

Schedule "B" to the June 23, 2025 Council Minutes

Regional Councillors Report: June 23, 2025

Good evening Mayor, Councillors, staff and members of the public.

I would like to start by letting you the Niagara Region has started its budget process for 2026 year. Council has brought forward a motion to give staff guidance for a 3.5% increase. We understand the pressures to our residences in this time of economic uncertainty. Over the coming months and into the fall time we will work through departments requirements to achieve our strategic objectives in providing services that our residences are accustomed to.

In the Public Works committee the concerns of the re-cycling collection to non-eligible sources strategy continues with the Province. The producer group wants to provide less services than what our municipalities were receiving from the Niagara Regions program. We have been working with the BIA's and Chambers of Commerce in lobbying the Provincial government to continue this level of service. The extra cost to the taxpayers for this service would equate to 2.9-3.5 million on the Waste management budget. We are not willing to take on this extra cost for our residences. As a reminder we still have to the end of this year to find resolution to this. I will keep council informed as we get closer to the deadline and the possible outcomes.

I have been working with Regional staff on some residences concerns on traffic safety in our municipality. A couple of concerns were for a better line of site at the intersection of Mill st and Canborough st. Vegetation was trimmed back and stop markers were repainted. This should make this intersection safer for the residences of Legion Villa. I have been working with staff on the railway crossing on Twenty mile road. The challenge is working with the Railway Company and just trying to get a response on the possible time the improvement can be made. Staff have signed this crossing to let everyone know that there is a bump or unevenness in the crossing to slow down.

We were updated at the Public Health meeting that student immunization records for 2024-2025 of 71,343 students age 4-17 years of age were at 93.2% compliance. Public Health were playing catchup after COID to bring students back upto date in there records,

On the local community events, I had attended the Touch a Truck event at the community centre and thank the participants for taking the time to come out and support our community. Participants were pleased with the turn out for the day.

I also attended the Strawberry Social at the Niagara Christian Gleaners this past saturday for some fresh strawberries and ice cream. It was a great

day for the organizers which are always happy to give tours of this facility.

This is my report for this month if any councillors have any questions

I will gladly answer them for you.

Albert Witteveen