

**Item No. 10.1.2**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**April 19, 2011**

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

Original signed by



**SUBMITTED BY:**

Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer

Original Signed by

Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Operations

**DATE:** 14 March 2011

**SUBJECT:** **Project Budget Increase, Canada Games Centre Solar Grant**

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**ORIGIN**

1. ecoENERGY for Renewable Heat Application and Contribution Agreement

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Approve an increase of \$138,765.00 to Project No. CB100091, Mainland Common Recreation Facility, to reflect recent secured additional cost sharing funding as outlined in the Budget Implications section of this report; and
2. That this additional funding be used to procure bleacher seating for the field house, for an amount not to exceed \$138,765.00.

## **BACKGROUND**

Since 2006, the Infrastructure Council Focus Area has been focussing on recapitalization as a priority investment, allowing HRM to improve the current condition of its assets. As a member of FCM's Partners for Climate Protection, HRM has demonstrated a commitment to reducing energy consumption through the GHG Local Action Plan. Replacing or upgrading existing infrastructure will go a long way towards meeting HRM's GHG targets.

## **DISCUSSION**

In November 2009, a contribution agreement was executed with Natural Resources Canada through their ecoENERGY for Renewable Heat program. The grant was to help fund the installation of solar hot water panels at the Canada Games Centre. Staff made an application and was successful in securing \$138,765. Additional funding will be used to secure bleacher seating for the field house. The bleachers were not included in the initial construction as they were not a necessary requirement of the Canada Games. Bleacher seating will expand the capacity of the field house from general usage of the public to larger attended events and sports.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

The budget availability has been confirmed by Financial Services.

Budget Summary:	<b>Project No. CB100091 – Mainland Commons Recreation Facility</b>	
	Cumulative Unspent Budget	\$ 13,062.79
	Plus: Increase to Budget from Grant	<u>\$138,765.00</u>
	Balance	\$151,827.79

## **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**

None

**ALTERNATIVES**

Council could choose to not accept the funding from the Federal Government and forego the significant cost sharing opportunity. This is not recommended by staff.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None

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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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Financial Approval by: For Bruce Fisher, MPA, CMA , Acting Director of Finance/CFO, 490-6308

Report Approved by: Phillip Townsend, Director Infrastructure and Asset Management, 490-7166

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