

## Chapter 7. Cultural and Heritage Resources – stakeholder meetings and open houses<sup>1</sup>

**INTRODUCTION** This Chapter describes the objectives, strategies and policies to preserve and enhance culture and heritage resources in HRM. Although focusing on physical assets, consideration is also given to arts and culture development and promotion of our social heritage. The approaches outlined in this Chapter will be further developed in secondary planning strategies and the Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan.

### OBJECTIVES

1. *Preserve and enhance the viability of culture and heritage resources in HRM and develop policies, programs and regulations to protect and enhance them;*
2. *Promote cultural and heritage considerations in HRM’s broader planning and municipal decision making processes;*
3. *Assist communities in identifying and celebrating culture and heritage assets;*
4. *Support cultural tourism through investment in signature cultural attractions and events;*
5. *Broaden heritage protection through the identification and preservation of cultural landscapes; and*
6. *Increase opportunities for cultural activity and bolster the creative economy.*

PROPOSED POLICY CHANGE	COMMUNITY FEEDBACK	STAFF RESPONSE	RECOMMENDATION TO CDAC	CDAC Direction
EC-13	<p><b>Theme: African Nova Scotian Communities and other distinct communities</b>            Quieting of property titles for the North Preston, East Preston and Cherrybrook communities desired.</p> <p>“Phase One Inventory- aboriginal and diverse ethnic cultures; aboriginal, Acadian &amp; African Nova Scotian...”  <i>There are additional comments under this theme that still need to be added</i></p>	<p>Agreed. Staff will recommend that HRM advocate for the resolution of this issue with the Province of Nova Scotia. See Policy EC-13 in the revised Regional Plan. Titled ownership will result in an improved future Secondary Plan process.</p> <p>The Chapter 7 description of the inventory will be amended to reflect other diverse cultures.</p>		

<sup>1</sup> Items identified in purpose include additional comments not included in the initial table presented to CDAC.

<p>Preamble</p>	<p><b>Theme: Need more distinction/definition between arts, culture and heritage</b>          “Better Definitions: we are all distinct”          “Chapter 7: more definition of arts, culture and heritage”          “New title: Arts, Culture and Heritage”          “Should one section be split: Arts &amp; Culture and Heritage”          “Should be “Arts, Culture &amp; Heritage”          “One section on Arts and Culture and one on Heritage: benefit-stronger, clearer policies in two important areas. “          “What is the definition of culture”          “Provide definitions of arts, culture and heritage (clear): Benefits- provides clarity on investment”          “Define and divide Art, Culture and Heritage: benefit: clarify, ability to create vibrant programs”          “Stronger definition of “Culture &amp; Heritage” within municipal context” .  <i>There are additional comments under this theme that still need to be added</i></p>	<p>Agreed. Chapter 7 will be revised to include definitions of arts, culture and heritage and will include verbage around the distinctions and connections between these. More reference to the arts and professional arts will be included to recognize the importance of arts to culture and wellbeing of HRM.          Staff are not recommending changing the Chapter title as Arts will be defined as a component of culture. Including arts in the title might imply that HRM is giving more to arts development through RP than is the reality. Investment in arts will be addressed by the special advisory committee on support for the arts and the Culture and Heritage Plan.</p>		
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<p>Objectives</p>	<p><b>Theme: Recognize importance of arts</b>          “Define value of supporting Arts, artists and arts institutions (professional)”          “Need to make sure that art is represented”          “no reference to the arts”          “leading objective should be increasing opportunities and investment for Arts and Cultural activity: benefit of clear policy commitment to investment in arts and culture for creative economy”          “Greater Halifax Arts Coalition”          “Much stronger emphasis &amp; expansion on arts &amp; culture: benefit- reflects importance of arts and culture to the creative economy.”          “Culture and Heritage should be titled and broadened to include arts organizations and artists. Formal and informal, large and small and this broadening should include funding, artificial to leave arts out of this.”          “For Arts need focus and addition, not refinements”          “Seek legislative amendments (Status of the Artist)”          “Use arts committee @ city to build a program”          “Pivotal” arts organizations must be defined and seen as the treasures they are”          “seek the knowledge of other communities that are similar size that have programming”          “Programming is needed at multiple levels in the professional arts community”          “Focus on good interpretation”  <i>here are additional comments under this theme that still need to be added</i></p>	<p>Agreed. An objective will be added to the Chapter recognizing the importance of the arts to the culture and wellbeing of HRM and outlining the need to consider support for professional arts. This reflects public comments and also the Regional Council motion to develop an advisory committee to consider support for professional arts.          The findings of the advisory committee will inform the Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan.</p>		
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	<p><b>Theme: Strengthen heritage policies</b>          “Strong Heritage Policy”          “Heritage neighbourhood plans”          “Register more properties e.g. Robie between Coburg and University”          “Invest in and do Heritage Districts”          “Leave existing residential &amp; commercial heritage plans alone”          “Be creative about what goes on the vacant lands identified by Stantec as capable of increasing the population”          “Staff should prepare a comprehensive list of character-defining elements for each heritage property”          “Policies from the Heritage sections of the Halifax and Dartmouth MPS’s should be imported into the Regional Plan”          “The Federal standards and guidelines should be in addition to the Municipal Heritage Building Conservation Standards.”          “Policy- CH-13- this policy should be strengthened. Policy 7.2.1 in the Halifax CBD Plan was better”          “6.4 change replace to supplement- benefit: easier to do, keeps existing neighbourhood plan”          “Heritage advisory committee is similar to the arts ad hoc. Heritage has legislative relationship e.g. heritage properties/special places act”.          “Standards &amp; guidelines- adopt- yes strong recognition of preservation”</p> <p><i>There are additional comments under this theme that still need to be added</i></p>	<p>Agreed. Staff is working with Heritage Trust and HRM Heritage Planners to ensure that RP heritage policies are effective and implementable. These changes will likely not be substantive in nature, more in terms of wording and potential legal interpretation.</p> <p>The Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan will identify valuable heritage resources for consideration during secondary planning.          The staff report will contain project plans for the heritage conservations districts endorsed by Council and recognized in the Chapter. The Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan will identify future heritage districts.</p>		
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	<p><b>Theme: Performance Measurement and Objectives</b>          “Measurable for investments not defined”          “What’s been identified in the objectives needs more specific targets and outcomes”          “Are people engaged? How do we measure that”          “Commitment to follow through”          “Find benchmarks for arts- quality of life/funding”          “Give timelines for investment &amp; define measurables: benefit- we can achieve something concrete”          “Getting common measurables. Simple measurables (arts funding) for cultural investment: benefits- gives a realistic look at how we’re doing”          “More specific objectives”          “Objective 1- develop policies- look at existing best practices, Edmonton as an example- Benefit: not “reinvent the wheel”. “          “Objective 2- Heritage and Culture in planning- development with public art/public space requirements, especially on ground floor- heritage buildings as assets vs. liabilities- benefit: strong regional identity- architectural green space.”          “Objective 5- heritage protection- cultural landscapes need strong by-law protection- onus is on developers to prove that not an asset- benefit: cultural landscapes preserved for public use/healthy community.”  <i>There are additional comments under this theme that still need to be added</i></p>	<p>Agreed. Staff will review the performance measurables and consider reasonable measurements for success.</p> <p>The Culture and Heritage Priorities will create a suite of programs, budgets and measurables relating to cultural investment.</p>		
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	<p><b>Theme: Stable funding is a crucial need for arts, culture and heritage</b></p> <p>“It’s day-to-day for many organizations: focus is on keeping doors open”</p> <p>“1999-nothing much has happened (in arts investment) since the original plan with the exception of staff hiring, because we haven’t defined investment”</p> <p>“Cultural Funding”</p> <p>“Value of Strategic Investment”</p> <p>“Investment in arts &amp; culture”</p> <p>“Needs to incorporate tax exemption, investment, economic impact”</p> <p>“Art and culture advisory is good and how do we input to granting review”.</p> <p>“Shouldn’t be seen solely as land-use plan- RP can speak to levels of investment”</p> <p>“Taxation review- stable funding. Arts, artists, arts institutions. Professional vs cultural appreciation: Benefit- arts organizations will know where they stand.”</p> <p>‘Refinement of program funding so that it moves beyond Festival &amp; Events funding- benefit: funds organizations based on real value to the community”</p> <p>“Steps need to be taken to address the gap in professional arts funding- Benefit: will strengthen the Arts”</p> <p>“Acknowledgement of the need for investment”</p> <p>“Recognize stewardship role- predictable funding”</p> <p><i>There are additional comments under this theme that still need to be added</i></p>	<p>Agreed. The Chapter will be amended to include an objective recognizing the need to provide stable funding and investment in arts, culture and heritage.</p> <p>Investment in arts will be addressed by the special advisory committee on support for the arts and the Culture and Heritage Plan will reflect this and also address investment in culture and heritage.</p>		
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	<p><b>Theme: More recognition of Cultural Plan and value of Culture to HRM</b></p> <p>“Cross-reference to economic plan”</p> <p>“Value of Culture”</p> <p>“Community Energy Plan (in detail), need more detail on the 2006 Cultural Plan”</p> <p>“Broaden Chapter 5 (Economy) to include Arts, Culture and Heritage to the goals and to the plan.”</p> <p>“Integration- municipal planning strategy; other policy documents; more robust investment in the Arts across all levels of HRM planning”</p> <p>“connect culture, heritage and arts in other chapters”</p> <p>“Integrate AT/open space/culture in HRM. One new project in each district”</p> <p>“Integrate people who are new with culture and heritage resources”</p> <p>“Build strong heritage and culture staff component”</p> <p>“Emphasis and use appears to be on planning &amp; development-programming is important related to culture &amp; heritage preservation.”</p> <p><i>There are additional comments under this theme that still need to be added</i></p>	<p>Agreed. The revised chapter will include a summary of the overarching goals of the Cultural Plan and strategic directions.</p> <p>Other chapters will be reviewed to determine if cross-referencing to Chapter 7 is warranted.</p>		
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	<p><b>Theme: Improve/Refine the components of the C&amp;H Priorities Plan</b>          “Section 7.22- inventory should extend to “Resources of significance to Aboriginal, Acadian, African Nova Scotian and other diverse ethnic cultures: benefit- reflects non-British founding “minority groups” in HRM”          “As part of the inventory include risk assessment”          “Inventory- needs to be done- to comprehensively recognize needs time &amp; resources e.g. HPI- review &amp; fill identified gaps- benefit: save time/resources”          “Aboriginal- map traditional land use of HRM by 1<sup>st</sup> Nations- use as a tool for planning/development processes- benefit: identify sensitive issues/areas early in development process.”          “Inventory is good idea- be sure to share it with community- HRM website- Benefit: helps inform developers/community groups in planning processes.”</p>			
	<p><b>Theme: There is a need for cultural space and clustering of cultural facilities and activities</b>          “acknowledge the value of cultural clustering and resource sharing”          “Use flexibility in space utilization- private &amp; not-for-profit partnerships – tax exemption for building ourselves”          “Resource sharing”          “Encourage clusters (land use and cultural policy)”  <i>There are additional comments under this theme that still need to be added</i></p>	<p>The need for cultural space will be addressed through the Culture and Heritage Priorities plan and secondary planning.</p>		



	<p><b>Theme: People and community values are fundamental when creating policies and new planning documents</b>          “Community needs to be the foundation of engagement”          “need to reflect WHO our community is”          “people oriented”          “recognize the value of investment of (citizen) time”          “keep listening to other voices”          “Who we are and the way we live”          “People engagement”          “Community value”          “What is “good” community design”          “Community”          “Page 73- objectives- add a #7, engage the community (HRM)- Benefit: the acknowledgement &amp; engagement of people is key to the success of the plan but it is not listed in the objectives”</p> <p><i>There are additional comments under this theme that still need to be added</i></p>	<p>The importance of community is inherent in community engagement and development of secondary planning strategies.</p>		
	<p><b>Theme: importance of cultural heritage to community identity and vibrancy</b>          “Museums: programming gives value to community”          “Foster a vibrant linked cultural community: history, museums, heritage, arts, community orgs”          “Access to culture for all areas of HRM”          “Municipal relationship &amp; responsibility to Dartmouth Heritage Museum- Priority- Benefit: regional museums help build HRM identity.”</p> <p><i>There are additional comments under this theme that still need to be added</i></p>	<p>This will be addressed through secondary planning and the Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan</p>		

	<p><b>Theme: African Nova Scotian</b>          “Recognize the Black Cultural Centre as a part of African Nova Scotian Heritage”</p>	<p>Staff believe the proposed Regional Plan does not need to specifically mention the Black Cultural Centre and other important cultural facilities. Programs, policies and investment in cultural infrastructure such as the Black Cultural Centre will be looked at as part of the Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan.</p>		
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