

HALIFAX

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Item No.
Grants Committee
September 8, 2014

TO: Chair and Members of the HRM Grants Committee

Original signed

SUBMITTED BY:

Greg Keefe, Director of Finance & ICT/CFO

DATE: July 28, 2014

SUBJECT: Halifax Explosion 100th Anniversary: Advisory Committee

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

June 9, 2014 – Inquiry as to the possible participation of the Halifax Foundation as either a member of the proposed ad hoc advisory committee or to champion part of the process.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

HRM Charter (2008) s.79 (1) grants and contributions.

BACKGROUND

At their meeting of June 9, 2014, the Grants Committee was provided with an orientation to the approach proposed to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion. Namely, an ad hoc advisory committee to provide input into (a) the Needham Bells capital project, (b) the civic commemorative ceremony, and (c) grants to non-profit organizations. During the discussion, Councillor Hendsbee expressed interest in engaging the Halifax Foundation in the process, either as a member of the advisory committee or to champion some portion of the process. Staff suggested that the Foundation's mandate be reviewed and further information be provided to the Grants Committee in an information report.

DISCUSSION

The Halifax Foundation is a registered charity that initiates public projects itself and, to the extent that funds from earnings on invested contributions permits, to other registered charities within HRM. The scope of funding is broad and includes arts and culture, education, environment, health, heritage, recreation and social services.¹ Funding is also available to the Municipality or its agencies. Members of the Board of Directors are appointed by the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, Chief Justice of the Trial Division of the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia, the Mayor of HRM, the Deputy Attorney General of Nova Scotia, and the President of the Metropolitan Halifax Chamber of Commerce.

A public notice for membership in the Halifax Explosion 100th Anniversary Advisory Committee was issued through the Office of the Municipal Clerk in accordance with terms of reference approved by Regional Council. None of the eight (8) positions identified for committee membership are designated for a particular organization; instead the committee's composition seeks expertise and input into the Municipality's identified commemorative projects. The participation of other funding agencies, including government, corporate and philanthropic can be addressed through various means including, but not limited to, a meeting of all funding agents independent of the ad hoc advisory committee or in a presentation to the committee upon request.

Information regarding designated funding programs or funding generally available to the non-profit sector can be provided to the general public in association with HRM's designated grant program. Should the Halifax Foundation be interested in contributing funds towards a specific aspect of HRM's commemorative program they could approach HRM and/or the advisory committee with their proposal. Partnership and funding opportunities could also be publicized by HRM with the assistance of Corporate Communications and Finance (Procurement).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Membership to the Halifax Explosion 100th Anniversary Advisory Committee has been solicited through the Office of the Municipal Clerk and approved by Regional Council.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/index.php> then choose the appropriate Community Council and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead Grants & Contributions, Finance & ICT 490-5469

Original Signed

Report Approved by: Bruce Fisher, Manager, Financial Policy & Planning, Finance & ICT 490-4493

¹ Excluding partisan political or religious institutions, governments or their agencies except HRM.