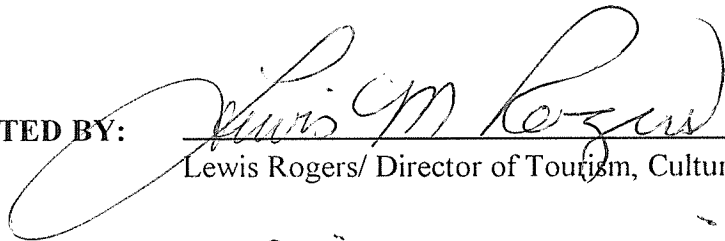


Halifax Regional Council  
Tuesday, February 26, 2002

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

**SUBMITTED BY:**



Lewis Rogers/ Director of Tourism, Culture, & Heritage



Michael Gillett/Civic Events & Festivals Co-ordinator

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 19, 2002

**SUBJECT:** Summer Festival Grant

### INFORMATION REPORT

#### ORIGIN

This information report was requested by the HRM Summer Festival Grant Selection Committee at the January 22, 2002 committee meeting.

## BACKGROUND

The HRM Summer Festival Grant is a grant given by HRM to an event organizing committee to assist in funding their event. The Summer Festival Committee was appointed to work with staff in order to undertake a yearly application process to select a host community. The selection process is limited to those communities that are geographically located within the former Halifax County Municipal boundaries. The present HRM Summer Festival Grant Selection Committee consists of Councillor Johns, Councillor Streach, and Councillor Meade.

## DISCUSSION

At the January 22, 2002 meeting of the HRM Summer Festival Grant Selection Committee a motion was put as follows: **Be it resolved that the funds awarded are to be used as the event organizers see fit. This was seconded by Coun. Streach. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.** This motion came about because of last year's experience when the recipient of the grant wanted to use the funds for capital expenditures. After some discussion the HRM Summer Festival Grant Selection Committee agreed that as long as the HRM Summer Festival Grant was used to pay for expenses associated with the event it did not matter whether they were of an operating or capital nature.

## BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

The Summer Festival Grant is part of the approved 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

The HRM Summer Festival Grant could be used for event operating expenses only. This would eliminate the possibility of the event organizer using the HRM Summer Festival Grant for capital purchases. The experience since amalgamation with this grant has been that it moves from one event to another each year. A capital expenditure could provide long lasting benefits to an event while operating expenditures have only a one time benefit. Because of this limiting factor and other considerations the HRM Summer Festival Grant Selection Committee felt allowing the event organizer the flexibility to spend the grant on either capital or operating expenses the best format for the grant recipient.

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.

Report Prepared by: Michael Gillett/Civic Events & Festivals Co-ordinator