

LIBRARIES!?

What do libraries mean to me, to us, to our communities?

- to one searching for a safe space to learn, to socialize**
- to a student researching to gain knowledge,**
- to a new parent sharing story times with their toddler,**
- to a senior who meets with old and new friends over a cup of coffee,**
- to one who needs tech support,**
- to one who doesn't have a computer at home,**
- to have a space for a meeting about welcoming refugees into our community,**
- to a volunteer who mentors refugees and gives them hope**
- to a volunteer who facilitates French conversation classes,**
- to a volunteer who shares their love of writing by encouraging new writers**
- to a teacher who brings her/his students to the library, sharing a love of reading**
- to launch a new author with their first published book**
- the list goes on and on and on!!**

I am the young girl who found not only knowledge on the shelves but also a quiet and safe space to read kids' books for hours on a Sunday afternoon.

I am the teacher who shared her love of reading, bringing elementary grade students to the library to meet an author and listen to their stories.

I am the teacher who attended 'Reading for the Love of It' conferences so that her fellow colleagues could learn, as she did, from professional educators about the critical importance of literacy to our world and the role that libraries play in this quest.

I am the external consultant, hired by the AVRCE, to study the importance of school libraries to our students.

I am the professor who taught children's literature and the value of every written story in a book in a library.

I am a founding member of the 'Friends of the Hantsport Public Library', a group of dedicated volunteers who have supported our Hantsport-Isabel and Roy Jodrey Memorial Library in so many ways.

I am Susan Oickle-Shano, a passionate advocate of public libraries for as long as I can remember. I am a passionate lover of libraries because they are the 'hub of our community'!

THE LIBRARY IN HANTSPORT SHOULD NOT BE CLOSED; WE LOVE OUR LIBRARY AND THE SERVICES IT OFFERS TO ALL.

From: Brady Code
To: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Clarity regarding Hantsport Library Closure
Date: June 25, 2026 9:00:53 PM

Caution [External Email]

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

Hello,

I am angry with Council for not communicating to residents about the closure of the Isabel and Roy Jodrey Public Library.

Closing the Library can't be the only option.

I believe that Windsor West Hants stepped up funding as requested by the AVRL and yet the action to close the Library has been announced.

Why?

Trust me when I say that I am not alone in being angry with the lack of information being shared regarding this matter.

Regards,

Brady Code

From: Juanita Wilcox
To: [Abraham Zebian](#)
Cc: counciller.pmorton@wesdthants.ca; [Chrystal Remme](#)
Subject: Our Library
Date: July 2, 2026 11:06:33 AM

Good Morning ,Abe:

It was quite the pleasure to receive your warm welcome yesterday at the Parade.It was quite a day.

Seeing you reminded me that there has been very little support re the closing of our Hantsport library from yourself, council and our Library representative. Losing our library is going to have a sad effect on our Community. I know we are advised to go to the nearby library in either Windsor or Wolfville. As you are well aware Hantsport does not have Public Transportation. That leaves those of us who have not vehicles in a bad situation- in other words - we are not able to access a library and that is such a sad situation !

Neither you, Paul Morton or Library Representative Christine Remmi have given very little support to this situation. I am in hopes that as of now it is not to late to take action and support your citizens of Hantsport..

We need our library !

Sincerely

Juanita J.Wilcox

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: Lorraine McQueen
Cc: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Re: remove Councillor Remme as AVRL Board member
Date: July 2, 2026 11:29:06 AM

Good morning Lorraine. Thank you for the email.
I confirm all members of council are copied on it for their information.

Kindest regards.

Mayor Abraham Zebian
West Hants Regional Municipality
76 Morrison Drive, Windsor, NS B0N 2T0
902-790-1566

On Jul 2, 2026, at 10:22 AM, Lorraine McQueen wrote:

Caution [External Email]

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Dear Mayor Zebian and members of the West Hants Regional
Municipal Council

Re: Annapolis Valley Regional Library (AVRL) Board Membership

I am requesting that Councillor Chrystal Remme be immediately
removed as the West Hants representative on the Annapolis Valley
Regional Library Board.

Councillor Remme has supported the unnecessary and disastrous
decision by the AVRL Board to close local libraries. Please note, no
other regional library system in Nova Scotia has closed one-half of
its branches. I feel strongly that the entire AVRL Board must be
dismissed.

In May 2025, I and others met with the AVRL management and
Board Chair to express our dismay at their destructive policies of

central control and denial of local input. Our opinions were rejected and we were told our involvement was a concern for AVRL management. Seriously alarmed, I then met with Councillor Remme. She assured me that she fully supported community involvement in our local libraries. I fully expected her to work to that end. In fact, she has not.

Councillor Remme states in her June 2026 District Councillor Activity Report, *"The months leading up to this decision involved significant work by Board members and staff."* In my opinion, during these months Councillor Remme failed in her duty to keep the Council and our West Hants community informed and to insist on better management of our library system.

It is true that the AVRL Board's announced closure of the Hantsport library and others makes me furious, but I am even more angry that those in positions of power and responsibility do not adhere to the democratic standards of consultation, transparency and accountability.

I would like to express my gratitude to West Hants Council, which has consistently supported our local libraries. I look forward to your continued support and action on this request.

Yours sincerely.

Lorraine McQueen

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Hantsport

From: Miriam Code
To: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Chrystal Remme Councillor, West Hants Rep on AVRL Board
Date: July 2, 2026 9:19:05 AM

Caution [External Email]

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Hello,

I am writing to request the removal of Chrystal Remme as West Hants Rep on the AVRL board. Her job is to represent her community and communicate what is going on. She has failed in her duties and must be removed. Chrystal appears to be unwilling to explain herself which is another clear indication she is the wrong person for the job.

The upcoming closure of our public library in Hantsport has our community very upset and angry. There has not been any consultation(threats of cuts to services and hours) or solutions other than requests for the funding formula to increase. This has not been a democratic process but rather bully tactics by Julia Merritt CEO and Janet Ness Chair of AVRL.

Please give this your attention as soon as possible.

Respectfully,
Miriam Code
Former Chair of the Friends of the Hantsport Public Library

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: Ann Fearon
Cc: [PublicOnlyCouncilEmail](#)
Subject: Re: Hantsport library closure is unjust
Date: July 2, 2026 12:45:38 PM

Thank you for the email Ann. I confirm all councillors are copied on it for their information.

Kindest regards.

Mayor Abraham Zebian
West Hants Regional Municipality
76 Morrison Drive, Windsor, NS B0N 2T0
902-790-1566

> On Jul 2, 2026, at 12:08 PM, Ann Fearon wrote: >

> Caution [External Email]

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> As a citizen of Hantsport, I want to register my anger over the decision to close our local library. What a devastating loss for our community! This measure has been taken without sufficient consideration of the essential role libraries play in the education, culture and community building of small communities. It has been done without exploring creative solutions, or community consultation.

> As government services increasingly move online, our most vulnerable will become even more marginalized without internet access.

> This heavy-handed and ill-considered decision must be reversed and proper exploration of alternatives be undertaken.

> Ann Fearon

> Sent from my iPad