

Item No.
HRM Grants Committee
May 7, 2012

TO: Chair and Members HRM Grants Committee



SUBMITTED BY: _____
Greg Keefe, A/ Director of Finance and Information, Communications &
Technology

DATE: April 10, 2012

SUBJECT: **Community Grants Program 2012-2013: Applications Not
Recommended for Funding**

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

The *HRM Community Grants Program* awards discretionary project and capital cash grants to eligible registered non-profit organizations and charities located within the geographic boundary of HRM.

BACKGROUND

The 2012-2013 *Community Grants Program* received a total of 98 applications for a combined total of \$1,134,516.55 in funding requests. The program is over-subscribed. Consequently, some applicants are not recommended for funding based on the relative merit of the application or budget capacity within a sector. Those organizations declined funding may request written or verbal feedback on their submission or assistance identifying alternate non-municipal funding sources.

Once the Grants Committee is advised through an Information report, ineligible applicants and those not recommended for funding are notified in writing so that they can pursue other funding opportunities or submit an appeal. Appeals are only considered on the basis of new information unavailable to the applicant or reviewer at the time of submission, or an error in fact or procedure during the review process (Guidebook, p.36). The appeal deadline is stated in the letter of

notification. These appeals are then considered with any appeals arising from applicants deemed ineligible, the value of an award, or the conditions of funding.

DISCUSSION

The 2012-2013 *Community Grants Program* budget is \$500,000 from which a contingency is deducted for appeals. This year's program received a total of 98 applications for a combined total of \$1,134,516.55. Twenty-one (21) were deemed ineligible for further consideration and the 21 applications listed below are not recommended for funding in the 2012-2013 program.

Community Grants Program 2012-2013 Applications Not Recommended for Funding

ENVIRONMENT

The Environment sector received 14 applications for a combined total of \$96,498 in funding requests.

Tier 1

1. Nova Scotia Environmental Network – Halifax – Program Grant

A grant of \$5,000 requested for public lecture series on environment and human health (ie. environmental sensitivities). Majority of costs are ineligible for funding under the *Community Grants Program*.

2. Sierra Club of Canada Foundation: Atlantic Canada Chapter - Halifax – Program Grant

A grant of \$3,710.36 requested towards the purchase of small equipment and materials for a volunteer biodiversity monitoring program. Limited program detail or sustainability plan. The Club is the recipient of an HRM contract for the same project. File referred to HRM Sustainable Management Office.

3. St. Luke's United Church – Upper Tantallon – Capital Grant

A capital grant of \$2,500 requested to purchase landscaping materials (soil, gravel), plant material, and garden equipment/supplies for development of a "Freedom Renewal Garden"; a sanctuary space to assist the re-integration of persons in conflict with the law. The *Community Grants Program Interpretation Bulletin: Community Gardens* does not fund gardens for religious/faith practice or a congregational purpose, therefore the applicant's proposed collaborative programming with the Springhill Inmates Association and the John Howard Society of Nova Scotia requires confirmation and a detailed program description. Refer to Grants program staff for assistance with future application.

Tier 3

4. Hope for Wildlife Society – Seaforth – Program Grant

A grant of \$5,000 requested for the purchase and application of self-promotional van decals, fuel for the vehicle, and educational materials (content to be determined). Fuel is a recurring operating expense and ineligible for funding.

RECREATION & LEISURE

The Recreation & Leisure sector received 33 applications for a combined total of \$516,448 in funding requests.

Tier 1

5. Harbour Lites Seniors Club – Musquodoboit Harbour - Capital Grant

A \$25,000 capital grant requested for paving the Club's parking lot. This application was declined in 2011; parking lots are low priority relative to other capital projects. Refer applicant to Grants Program staff for assistance in seeking alternate funding sources.

6. SCRI Society – Halifax – Program Grant

A grant of \$3,960 requested for the purchase of assorted small equipment. Refer applicant to Grants Program staff for assistance with future funding applications.

7. Golden Age Social Centre – Spryfield – Capital Grant

A capital grant of \$4,200 requested to fully fund replacement of second floor windows. Refer applicant to Grants Program staff for assistance in seeking alternate funding sources.

8. Faith Tabernacle Pentecostal Church – Halifax - Recreation & Leisure

A capital grant of \$20,000 requested to upgrade kitchen appliances and cabinetry. Programming is largely social meals and light refreshments in relation to programming; this is not a community feeding program comparable to Hope Cottage or Feeding Others of Dartmouth or a safety issue. Not a funding priority relative to other applicants in the sector. Project could be phased.

9. St. Margaret's Bay Community Hall & Legion – Seabright - Recreation & Leisure

A capital grant of \$11,365 requested to fully fund attic insulation and kitchen repairs/upgrades (refurbish kitchen cupboards, paint doors, countertop replacement, wall patching and painting, laundry sink, and replace two windows). Refer applicant to Grants Program staff for assistance in seeking alternate funding sources.

Tier 2

10. Abenacki Aquatic Club – Dartmouth/Cole Harbour – Recreation & Leisure

A capital grant of \$25,000 requested to fully fund a clubhouse addition. Refer applicant to Grants Program staff for assistance in seeking alternate funding sources and assistance in preparing future funding submission.

11. BCM International Canada Inc. (Mt Traber Bible Camp) – Middle Musquodoboit - Recreation & Leisure

A capital grant of \$15,000 requested to fully fund replacement windows in the main hall.

Tier 3

12. Cheema Aquatic Club - Waverley - Recreation & Leisure

A capital grant of \$25,000 requested for a major site improvement project phased over three years. The grant request was for improvements to the access road, parking lot, and “recreation space”. The land is leased from the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and as such leasehold improvements (infrastructure such as roads, sidewalks) are ineligible for funding (Guidebook, p.13). The outdoor multi-purpose space does have eligible components (signage, docks, portable toilets and hand-wash station) but this work is scheduled for Phase II in 2014-15. The site plan indicates foundation work for a boathouse/workout facility included in Phase I but this capital cost was not included in the grant request. Refer to Grants Program staff for assistance in developing a submission for 2013-14 towards the proposed new boathouse.

An investment of public funds in the Club-owned boathouse would be secure given the term of the lease is for a total of 40 years with a balance of 22 years remaining (expires 2034).

AFFORDABLE & SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The Affordable & Supportive Housing sector received 8 applications for a combined total of \$107,811.41 in funding requests.

Tier 3

13. Dartmouth Non-Profit Housing Society – Dartmouth – Capital Grant

A capital grant of \$15,280 requested to fully fund siding and window replacement for a single family dwelling. Lower priority request relative to projects that increase capacity (beds or units).

14. Society for Women Healing from Addictions & Abuse – Lakeside – Capital Grant

A capital grant of \$17,626.13 requested to fully fund roof repairs and replace flooring. Lower priority request relative to projects that increase capacity (beds or units). Project budget presentation requires clarity.

COMMUNITY DIVERSITY

The Community Diversity sector received 7 applications for a combined total of \$63,022.14 in funding requests.

Tier 1

15. Indo-Canadian Community Centre Association – Halifax – Capital Grant

A \$25,000 capital grant requested towards site preparation (blasting, grading) for the proposed construction of an ethnocultural community centre. The total cost of site blasting, infill, and servicing estimated to be \$300,000; total construction costs projected to cost \$2,530,000. As a proportion of total funds raised to date the request is essentially a fundraising venture with no demonstrated ability to secure the balance of funding for the construction project. To date, HRM has contributed \$25,000 towards land acquisition, \$20,000 towards excavation, and tax exemption. Further public subsidy presents a risk in the absence of a confirmed funding and project viability. Meeting with proponent recommended prior to any further funding request.

Tier 3

16. Mount Saint Vincent University - Halifax – Program Grant

A grant of \$5,000 requested for professional fees for the development of a web site, social media, and networking website (total cost \$10,000) for a “Compassionate Communities” project to foster “...a groundswell of caring, compassionate action, thereby cultivating a more compassionate, welcoming and inclusive HRM”. Starting in February, 2012, the project comprises monthly meetings of interested persons and organizations leading up to a proposed Compassion Conference in 2013.

COMMUNITY HISTORY

The Community History sector received a total of 11 applications for a combined total of \$144,992 in funding requests.

Tier 2

17. Atlantic Aviation Museum – Enfield – Program Grant

A grant of \$3,870 requested to fully fund interpretative signs for aircraft displays. Only one quote submitted.

18. Shearwater Aviation Museum Foundation – Shearwater – Program Grant

A grant of \$5,000 requested for the purchase of two iPads and professional fees to develop an iBook on the Sea King helicopter’s service history.

Tier 3

19. Canadian Naval Memorial Trust – Halifax – Capital Grant

A capital grant of \$50,000 requested towards international design competition for naval memorial on the Halifax waterfront. The Trust was awarded a \$50,000 capital grant under the 2011 *Community Grants Program* to be paid in 2012 subject to further reporting. The original request was for \$100,000 towards a \$900,000 project (11%); the projected total cost has been revised down to \$750,000. Therefore, HRM’s proportional contribution could be reduced to \$75,000 (10%) and considered under the 2013-2014 program.

ARTS & CRAFTS

The Arts & Crafts sector received 21 applications for a combined total of \$ 145,745 in funding requests.

Tier 2

20. Sackville Seniors Advisory Council – Lower Sackville – Capital Grant

A capital grant of \$5,000 requested for construction and installation of custom display cabinet in an HRM-owned Sackville Heights Community Centre. The applicant manages facility operations under contract to HRM. Refer to Grants Program and Community Recreation (Community Arts) staff for assistance with future funding applications.

21. 2b Theatre Company – Halifax – Project Grant

A grant of \$5,000 requested to purchase a laptop computer and database management system to target marketing and audience development.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

None.

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

Not applicable.

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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