




PO Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
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Item No. 11.5.2

**Halifax Regional Council
August 5, 2008**

TO: Mayor Kelly and Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
for Councillor Russell Walker, Chair, HRM Grants Committee

DATE: July 24, 2008

SUBJECT: HRM Community Grants Program 2008-2009: Appeals

ORIGIN

Grants Committee meeting of July 7, 2008.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Regional Council approve the staff recommendation to award one-time grants to St. John's Anglican Church Hall (\$5,000), Mosher River and Area Historical Society (\$2,000), Nova Scotia Sea School (\$3,750), and Metro Non-Profit Housing Association (\$25,000), for a combined total of \$35,750 from account M311-8004.

BACKGROUND

At their July 7, 2008 meeting, the Grants Committee reviewed the Staff Report on the *HRM Community Grants Program 2008-2009: Appeals*, attached as Attachment 1 to this report.

DISCUSSION

The Grants Committee approved the staff recommendations at July 7, 2008 Grants Committee. See Attachment 1 of the staff report dated June 23, 2008.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

See Attachment 1 of the Staff report dated June 23, 2008

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

See Attachment 1 of the Staff report dated June 23, 2008

ALTERNATIVES

See Attachment 1 of the Staff report dated June 23, 2008

ATTACHMENTS

1. Staff report dated June 23, 2008.

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: Barbara Coleman, Legislative Assistant



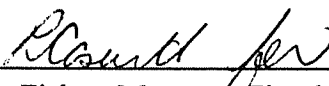
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Attachment 1

HRM Grants Committee
July 7, 2008

TO: Chair and Members HRM Grants Committee

SUBMITTED BY:



Bruce Fisher, Manager, Fiscal & Tax Policy

DATE: June 23, 2008

SUBJECT: HRM Community Grants Program 2008-2009: Appeals

ORIGIN

The *HRM Community Grants Program* provides an appeal process for those applicants deemed ineligible or not recommended for funding. The basis of appeal shall be (a) new information unavailable to the applicant or reviewer at the time of submission, or (b) an error in policy or procedure.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

The HRM Grants Committee approve the staff recommendation to award one-time grants to St. John's Anglican Church Hall (\$5,000), Moser River & Area Historical Society (\$2,000), Nova Scotia Sea School (\$3,750), and Metro Non-Profit Housing Association (\$25,000), for a combined total of \$35,750 from account M311-8004

BACKGROUND

Applicants deemed ineligible (Information Report, May 1, 2008) or not recommended for funding were notified in writing and had two weeks to submit a written appeal ie. May 31 and June 11 respectively. The capacity to provide awards is \$42,074.60 of which \$5,000 has been allocated upon appeal to St. John's Anglican Church, Necum Teuch (Council Report, June 10, 2008) for a balance of \$37,074.60. As of June, 2008, an amount of \$571.92 is also held in a recovery account M311-5508; these are refunds from grant recipients¹. Therefore, the combined total available for appeals is \$37,646.52.

DISCUSSION

Recommend Approval

Tier I

1. St. John's Anglican Church - Necum Teuch - Recreation & Leisure

The St. John's Church Hall is a former one-room school house that requires capital upgrades to the exterior walls and window replacement. A grant of \$5,000 was approved (Council Report, June 10, 2008) and an additional \$5,000 may be granted upon appeal. This award is included in this report for budgetary purposes. *As approved by Regional Council, an amount of \$5,000 will be held-back pending confirmation of either application for registration as a heritage property or a written agreement to use of authentic materials in insulating the church hall. A referral has been made to HRM's Heritage Planner who will make a site visit and assist with technical information.*

2. Moser River & Area Historical Society - Moser River - Community History

The applicant was deemed ineligible on the basis of not submitting a report and financial account for the prior year's grant. This information was received May 28, 2008, and eligibility re-instated. The Building Condition and Conservation Report provides guidance re: building protection and restoration. As per HRM's conditional funding, the cold room and cattle stall portions of the house were not demolished and represent a distinct feature of the site. The applicant requested a grant of \$4,000 towards assorted building repairs. The building is not a registered heritage property. *Staff recommend a one-time grant of \$2,000 towards repairs to the McMann House . Conditional: this excludes interior painting.*

3. Nova Scotia Sea School - Halifax - Emergency Assistance

The Nova Scotia Sea School is a federally registered Canadian charity that provides adventure-based programming for youth aged 14-18 in sailing and boat building, and wilderness camping. Revenues are primarily from tuition fees, donations and government grants. A grant of \$5,000 was requested towards consulting fees for the development of emergency preparedness policy and staff/instructor training in

¹ Deposits include: a project unable to proceed or change in scope, the un-spent portion of an award, or a repayment of money not spent in accordance with the terms and conditions of funding. To date, the account comprises the un-spent portion of awards returned by the Northern Lights Senior Citizens Club, Orenda Canoe Club, and Alice Housing.

wilderness safety. *Staff recommend a one-time grant of \$3,750 towards emergency preparedness policy development and training.*

Tier III

4. Metro Non-Profit Housing Association - Halifax - Affordable Housing & Shelters

Metro Non-Profit Housing Association is a federally registered Canadian charity that owns and operates supportive housing for homeless or at risk adults in the urban core. Revenues include rental income, government rent subsidies, grants and donations. In a letter dated May 16, 2008, the Metro Non-Profit Housing Association requested acceptance of a late application. The request is in the amount of \$25,000 for the purchase of household appliances for a new 20-unit supportive housing complex to be constructed at an estimated total cost of \$2,046,915. Capital funding have been awarded under the federal National Homelessness Initiative and operating assistance from Nova Scotia Community Services. Construction is due to begin in the fall of 2008. The appeal was considered at the committee meeting of May 26, 2008, and accepted on the basis of new information unavailable at the time of application: the letter of appeal states "...Our application is late, due to the nature and timing of the federal program did not allow us to apply earlier". *Staff recommend a one-time grant of \$25,000 for the purchase of energy efficient kitchen and laundry appliances.*

Recommend Decline

5. Tangier Deanery - Moser River - Recreation & Leisure

The Deanery Centre is owned by the Diocese of Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island and operated by the Tangier Deanery Camp Association, a registered non-profit society. A grant of \$18,350.06 was requested for vinyl siding, window and door repairs to the camp house. *Staff recommend funding be declined in this fiscal year and refer the applicant to HRM Community Development staff to provide assistance with any future submission and referral to additional funding sources. HRM staff recommend a building condition report and feasibility study be required as a basis for future municipal funding consideration².*

HRM staff met with staff of the Nova Scotia Department of Health Protection and Promotion June 16, 2008, re: recreation grants eligibility and awareness.

6. Icelandic Memorial Society of Nova Scotia - Mooseland - Community History

The Icelandic Memorial Society preserves the history of Icelandic settlement in the vicinity of Mooseland. Revenues are from memberships and donations. A grant of \$5,000 was requested for costs associated with a land lease and site preparation. The society plan to construct a replica log cabin on land leased from the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources. *Staff recommend funding be declined in this fiscal year and refer the applicant to HRM Community Development staff to provide assistance with any future submission and referral to additional funding sources. HRM staff recommend a feasibility study be*

² Such a requirement has been applied in several cases. For example, Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society, Harrison House Preservation Society, Moser River Historical Society, M'kmaq Native Friendship Centre.

required as a basis for future municipal funding consideration³. Specifically, a market analysis, capital and operating costs.

Tier III

7. Independent Living Resource Centre - Halifax - Recreation & Leisure

A request of \$5,000 for staff wages and materials for a drop-in program for persons with a disability was deemed ineligible (Council Report, May 5, 2008). The applicant has since notified HRM of funding received for this purpose from a private foundation. *Staff recommend the initial determination of ineligibility be upheld. Staff can provide assistance should the applicant wish to re-apply to the 2009-2010 program.*

8. Eastern Front Theatre - Dartmouth - Arts & Crafts

In a letter dated May 16, 2008, Eastern Front Theatre requested acceptance of a late application for \$5,000 towards development of a provincial tour for the play *In Pink* that tells the story of a local anti-bullying campaign initiated by two high school students. The appeal was considered at the committee meeting of May 26, 2008. *While the committee strongly support the play's message and encourage its' development the request was declined for this fiscal year. In the interim, the committee suggest Eastern Front Theatre pursue possible partnership opportunities with HRM departmental youth projects such as Halifax Regional Police and/or Community Development. The committee also encourages the applicant to re-apply to the 2009-2010 program.*

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

If approved, the four awards total \$35,750 and will be paid from account M311(Grants and Tax Concessions) as per the budget summary below:

Budget Summary: M311-8004

Cumulative unspent budget as of June 27, 2008	\$36,769
Less grants awarded	<u>\$35,750</u>
Balance	\$ 1,045

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 Grants Committee could overturn a recommendation, amend the value of an award, or refer a specific case back to staff for further review.

³ See footnote 2.

**Community Grants Program: Appeals 2008-09
Committee Report**

- 5 -

July 7, 2008

This action is not recommended: each appeal has been evaluated on the basis of information provided in the application, individual merit, and relative to the program's funding criteria and capacity.

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.

Report Prepared by: Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead, Tax, Grants & Special Projects 490-5469