

# GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR COUNCIL



**ABRAHAM ZEBIAN,**  
MAYOR  
azebian@westhants.ca  
902-790-1566



**JEFF HARTT**  
Councillor, District 4  
jhartt@westhants.ca  
902-798-7743



**PAUL MORTON**  
Deputy Mayor, District 8  
pmorton@westhants.ca  
902-684-9415



**RUPERT JANNASCH**  
Councillor, District 1  
rjannasch@westhants.ca  
902-633-2358



**DEBBIE FRANCIS**  
Councillor, District 5  
dfrancis@westhants.ca  
902-798-2710



**JOHN A. SMITH**  
Councillor, District 9  
jsmith@westhants.ca  
902-790-4790



**SCOTT MCLEAN**  
Councillor, District 2  
smclean@westhants.ca  
902-790-3100



**BOB MORTON**  
Councillor, District 6  
bmorton@westhants.ca  
902-790-6490



**LAURIE MURLEY**  
Councillor, District 10  
lmurley@westhants.ca  
902-790-3121



**MARK MCLEAN**  
Councillor, District 3  
mmclean@westhants.ca  
902-757-3559



**ED SHERMAN**  
Councillor, District 7  
esherman@westhants.ca  
902-792-0690



**JIM IVEY**  
Councillor, District 11  
jivey@westhants.ca  
902-791-0371



**West Hants**  
something inspiring awaits

**INSPIRED**  
April 2022

## Message from the Mayor

As we move into spring and begin our budget deliberations, I can't help but feel both celebratory and reflective. It is hard to trust that normal life lies ahead but it does feel like we have turned a corner. As vaccinations become more widespread, our confidence and joy in interacting with family and friends increases. Our children are getting back to a more normal school experience and once again we can gather at our favourite local venues to socialize, eat a meal, and attend events.

Council and staff of the West Hants Regional Municipality will be hard at work setting a strong, community-minded budget, concentrating on fiscal sustainability and investing in major capital projects, community development, and local organizations. These areas of focus will foster growth and more importantly, allow our region to thrive into the future.

Recently, Council gave the "green" light to begin the process of investing in EV charging stations in the municipality. This is an important first step to help us become an eco-friendly community and do our part to fight climate change. Council is also exploring a partnership with neighbouring municipalities involving the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program. This initiative will help residents fund energy efficiency projects in their homes. More information on this program will come as council works to secure approved Federal funding.

This spring, I encourage everyone to get out and explore our trails, parks, shops, and restaurants. We are very fortunate to live in a great region where SOMETHING INSPIRING AWAITS wherever you go.

~ Mayor Abraham Zebian

## Council's Strategic Priorities

One of Council's strategic priorities includes expanding ways we communicate with you. These include:

- newsletters • radio • mail inserts • public meetings • animated videos • e-mail
- telephone • in-person

- Website - [www.westhants.ca](http://www.westhants.ca)
- Twitter @RegMunWWH
- Instagram @whrm\_ns
- YouTube - West Hants Regional Municipality



- Facebook
- West Hants Regional Municipality
- West Hants Parks and Rec
- West Hants EMO

Did you know that we also communicate in **Living Local**? This is a monthly publication focusing on Hants County and goes to 11,000 households from Avonport to Mt. Uniacke. You can find it once a month among your flyers.

Our quarterly newsletters (January, April, July, and October) aim to include information that is relevant to all communities in our region rather than a select few. We hope you find the information valuable.

**BUDGET 2022/23**

Budget discussions start April 13th and continue as needed. All meetings will be advertised on our Municipal Facebook page and website, as well as Facebook livestreamed.

**West Hants Phone Tree**

Who doesn't love a shortcut?  
Here is a quick reference if you need to call us!

**West Hants Municipal Offices 902-798-8391**

General Inquiries	Ext. 201	Public Works inquiries	Ext. 125
Water Inquiries	Ext. 107	Waste Services Specialist	Ext. 128
Property Tax Inquiries	Ext. 106	Community Development	Ext. 124
Administration Inquiries	Ext. 134	Economic Development	Ext. 213
Planning Inquiries	Ext. 115	Community Centre	Ext. 215
By-law Enforcement	Ext. 112	West Hants Sports Complex	Ext. 217

## New Draft Dog By-law

A proposed by-law is scheduled to come to Committee of the Whole and Council meetings over the next couple of months. Visit [www.westhants.ca/government/council-documents.html](http://www.westhants.ca/government/council-documents.html) for info.

## Your West Hants Regional Municipality is Two Years Old!

On April 1, 2020, the former Town of Windsor and the Municipality of the District of West Hants consolidated to form Nova Scotia's newest regional municipality, West Hants.

Leading up to consolidation, much work was done for a seamless transition. We know that there is still lots to do, but Council and staff have embraced our new region and are working diligently to ensure that residents and visitors are truly inspired by all that West Hants Regional Municipality has to offer.

**Our future is bright!**

## Canada Community Revitalization announcement for West Hants



On March 8, Kody Blois, M.P. for Kings-Hants, announced funding of \$458,292, in total, for seven projects in WHRM through the Canada Community Revitalization Fund.

- ✓ \$145,536 to add cushioning to the walking track at the West Hants Sports Complex
- ✓ \$130,000 to renovate the pool at the Hants Aquatic Centre
- ✓ \$102,221 for the Falmouth Community Hall to establish a Falmouth Family Park
- ✓ \$34,500 for the Windsor Agricultural Society to revitalize the main Windsor Exhibition Hall
- ✓ \$18,000 for the Ardoise Community Hall to install an electronic sign
- ✓ \$14,490 to install solar roof panels for improved energy efficiency at the Centre Burlington Hall
- ✓ \$13,545 for the Ellershouse Community Hall to construct a gazebo in the community park

**WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY**  
76 Morison Drive, PO Box 3000, Windsor NS B0N 2T0  
Phone: 902-798-8391 Fax: 902-798-8553  
[www.westhants.ca](http://www.westhants.ca)

## Seniors Care Grant

This Provincial grant helps low-income seniors with the cost of household services such as snow removal, grocery delivery, lawn care, and small home repairs valued up to \$500 for each household.

Application deadline is May 31, 2022.

For more information, including eligibility requirements call 1-800-670-4357 or visit [www.novascotia.ca/seniorscaregrant](http://www.novascotia.ca/seniorscaregrant).



## Residential Property Tax Assistance Program 2022-23

Forms will be available beginning April 11, 2022 for Residential Property Tax Assistance.

Application deadline is June 30, 2022.

More information can be found at [westhants.ca](http://westhants.ca) or give us a call at 902-798-8391, Ext. 306.

## Planning & Development Appointments



Pre-booked appointments provide focused, individualized attention to respond to your needs, privacy for discussions, an opportunity to compile required documentation. An appointment ensures the staff member is on-site and available to meet with you when you arrive at the office.

To book your appointment, please call at least one day in advance of your preferred meeting date, although more time is ideal.

Don't hesitate to reach out to us by phone or email to discuss projects and to provide application documents: 902-798-8391 Ext. 115 or email: [cmerry@westhants.ca](mailto:cmerry@westhants.ca).

## Municipal Climate Change Action Plan (MCCAP) Committee Update



- In February the MCCAP Committee was given the opportunity to test drive electric vehicles. Staff are applying for funding through the Clean Foundations EV Boost Program for electric vehicle chargers.
- A presentation was given on solar projects and information provided on the upcoming opportunity through the Provincial Shared Solar program; and
- Council allocated \$10,000 in the 2022/23 operating budget to support a joint application to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to develop a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program in our Region.

MCCAP meetings are streamed live on our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/RMWindsorWestHants/](http://www.facebook.com/RMWindsorWestHants/)

Agendas/Minutes: [www.westhants.ca/municipal-climate-change-action-plan-committee](http://www.westhants.ca/municipal-climate-change-action-plan-committee)



## Keeping Bears Away from your home and property

- freeze smelly food waste (e.g fish and meat) until collection day
- wrap/layer food waste in your green bin with paper or other dry, compostable material
- turn garden/backyard compost piles often and add lime
- store green bins and garbage containers in a shed until morning of pick-up
- keep pet food bowls indoors
- burn off BBQ grills at high temps after every use
- pick fruit from trees once ripe
- keep windows closed to prevent cooking smells from wafting outside
- avoid using bird feeders in bear season (Apr-Oct)

More info- [www.novascotia.ca/natr/wildlife/living-with-wildlife/bear/spotted-a-bear.asp](http://www.novascotia.ca/natr/wildlife/living-with-wildlife/bear/spotted-a-bear.asp)

## Sewage Backups ... Are You Prepared?

Public Sewer systems are typically gravity based and flow through to the wastewater treatment plant. A sudden, heavy rainstorm can flush debris into mainline storm sewers causing sanitary sewers to back up into homes and businesses.

A **service line backwater valve** can help prevent an overloaded main sewer line from backing up. Placed directly into the sewer lateral in your basement, the valve automatically closes to prevent backup.

A backwater sanitary valve is a check valve designed to only allow flow in one direction. The type of device that is used in sanitary sewer scenarios works like this:

- The valve is normally in an open position with the gate (or flap) open. When a backflow condition occurs, floats under the gate lift it up to block the backflow.
- If the backflow volume increases, the gate closes against a gasket and creates a seal which does not allow water to pass in the backwards direction.
- When the backflow condition ends, gravity causes the gate to fall open, allowing for the resumption of normal sewage outflow.

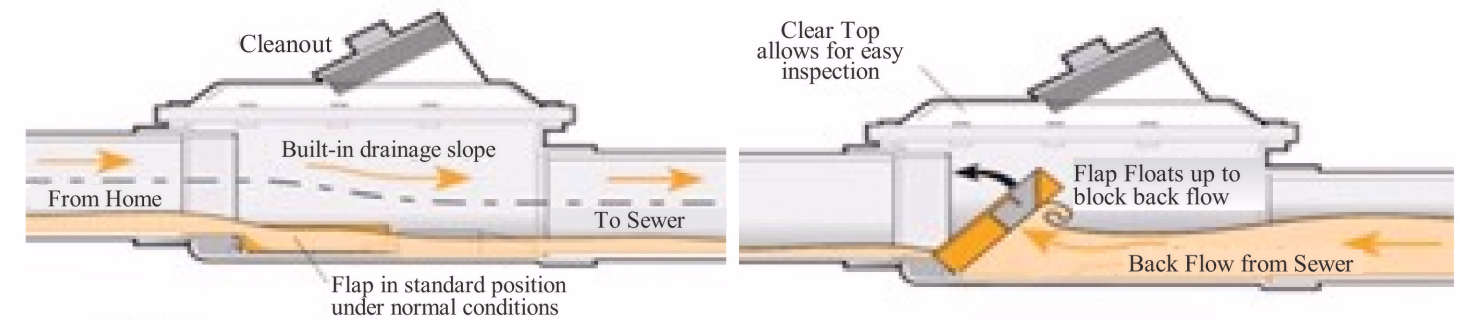
While a backwater valve can offer greater protection, there is no guarantee that a sewage backup will not occur. The device must be properly installed. If the plumber is not diligent in ensuring the manufacturer's specifications are followed, the device may not operate correctly.

The device must be located downstream of all sanitary fixtures yet upstream of any connection from the foundation drain. Each device has directionality to it. It will only work if oriented correctly (look for the arrows), with a required minimum slope to it that must be ensured for proper function.

You are not permitted to have your foundation drain connected to the sanitary or combined sewer. Drainage ditches and storm sewer mains are for collecting storm water from the street, not from private perimeter drains.

Heavy rain or an intense snowmelt is not a good time to use excessive amounts of water. The closed valve gate will keep backwater out, but it will also prevent the normal discharge of household sewage. If the gate is closed, wastewater can fill up limited plumbing space and start coming out through the lowest available fixture (floor drains or basement shower/toilet).

Visit: [www.westhants.ca/government/by-laws-and-policies.html](http://www.westhants.ca/government/by-laws-and-policies.html) associated to sewers and discharge.



## Waste Collection Schedules

Issues receiving the correct waste schedule for your area? Did not receive a schedule at all? Check out [www.westhants.ca/collection-calendars.html](http://www.westhants.ca/collection-calendars.html) for the most up-to-date collection information.

Visit or call our office at 902-798-8391 to request a paper copy.



## West Hants Rec in Full Spring!

In West Hants we salute the power of our volunteers and their ability to transform our communities and inspire us to make a difference. In Nova Scotia, we are recognizing our volunteers this September.

### Programming News

The Spring Program Brochure is out: [www.westhants.ca/rec](http://www.westhants.ca/rec)

**Coming June 1**  
**SUMMER OF FUN CALENDAR**  
including Hants Aquatic Centre pool and Summer Camp information

### Free Loan Program

Email: [programs@westhants.ca](mailto:programs@westhants.ca)  
or call Sara: 902-790-0501

### WH Sports Complex News

The ice is coming out at the end of April and the rubber will be hitting the track mid May. We expect it to take 4-5 weeks for installation.

Floor and Turf rentals available.

### Stay Up-To-Date

West Hants Sports Complex  
[www.westhants.ca/rec](http://www.westhants.ca/rec)  
902-798-8391 ext 217