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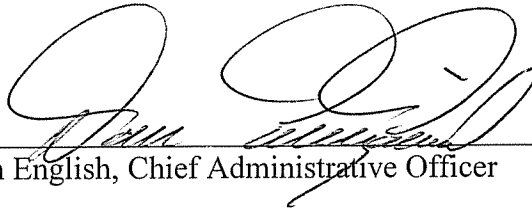


PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Halifax Regional Council
June 20, 2006

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY:



Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer



Wayne Anstey, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: June 13, 2006

SUBJECT: 2008 Atlantic Acadian Games

ORIGIN

During the May 9, 2006 Halifax Regional Council meeting the following motion was passed unanimously. MOTION by Councillor Younger, seconded by Councillor Kent, that Regional Council support in principle the Conseil Communautaire du Grand-Havre's (Acadian Community Centre) intention to submit a bid, with assistance from Events Halifax, on behalf of HRM to host the Atlantic Acadian Games in 2008.

RECOMMENDATION

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT -

1) Halifax Regional Council approve support for the Conseil Communautaire du Grand - Havre's (Acadian Community Centre) bid to host the Atlantic Acadian Games in 2008 by approving 'in principle', pending Halifax Regional Council approval of the 2008/09 budget, a \$25,000 HRM Special Events Reserve grant out of the fiscal budget year 2008/09 contingent on the Conseil Communautaire du Grand - Havre confirming matching or greater funding from the Province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada.

2) In support of the above, Halifax Regional Council approve in principle, pending HRM Council approval of the 2008/09 budget, a \$30,000 contingency fund from the Special Events Reserve to be used only in the event of a Games deficit.

BACKGROUND

The Conseil Communautaire du Grand-Havre is a Dartmouth based community centre that is responsible of Acadian activities within the HRM.

The Atlantic Acadian Games is an annual event that takes place in various cities throughout Atlantic Canada. In 2005 the Games attracted 3,534 athletes. Athletes are 10 to 17 years old. 87,195 have attended the games since 1979.

Over the last number of months members of the community have approached HRM staff to explore the possibility of hosting an Acadian Games. In March of 2006 staff from Events Halifax attended a Jeux de L'Acadie meeting in New Brunswick to obtain the bid guidelines. On Tuesday, April 11, 2006 the Conseil Communautaire du Grand-Havre approved the concept of creating a bid to secure the 2008 Atlantic Acadian Games.

At the May 9, 2006 Halifax Regional Council meeting, Council, approved the Conseil Communautaire du Grand - Havre's intention to research hosting requirements. This research is now done. This report is the follow up information staff committed to provide Council during the May 9 Council meeting.

Staff from Events Halifax and HRM met with Conseil Communautaire du Grand-Havre staff and board members on June 12 to discuss bid requirements.

DISCUSSION

The only request from the Conseil Communautaire du Grand - Havre to HRM is financial. At this point, the community group does not want HRM to provide any organizational or other support to the Games. The Conseil Communautaire du Grand - Havre plans on organizing the Games using their own staff and volunteers.

The 2008 Acadian Games would use existing infrastructure so no new fields or facilities would result from hosting these games.

Events Halifax using the STEAM model estimates the economic impact from this Games in the HRM would be \$2,588,114.

The Conseil Communautaire du Grand - Havre's Acadian Games financial request to HRM is \$80,000 as well as waiving the fees to a number of sporting facilities operated by HRM. The Conseil Communautaire du Grand - Havre requested \$50,000 to support the operating budget and up to an additional \$30,000 to help offset a budget deficit should it occur. Please note the Conseil Communautaire du Grand - Havre has budgeted an additional \$20,000 from other sources to offset a deficit. The value of waiving the rental fees for HRM sporting facilities is estimated presently by staff to be \$5,000. Staff, after reviewing the Acadian Games HRM Special Events Reserve application, determined that a \$25,000 grant would be appropriate. The Acadian Games are a

regional games with national scope gained through various communications before, during and after the competitions. Staff understand that the Games have only had a deficit once in their history.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Staff is recommending that Halifax Regional Council approve 'in principle', pending Halifax Regional Council approval of the 2008/09 budget, a \$25,000 HRM Special Events Reserve grant out of the fiscal budget year 2008/09 contingent on the Conseil Communautaire du Grand - Havre confirming matching or greater funding from the Province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada.

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 relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

1) Halifax Regional Council may choose to approve 'in principle', pending Halifax Regional Council approval of the 2008/09 budget, the total amount of funding requested by the organizers (\$50,000 + an estimated \$5,000 in sporting facility rentals), \$30,000 deficit contingency in the form of a \$85,000 HRM Special Events Reserve grant out of the fiscal budget year 2008/09 contingent on the Conseil Communautaire du Grand - Havre confirming matching or greater funding from the Province of Nova Scotia and the Government of Canada. This is not recommended by staff.

ATTACHMENTS

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by : Mike Gillett, HRM Civic Events & Festivals Co-ordinator, 490-4740



Financial Review : Barb Palmeter, Financial Consultant, 490-7221

Report Approved by:



Carol Macomber, Acting Director, Community, Culture & Economic Development