

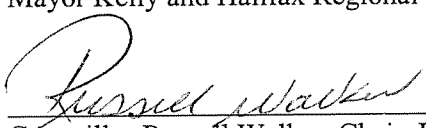
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PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Halifax Regional Council
January 13, 2004

TO: Mayor Kelly and Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
Councillor Russell Walker, Chair, HRM Grants Committee

DATE: December 2, 2003

SUBJECT: **HRM Community Grants Program 2003-04 - Appeal: Avalon Sexual Assault Centre.**

ORIGIN

In the HRM Grants Committee report to Regional Council dated May 27th, 2003, the Avalon Sexual Assault Centre was awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,800 towards the cost of an After Hours Crisis Response telephone service. The Centre has appealed the value of the grant and presented the basis for their appeal to the Grants Committee on November 3rd, 2003.

At the December 1st, 2003, meeting of the HRM Grants Committee, a recommendation to grant an additional \$3,200 to the Centre was approved on the basis of additional information provided by the applicant with respect to their work with HRM Police Services.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. It is recommended that Regional Council approve an additional grant in the amount of \$3,200 to Avalon Sexual Assault Centre for 2003-04 fiscal year.

BACKGROUND

Avalon Sexual Assault Centre is a federally registered charity which provides an emergency crisis telephone line, counselling, court support, education and information for victims of sexual assault and abuse. The Centre also works closely with HRM Police and the RCMP in the prevention of sexual violence, and the training of staff and volunteers.

DISCUSSION

The rationale provided for a recommended increase in the 2003-04 grant was: the agency provides a direct service to the HRM Police Department in terms of staff training; there is no duplication of service with the Help Line Society; the agency supplements HRM's mandate in public safety.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The HRM Community Grants Program awarded a total of \$557,199 in 2003-04. An additional grant of \$3,200 to Avalon Sexual Assault Centre will bring this year's total to \$560,399 and a balance of \$3,700.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating Reserves, as well as any other relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

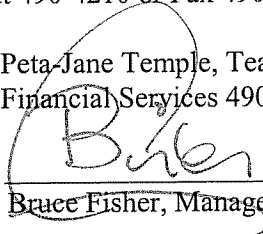
Regional Council could defeat the Grants Committee recommendation and decline additional funding in 2003-04.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

Additional copies of this report, and information on its status, can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210 or Fax 490-4208.

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