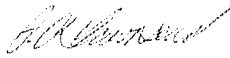



Chebucto Community Council
December 5, 2011

TO: Chair and Members of the Chebucto Community Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
Phillip Townsend, Director, Planning and Infrastructure


Brad Anguish, Director, Community & Recreation Services

DATE: November 3, 2011

SUBJECT: **100th Anniversary of the Completion of the Memorial Tower --
Sir Sandford Fleming Park**

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

At the October 3, 2011, Chebucto Community Council meeting, a motion was passed that staff provide a report on the potential funding grants available to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Memorial Tower and also an update on the status of the restoration of the Tower.

BACKGROUND

In August 1912, the Dingle or Memorial Tower was officially opened. It was spearheaded by Sir Sanford Fleming as an international beacon for Representative Government in Canada. The 40+ commemorative plaques and gifts represent important Commonwealth and Canadian Civic institutions. It is the only memorial of its kind in Canada.

In August 2012, the Memorial Tower will celebrate its 100 year anniversary. A re-dedication ceremony will be held to coincide with the Tower's anniversary and HRM's Natal Days. In anticipation of this important date, HRM has been undertaking a restoration of the entire Tower, beginning in 2010. This work will stabilize the existing character defining elements and improve the visitor experience.

DISCUSSION

Status of Restoration of the Tower

In 2010, the Federal Government, under the National Historic Sites of Canada Cost-Sharing Program, provided HRM with \$425,000 which was matched by \$425,000 from HRM, to begin the restoration of the Tower.

Phase 1 of the restoration has been completed and included:

- consulting services;
- a significant start to the restoration of the exterior masonry;
- a condition assessment on how best to stabilize and restore the plaques inside the tower; and
- a condition assessment of the exterior bronze lions.

The second phase of work is currently underway and includes:

- installation of stainless steel helical ties, mechanical ties and reinforcing rods from both sides of the four walls of the Tower;
- installation of core rubble grouting of the four walls of the Tower;
- complete grit cleaning, exterior and interior;
- more extensive stone repairs;
- repointing all exterior stone masonry mortar joints;
- final cleaning of the exterior;
- copper Roof Restoration; and
- installation of new Lightning Protection.

Staff is submitting a new Phase 3 (and final) project in the 2012/13 Project Budget for the balance of the Memorial Tower restoration work. Phase 3 will consist of:

- the bronze and stone plaques cleaned and stabilized, improving their display quality and respecting this original commemoration;
- custom-built steel framed and glazed windows re-installed in seven windows of the Tower which offers an exciting opportunity for the original appearance of the Tower. The design of the windows will be in keeping with the exterior window design of the time;
- the repointing of all interior stone masonry mortar joints;
- refurbishing the metal stairs (sandblasting, weld repairs and recoating);
- the provision of new observation level safety screens;
- new flag pole supports; and
- electrical wiring & lighting upgrades.

An application for funding under the Parks Canada's National Historic Sites Cost-Sharing Program for Phase 3 was submitted on November 1, 2011. If federal funding is received, HRM's capital budget request would be reduced accordingly.

While the stabilization of the Tower was deemed necessary for structural reasons, these repairs are an excellent opportunity to return the Tower to its original commemorative intent. The goal is to complete all work by August, 2012, in time for the Tower's one hundredth anniversary.

Funding Grant for 100th Celebration

As outlined in the Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve (MLSER) Business Case, the Major Civic Celebrations section of the Reserve will support initiatives such as HRM Twinning, Memorials, Commemorations, Anniversaries, and other significant special functions. Therefore, should a community group decide to hold a 100th Anniversary celebration for the Memorial Tower, they would be eligible to apply for a grant up to a maximum of \$25,000. As well, if Regional Council directed staff to investigate the possibility of a HRM celebration, funding would also be considered from MLSER.

Staff also researched opportunities for funding from other levels of government but was unable to determine any grants currently available for which the Celebration would meet application criteria.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications associated with this report.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

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

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The project team held a meeting with the Northwest Arm Heritage Association regarding the restoration of the Tower. In addition, HRM recently undertook a public consultation process that involved community stakeholders, developers and local citizens in order to gain a greater appreciation of the issues affecting protection of the view-planes of the Dingle Tower.

ATTACHMENTS

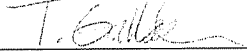
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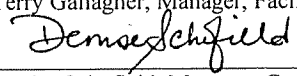
**100th Anniversary of the Completion of the Memorial Tower
Sir Sandford Fleming Park
Chebucto Community Council Report - 4 -**

December 5, 2011

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

Report Prepared by: Margaret Soley, Coordinator, Infrastructure Partnerships, Facility Development 490-5591

Report Approved by: 
Terry Gallagher, Manager, Facility Development 476-4067


Denise Schofield, Manager, Community Development & Partnerships 490-6252
