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Halifax Regional Council
May 9, 2006

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Jan Gibson
Jan Gibson, Municipal Clerk

DATE: May 4, 2006

SUBJECT: School Band Performances for Regional Council Meetings

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

This initiative is as a result of a suggestion brought forward by Mayor Kelly's Office and a resident in Councillor Rankin's district requesting that HRM explore the possibility of recording school band performances for broadcast during council meeting breaks.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Acting on this request, EastLink Television and the Halifax Regional School Board were approached to partner on this project. As a result of these discussions Halifax Regional School Board, EastLink Television and HRM have developed an initiative to tape school band performances for airing during Council meeting broadcasts.

In this, the initial year of the project, six bands will be recorded. Every attempt has been made to showcase both rural and urban school music programs. To that end, the schools selected to perform this year are Ridgecliffe Middle School, Gatez Brook Jr. High and Bedford Jr. High Schools, with Halifax and Dartmouth All City Bands rounding out the six groups. EastLink will include information for each group on a banner at the bottom of the television screen during the performances.

Each year, on a rotating basis, it is the intention to showcase a different group of schools until all districts have been represented.

This project is being cost shared between the School Board, EastLink Television and HRM. The School Board will provide band equipment and buses for the transportation of the students. EastLink will provide the services of mobile video recording equipment, technicians and airtime for the performances. HRM will cover the \$25.00 performance fee each time the performances are aired.

Students will arrive at City Hall on Thursday, May 11, 2006 beginning at 8:15 a.m. with arrivals and departures slated throughout the day (see attached schedule). EastLink Television will record the performances in Halifax Hall. Once complete, these recordings will replace the taped music currently aired preceding Council meetings and during recesses. Unfortunately, at this time we do not have a set schedule of when each of these performances will air on EastLink.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Coverage of the performance fee will be an ongoing cost identified in the operating budget of the Municipal Clerk's Office Cost Centre A-121 pending Regional Council approval of the 2006/07 Operating Budget.

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

There are no recommended alternatives at this time.

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix "A" School Band Recording Schedule

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 : Christen MacDonald, Coordinator, Municipal Clerk's Office Ph: 490-6525

Financial Review : Barb Palmeter, Financial Consultant

Schedule
School Band Recordings
Halifax Hall, City Hall
May 11, 2006

Ridgecliff Middle School:

Arrival: 8:15 a.m.

Playing time 9:00 a.m.

Departure: 10:00 a.m.

Bedford Junior High

Arrival: 9:15 a.m.

Playing time: 10:00 a.m.

Departure: 11:00 a.m.

Gaetzbrook Junior High

Arrival: 10:15 a.m.

Playing time: 11:00 a.m.

Departure: 12:00 noon

Halifax Schools Symphony Orchestra

Arrival: 12:00 noon

Playing time: 1:00 p.m.

Departure: 2:00 p.m.

Halifax Schools Senior Jazz Ensemble

Arrival: 1:15 p.m.

Playing time: 2:00 p.m.

Departure: 3:00 p.m.

Dartmouth All City Jazz Band

Arrival: 2:15 p.m.

Playing time: 3:00 p.m.

Departure: 4:00 p.m.