

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: Zoe Brewster
Cc: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Re: Urgent Concern Regarding the Proposed Closure of the Isabel & Roy Jodrey Memorial Library - Hantsport
Date: June 3, 2026 3:49:30 PM

On Jun 3, 2026, at 3:29 PM, Zoe Brewster

Caution [External Email]

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

Dear Councillors,

We, the undersigned residents and regular patrons of the Isabel & Roy Jodrey Memorial Library in Hantsport, Nova Scotia, write to you today with deep concern and urgency regarding the proposed closure of our community's beloved library — and the very real threat facing library services across the West Hants region, including the Windsor Public Library. As a member of the West Hants Regional Municipality Council, you have both the authority and the obligation to act. We are calling on you, and on Council as a whole, to commit to full municipal funding for both the Hantsport and Windsor libraries, and to ensure that these essential public institutions remain open and accessible to all residents of this municipality.

What Is at Stake for Our Communities

The Isabel & Roy Jodrey Memorial Library and the Windsor Public Library are not amenities — they are essential public services. Together, they serve thousands of residents across the West Hants region, providing free and equitable access to knowledge, technology, programming, and community connection. Their potential closure represents a failure of public service that would be felt most

acutely by those who can least afford it, including:

- Children and youth who rely on the library for literacy programs, after-school support, and access to educational resources unavailable in their homes.
- Seniors and elderly residents who depend on the library for social engagement, access to information, and programming that supports lifelong learning and combats isolation.
- Low-income families and individuals who rely on free computer access, internet, printing services, and employment resources that they simply cannot afford elsewhere.
- Residents without personal transportation, for whom the loss of a local library branch is not an inconvenience but a complete loss of access to vital services.

The Municipality Must Step Up: The Case for Full Municipal Funding

We understand that library funding in Nova Scotia is shared between the provincial government and municipal governments, and that changes in provincial funding contributions may be placing pressure on local library operations. However, we wish to be unequivocal: the responsibility for ensuring that residents of West Hants have access to library services does not end at the provincial level. It rests squarely with this Council.

If provincial funding has been reduced, withheld, or made insufficient to sustain library operations, then the West Hants Regional Municipality must be prepared to bridge that gap through full municipal funding. Libraries are a core municipal service. The cost of fully funding both the Isabel & Roy Jodrey Memorial Library in Hantsport and the Windsor Public Library is a modest investment when weighed against the profound social, educational, and economic value these institutions provide to this community every single day. The municipality spends public funds on roads, recreational facilities, and administrative infrastructure — and yet libraries, which serve some of the most vulnerable members of our population, are being left to face closure. This is unacceptable.

We further note that the closure of these libraries would not eliminate costs — it would simply transfer them. The social consequences of closure, including increased isolation, reduced literacy outcomes, loss of employment support

services, and the erosion of community cohesion, carry real long-term costs that will ultimately fall on the municipality and the province alike. Investing in libraries now is the fiscally responsible choice, not merely the compassionate one.

Our Demands of Council

We respectfully but firmly call upon you, as a member of West Hants Regional Municipality Council, to take the following actions without delay:

1. Vote in favour of full municipal funding for both the Isabel & Roy Jodrey Memorial Library in Hantsport and the Windsor Public Library, sufficient to guarantee their continued operation regardless of any changes to provincial funding.
2. Publicly commit to opposing the closure of either library and make clear to your constituents that you stand behind library services as a non-negotiable municipal priority.
3. Advocate within Council for an emergency budget review or supplemental funding allocation specifically designated to sustain library operations in Windsor and Hantsport for the immediate and foreseeable future.
4. Support the convening of a public community meeting at the earliest opportunity, so that residents may be fully informed of the current funding situation and may participate meaningfully in decisions affecting these institutions.
5. Engage with the Nova Scotia Provincial Library Service, the provincial government, and any available grant programs to pursue every possible avenue of additional funding support, in parallel with the municipality's own commitment.
6. Provide a formal, written response to this letter within fifteen (15) business days, clearly stating your position on municipal library funding and the specific steps you intend to take on behalf of your constituents.

A library is not a luxury — it is a right. The Isabel & Roy Jodrey Memorial Library stands as a tribute to the legacy of a family whose generosity helped shape this region. The Windsor Public Library serves as a vital hub for the heart of our municipality. Both deserve the full and unwavering financial support of this

Council. To allow either to close due to a funding shortfall that this municipality has the capacity to address would be an abdication of your duty to the people who elected you.

You were elected to serve the residents of West Hants. Every resident of this municipality — in Hantsport, in Windsor, and in every community in between — deserves access to library services. We are asking you to fund them. The community is watching, and history will remember which members of this Council chose to stand with their residents when it mattered most.

Should you wish to meet with a delegation of community members, we are prepared to make ourselves available at your earliest convenience. We thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Respectfully and urgently submitted,

**Zoe Brewster & The Concerned Residents and Patrons of the Isabel & Roy
Jodrey Memorial Library**

On behalf of the community of West Hants