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**Halifax Regional Council**  
**May 9th, 2006**

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:** Cathie O'Toole  
Cathie O'Toole, Acting Director of Finance

**DATE:** April 27, 2006

**SUBJECT:** HRM Community Grants Program 2006-07: Ineligible Applications

**INFORMATION REPORT**

**ORIGIN**

The HRM *Community Grants Program* awards annual one-time, project-specific grants to registered non-profit organizations located within HRM. Staff provide ineligible applicants with prompt notification (or referral to an alternate program) to manage expectations. An Information Report is sent to Regional Council. This report was approved by the HRM Grants Committee with amendments at their meeting of April 24th, 2006.

**BACKGROUND**

Each year, the *HRM Community Grants Program* receives submissions that are ineligible for funding for various reasons such as: not a registered non-profit within 12 months of application, out-of-province or region applicant, type of project not funded under program criteria, late application, multiple requests, incomplete application, or debt to HRM.

**DISCUSSION**

A total of 23 applications, for a combined total of \$1,804,383.30 have been deemed ineligible for further consideration in the review process. Note: the combined total value of requests is heavily skewed by two capital requests: one from NSCAAD University for \$1,000,000 and one from Pier 21 Society for \$500,000. The value of such requests far exceeds the maximum value of \$25,000 awarded under the *HRM Community*

**HRM Community Grants Program 2006-07:  
Ineligible Applications  
Council Report**

**May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006**

*Grants Program.* Excluding these two large-scale capital projects, the combined total value of requests for the remaining 21 applicants is \$304,383.30. Once approved by the HRM Grants Committee and Regional Council notified, the applicants listed below will be advised as soon as possible so that they can pursue other funding opportunities:

**1. Children's Wish Foundation of Canada: Nova Scotia Chapter - Social Supports**

A request for \$10,000 for administrative support staff. *HRM Community Grants Program* does not fund salaries and wages (Guidebook, page 23).

**2. Family Service of Support Association - Social Supports**

A request for \$5,000 for interim funding of staff salary. *HRM Community Grants Program* does not fund salaries and wages (Guidebook, page 23). Referred to HRM Community Recreation for possible assistance with interim summer recreation programming.

**3. Coverdale - Social Supports**

A request for \$5,000 for community education, counselling and volunteer development. The *HRM Community Grants Program* does not fund core operating or therapeutic counselling. Notification sent in 2005-06 to advise of final year of support to recurring volunteer development.

**4. Canadian Celiac Association: Halifax Chapter - Social Supports**

A request for \$3,001.35 to fully fund the production of a cookbook to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax Chapter. The *HRM Community Grants Program* does not fund fundraising projects, events, or medical/health projects.

**5. Porters Lake Community Service Association - Social Supports**

A request for \$9,200 for the purchase of video security cameras and a water pump. The application is late (received April 24, 2006) and incomplete. Refer to staff for assistance with future funding proposals.

**6. Bay of Islands Centre Sustainable Community Development Association - Environment**

A request for \$30,000 for a facility planning and feasibility study for the development of a 50 acre property as a learning centre for sustainable environmental technologies and recreation. Private property is ineligible for funding (Guidebook, page 10). Referred to HRM parks, recreation and environmental services staff.

**7. Nova Scotia College of Art & Design - Arts & Crafts**

A request for \$1,000,000 payable over 3-5 years towards the construction of a "Port Campus" for NSCAD University to be located at Pier 21 as part of proposed Seawall Project under the auspices of the Halifax Port Authority. *HRM Community Grants Program* does not fund capital grants to government owned properties or public institutions (a university) and the amount exceeds the capital grant cut-off of \$25,000 (Guidebook, page 31). Referred to Culture & Heritage Division.

**HRM Community Grants Program 2006-07:  
Ineligible Applications  
Council Report**

**May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006**

**8. Halifax Association for Community Living - Arts & Crafts**

A request for \$5,000 for an art wall installation in playground area. The Halifax Developmental Preschool is a program of the Halifax Association for Community Living located on public school property at Joseph Howe Elementary School, Halifax. The applicant applied last year and was declined a capital request because the property is owned by a government agency (Halifax Regional School Board). This request has been declined because an applicant can only receive one grant in any one fiscal year; a second application for educational materials was selected by the organization to advance in the 2006-2007 program.

**9. Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Nova Scotia - Arts & Crafts**

A request for \$5,000 towards the production of the operetta *The Milkado* in Halifax, May 18th-20th, 2006. The production will conclude prior to the *HRM Community Grants Program* awards. The program does not fund pre-paid expenses or deficits.

**10. Women's Theatre & Creativity Centre of Nova Scotia/Forunner Playwright Co-Op - Arts & Crafts**

A request for \$5,000 towards the production of the play *Bone Cage*. The applicants are ineligible, neither have current registered non-profit status (Guidebook, page 3).

**11. Pier 21 Society - Heritage**

A request received in 2004-05 for \$500,000 towards expansion of the current facility and development as a National Museum of Immigration. Request was referred by the HRM Grants Committee to the business planning and budget process for 2005-06; a request for a budget increase of \$50,000 for the *HRM Community Grants Program* was submitted by Financial Services but did not advance to Regional Council relative to organizational priorities and financial capacity. Referred to Culture & Heritage Division.

**12. New Beginnings Ministry - Heritage**

A request for \$25,000 towards the construction of a multi-purpose training centre on church site. Application incomplete. *HRM Community Grants Program* does not fund congregational activities, employment or educational programs. Referred to Community Development staff for assistance with future funding proposals.

**13. Downey Road Cemetery - Heritage**

A request for \$50,000 for the restoration and expansion of cemetery. *HRM Community Grants Program* does not fund congregational activities unless the building or site is a municipally registered property, or the artifact is of confirmed historical significance. Applicant is not a registered non-profit organization and title to the property requires confirmation. Given the social and historical significance of the site a meeting with representatives from the community and the Government of Nova Scotia is recommended. Referred to the district councillor for further assistance.

**HRM Community Grants Program 2006-07:  
Ineligible Applications  
Council Report**

**May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006**

---

**14. Historica Foundation of Canada - Heritage**

A request for \$20,000 towards hosting the annual Historica Fair in Halifax, July, 2006. Application has also been made to the Attractions & Events Grants Program for \$20,000. The *HRM Community Grants Program* does not fund events. Referred to HRM Recreation, Tourism & Culture for consideration under HRM Special Events Reserve.

**15. Pier 21 Society - Heritage**

A request for \$2,382 towards hosting a touring exhibition *Passages to Freedom: Secrets of the Underground Railroad* (created by the Welland Historical Museum), April 19<sup>th</sup> to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The exhibit will conclude prior to the *HRM Community Grants Program* awards. The program does not fund pre-paid expenses or deficits.

**16. Friends of St. James Church Heritage Society - Heritage**

A request for \$20,000 for a building condition and conservation report. The applicant has not been registered for 12 months (Guidebook, page 3).

**17. St. Mathews United Church - Recreation**

In 2005-05 St. Mathew's United Church, Halifax, was awarded a capital grant in the amount of \$25,000 under the Heritage category of funding towards restoration of a gothic stained glass window. In February, 2006, the applicant's request to carry forward a balance of \$23,390 to the 2006-2007 was approved; preliminary work was complete (\$1,610) but the capital project could not advance until 2006. A request for a second grant of \$25,000 declined: an organization can only be in receipt of one grant in any one fiscal year.

**18. Cygnus Diving Club - Recreation**

A request for a \$25,000 capital grant for the installation of a "bubbler" unit and electrical upgrades to Centennial Pool. The property is owned by HRM and operated under a facility management agreement by the Centennial Pool Association. Applicant is ineligible for funding: the facility is not community owned. The operator receives a core operating subsidy from HRM (\$140,000 in 2005-06) plus revenues for the operation of an abutting HRM parking lot. Referred to HRM Real Property & Asset Management Services.

**19. Cole Harbour Boys & Girls Club - Recreation**

A request for \$2,070 for travel expenses. The *HRM Community Grants Program* does not fund travel expenses (Guidebook, page 13). Referred to Community Development staff for assistance with future funding proposals and HRM Kids Program.

**20. Preston Area Boys & Girls Club - Recreation**

A request for \$5,000 for travel expenses. The *HRM Community Grants Program* does not fund travel expenses (Guidebook, page 13). Referred to Community Development staff for assistance with future funding proposals and HRM Kids Program.

**HRM Community Grants Program 2006-07:  
Ineligible Applications  
Council Report**

**May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006**

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**21. Sheet Harbour Judo Club - Recreation**

A request for \$4,000 towards equipment purchase for a new sports club. The club has been in existence for 6 months and is not a registered non-profit organization. Referred to Community Development staff for assistance with future funding proposals.

**22. Feed Nova Scotia - Emergency Assistance**

A request for \$25,000 towards the purchase of a refrigerated truck. The applicant is in debt to HRM (5 months rent arrears) and is therefore ineligible for consideration (Guidebook, page 4).

**23. Society for the Protection and Preservation of Black Culture in NS - Ethnocultural**

The society owns and operates the Black Cultural Centre, Westphal. A request for \$25,000 towards repair to building roof. Funding (\$200,000) received from Nova Scotia Tourism & Culture in April, 2006.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**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. Regional Council could appeal a decision and refer an application to the Grants Committee for further review.

As approved in policy, the councillor(s) requesting an appeal shall make a presentation to the Grants Committee to explain the reason for appeal or to provide additional information. Such appeals are reviewed on the basis of new information, or an error in policy or procedures.

**HRM Community Grants Program 2006-07:  
Ineligible Applications  
Council Report**


**May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006**

**ATTACHMENTS**

None.

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.

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