many of us, strategic Priorities, taxation, and budget discussions are all impacted by the items we identify. Must do items are distinct from would be nice to do items. As identified in our budget discussions to date, the demand for the services we provide and the funding within our available resources need to be aligned for the long-term and the short-term, without sacrificing one for the other.