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REVISED
June 20, 2025

Balance amount corrected on
pages 1 & 2 only

Item No. 15.5.3
Halifax Regional Council
June 24, 2025

TO: Mayor Fillmore and Members of Halifax Regional Council
FROM: Councillor Jean St-Amand, Chair, Grants Committee
DATE: June 18, 2025
SUBJECT: **HRM Community Grants Program: Fiscal 2025 – Recommended Awards**

ORIGIN

June 18, 2025 meeting of Grants Committee, Item 9.1.1.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Approve 63 awards as detailed in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated May 26, 2025, for a combined total of \$476,430 from Operating Account M311-8004 Community Grants;
2. Amend the funding conditions for #56 Petpeswick Yacht Club in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated May 26, 2025, to remove the holdback condition, having the society confirmed provincial funding;
3. Recommend reduction in Grant award for #48 Kiwanis Club of Cole Harbour Westphal in Attachment 2 from \$5,000 (full funding) to \$1,000 as a result of the soil been donated and not a cash expenditure, and if a reduction is approved, the Financial Implications section of the staff report dated May 26, 2025 be amended to a revised balance remaining of \$23,570; and
4. Approve that the application for St. Peter Parish be referred to staff for further review on the basis of the historic significance of the building and the need for remediation.

BACKGROUND

The Grants Committee received a staff recommendation report dated May 26, 2025, to consider the 63 awards recommended of a total cost of \$480,430.

For further information refer to the attached staff report dated May 26, 2025.

DISCUSSION

The Grants Committee considered the staff report dated May 26, 2025 and approved the recommendation with an amendment to:

- Amend funding condition for #56 Petpeswick Yacht Club in Attachment 2 to remove the holdback condition, having the society confirmed provincial funding;
- Recommend reduction in Grant award for #48 Kiwanis Club of Cole Harbour Westphal in Attachment 2 from \$5,000 (full funding) to \$1,000 as a result of the soil been donated and not a cash expenditure, and if a reduction is approved the Financial Implications section be amended to a revised balance remaining of \$23,570; and

During the discussion staff noted a correction to Attachment 4 of the staff report dated May 26, 2025, to recognize that the Public Good Society of Dartmouth did provide quotes but remains ineligible because the applicant is not the owner of the property for which the purchase of an appliance is sought.

The Grants Committee also approved an additional motion recommending Halifax Regional Council approve that the application for St. Peter Parish be referred to staff for further review on the basis of the historic significance of the building and the need for remediation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Pending Council's approval of motion 3, the financial implications outlined in the attached staff report dated May 26, 2025 are amended to:

Community Grants Program 2025 Budget M311-8004	\$500,000
Less Proposed Awards as amended (63)	(\$476,430)
Revised Balance	\$23,570

RISK CONSIDERATION

Risk consideration is outlined in the attached staff report May 26, 2025.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Grants Committee is comprised of 6 citizen members and 4 Councillors. Meetings are live webcast on Halifax.ca. The agenda, reports, video, and minutes of the Committee are posted on Halifax.ca.

For further information on Community Engagement refer to the attached staff report dated May 26, 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Environmental implications are outlined in the staff report dated May 26, 2025.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternatives are outlined in the attached staff report dated May 26, 2025.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Legislative Authority is outlined in the attached staff report dated May 26, 2025.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Staff recommendation report dated May 26, 2025.

Report Prepared by: Olawumi Odeyinka-Apantaku, Legislative Assistant, Municipal Clerk's Office 902.717.6035
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Attachment 1

Item No. 9.1.1

Grants Committee
June 18, 2025

TO: Chair and Members of Grants Committee

FROM: Bill Moore, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: May 26, 2025

SUBJECT: HRM Community Grants Program: Fiscal 2025 – Recommended Awards

ORIGIN

The Community Grants Program is an annual program of project-specific cash grants for eligible non-profit and charitable organizations located within the geographic boundary of HRM. The 2025 program opened for applications in January and the submission deadline was April 1st, 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2025 Community Grants Program received a total of 120 applications of which 31 are ineligible for consideration. From the 89 eligible submissions, a total of 63 awards are recommended at a total cost of \$480,430. The distribution of applications and awards by funding category is summarized in Table 1, below.

Table 1. Program Applications and Distribution by Funding Category: Fiscal 2025 ¹				
Category	Total # of Applications	Combined Value of Requests	Total # of Proposed Awards	Total Value Proposed Awards
Community Arts	12	\$146,807.00	8	\$63,549
Community Histories	12	\$170,906.50	8	\$70,683
Diversity & Accessibility	24	\$249,331.10	9	\$79,704
Emergency Assistance & Public Safety	13	\$111,084.70	5	\$38,900
Environment & Climate Change	14	\$96,972.00	7	\$27,929
Leisure	17	\$152,069.01	9	\$62,515
Recreation	28	\$296,838.83	17	\$137,150
Total	120	\$1,224,009.14	63	\$480,430
Total Budget				\$500,000
Balance				\$19,570

Note to Table 1. Some applications were reassigned to other funding categories based on the type of project. Therefore, the number of awards varies from the number of initial applications per category.

RECOMMENDATION ON PAGE 2

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve 63 awards as detailed in Attachment 2 of this report for a combined total of \$480,430 from Operating Account M311-8004 Community Grants.

BACKGROUND

HRM's Community Grants Program provides project-specific funding across seven (7) categories to eligible registered non-profit organizations and charities located within the geographic boundary of the Halifax Regional Municipality. There are two (2) categories of award: (1) a Project Grant up to \$5,000 or (2) a Capital Grant up to \$25,000. An organization can apply for only one grant in any given year but may elect to make successive applications. Multi-year awards are not issued under the Community Grants Program and awards are project-specific, not operating grants.

DISCUSSION

The 2025 Community Grants Program received a total of 120 applications on, or post-marked on, March 31st, 2025 for a combined total of \$1,224,009 in requests. Of these submissions, 31 are ineligible for consideration leaving 89 eligible applications. The number of applications received is higher than the 97 received last year and may be attributed to a broader promotion of the Community Grants Program.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Community Grants Program 2025 Budget M311-8004	\$500,000
Less Proposed Awards (63)	<u>(\$480,430)</u>
Balance	\$ 19,750

RISK CONSIDERATION

The primary risks associated with cash grants are representational (accuracy of information), financial misappropriation or loss, and reputational risk to the Municipality. The following measures are aimed at reducing the risk of default:

- proposed grant recipients are screened for debt to the Municipality;
- eligibility for further funding is suspended if an applicant has not submitted a final report by March 31 or reporting is incomplete for a grant issued in a prior year;
- any carry-forward of a grant to the following fiscal year to complete a project is limited to one (1) year and the organization's eligibility for further funding under the Community Grants Program is suspended; and
- perceived risk may be indicated by the descriptor "developmental grant" in cases where the applicant organization has no demonstrated record of program or service delivery, or financial resources are modest.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Information regarding program eligibility, application timelines, applicant scoring, and previous awards are posted on the municipality's web site. Printed materials are also available through HRM Customer Service Centres and the Corporate Call Centre.

Legislation mandates that municipalities notify the public of all grants; this obligation is fulfilled in accordance with HRM's Administrative Order 2019-007-ADM Respecting Public Disclosure of Municipal Grants.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No environmental implications were identified.

ALTERNATIVES

The Grants Committee could recommend Regional Council decline a grant, amend the value of award, or the terms and conditions of funding, or refer an application to staff for further review.

A referral allows for reconsideration in relation to any balance remaining in the 2025 Community Grants Program budget. Given that all applications have been evaluated using the information provided by an applicant and any additional due diligence on the part of a reviewers, referrals are strengthened if a rationale is provided.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, SNS 2008, c 39:

Section 7A The purposes of the Municipality are to

- (a) provide good government;
- (b) provide services, facilities and other things that, in the opinion of the Council, are necessary or desirable for all or part of the Municipality; and
- (c) develop and maintain safe and viable communities.

Section 79A (1) Subject to subsections (2) to (4), the Municipality may only spend money for municipal purposes if

- (a) The expenditure is included in the Municipality's operating budget or capital budget or is otherwise authorized by the Municipality.

Administrative Order 2022-005-ADM Community Grants Program

Section 3. The aim of the Community Grants Program is to support the volunteer participation of residents of the Halifax Regional Municipality in local nonprofit and charitable organizations that develop or deliver a project, program, service, or amenity to the benefit of members of the public and that aligns with elements of the Municipality's 5-Year Strategic Priorities Plan.

Section 27. The following criteria shall be used by staff to evaluate applications for consideration by the Grants Committee for recommendation to Council:

- (a) The way in which a project addresses a program funding priority;
- (b) The applicant's demonstrated financial capacity and the incremental impact of a municipal grant;
- (c) The applicant's reliance on volunteers and self-generated revenues – preference may be given to organizations not in receipt of recurring municipal, provincial, or federal government funding; and
- (d) The type and scope of public benefit in terms of one or more of the following: accessibility, diversity, affordability, or inclusivity.

Section 28. Preference may be given to:

- (a) applicants' ineligible for consideration under another municipal program;
- (b) geographic or interest-based communities with limited access to public amenities; or
- (c) amenities open to the public at no or low cost.

- ***HRM Grants Committee Terms of Reference.***

The duties of the HRM Grants Committee are to:

- 4.1. Advise Regional Council on all matters related to the allocation of grants, as defined by Regional Council.

Administrative Order 2019-007-ADM Respecting Public Disclosure of Municipal Grants.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Overview of Review Methodology

Attachment 2 - Recommended Awards: 2025 Community Grants Program

- (i) Award Recommendations

- (ii) Table 1. Award Recommendations in Relation to Prior Year Awards (2022-2024)

Attachment 3 - Not Recommended for Funding: 2025 Community Grants Program

Attachment 4 - Applications Ineligible for Consideration: 2025 Community Grants Program

Attachment 5 – Key Performance Indicators (Tables)

Overview of Review Methodology

As stated in Administrative Order 2022-005-ADM, the purpose of the Community Grants Program is to support the volunteer participation of residents of HRM in local nonprofit and charitable organizations that develop or deliver a project, program, or service to benefit members of the public and align with HRM priorities.

The Community Grants Program comprises seven (7) funding categories, each with its own priorities. There are two types of cash grant: (1) a Project Grant of up to \$5,000 and (2) a Capital Grant of up to \$25,000. The latter accommodates real property expenditures (i) the purchase of real estate, (ii) capital improvements to land or a building owned by the applicant, or (iii) the purchase of equipment costing over \$5,000 per item. An organization is eligible for only one grant in any fiscal year. Joint applications between two or more organizations are permitted but the value of any award does not exceed the maximum funding threshold. Due to the difference in maximum funding threshold for Project Grants as compared to Capital Grants the combined value of awards will vary year-to-year and by funding category.

Presentation of Information

The staff recommendations with respect to awards, declined, or ineligible applications uses a narrative description in preference to a list by name and dollar value to heighten decision-making transparency. Hence, all applications are listed the Attachments to the staff report to the Grants Committee.

The information in support of proposed awards includes the following information.

- Identification of applicants who are a registered Canadian charity and the classification¹.
- A brief description of the organization's purpose and type of program or service.
- Groups that rely entirely on volunteers (with or without seasonal employment grants).
- How the operations of the organization are sustained (self-funded vs government operating assistance) including tax exemption by legislation or discretionary municipal tax relief.
- Any other sources of project funding, both confirmed or unconfirmed, as a gauge of project readiness.

Identification of Applicants by "Tier"

The term "Tier" refers to an organization's gross revenues in the prior fiscal year as presented in the financial statement provided with the grant application. This is a gauge of the applicant's year-end cash position, including assets and liabilities:

- Tier 1 below \$50,000
- Tier 2 below \$250,000
- Tier 3 above \$250,000

Evaluation Criteria and Process

Submissions are reviewed in stages.

(1) Ineligible applications are identified and are not scored.

(2) Eligible applications are evaluated within each funding category using standardized weighting of scores. Potential awards are then moderated in relation to applicants within the same funding category, in relation to the program's budget, prior grants to the same organization or project, and/or federal, provincial, or municipal government funding.

(3) If sufficient capacity remains within the program's overall budget the value of a grant may be adjusted,

¹ There are four (4) main categories – Relief of Poverty, Advancement of Education, Advancement of Religion, and Community Benefit.

or consideration given to applications that initially scored lower.

Evaluation Scoring		
Criteria	Description	Weight
Sector Priority	Does the project directly address a funding priority for this category	/5
Financial Needs	Demonstrated inability to self-fund. Limited Access to government or other funding	/5
Public Benefit	Accessible, Affordable, inclusive	/5
Volunteer Support	Support volunteers in the development and/or delivery of a program or service serving residents	/5
Total		/20

The evaluation score does not correspond to the value of any award recommended, meaning that a higher score does not translate into a higher cash grant.

If a reviewer declares a conflict of interest, the file is reviewed by a colleague.

Reviewers are expected to verify the information provided in the submission. Additional information may be added during the review to support an evidence-based recommendation.

Smaller organizations may not have the cash flow or access to market financing to commence a project prior to the receipt of a grant. Therefore, very few grants are awarded on a reimbursement basis, but a grant may be held pending confirmation of an ability to proceed (for example, financing from other sources, permit approvals) and an assurance that the project can be completed in a timely manner.

Program Guidebook

Prospective applicants are assisted in understanding the program's eligibility criteria in a guidebook. Assistance is also available through a designated email address and by telephone.

Recommended Awards 2025

COMMUNITY ARTS

Tier 1

1. Lawrencetown Sew-ciety Guild – Lawrencetown – Project Grant/Equipment

The society is sustained by membership dues and fundraising through an annual *Quilt Show and Sale*; the Lawrencetown Community Centre, a nonprofit society, supports the Guild by providing storage space and display opportunities. Members meet bi-weekly for sewing sessions and collaborate on quilts and sewing projects to donate or sell to raise money for charity – for example, pillowcases and baby blankets for the IWK and quilts for the national veterans Quilts of Valor program. A grant of \$750 is requested for the construction of a custom storage box for materials and equipment. Funding is recommended to support the preservation and presentation of traditional and contemporary sewing skills and the work of volunteers in producing items donated to local charities. ***A grant of \$750 is recommended to fully fund the construction of a custom storage container to expand the capacity to store donated quilting materials and small equipment.***

2. Newcomer Choir Association - Canada – Halifax – Project Grant/Marketing

The Association incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation with Industry Canada in 2023. The Halifax branch operates out of the St. Andrew's United Church, Halifax, and participation in the choir is free. The Association's focus is on developing language proficiency and social connections for newcomers through singing. As a relatively new organization, revenues are primarily self-generated through donations, performance honoraria, and workshop fees. A grant of \$4,500 is requested towards professional fees to (i) upgrade the website, (ii) creation of digital learning resources (rehearsal recordings, pronunciation guide), (iii) social media outreach, (iv) graphic design, and (v) project administration. The total project cost is \$5,500. The applicant has confirmed \$500 and has applied to Arts Nova Scotia for \$500. The recommended award excludes wages for project management. ***A grant in the amount of \$4,000 is recommended to fully fund professional services for website upgrades, digital learning resources, and graphic design.***

3. Second Chances Community Music Society – Halifax – Capital Grant/Equipment

Incorporated in 2013, the Society provides music education for adults in bands, string, percussion, and choral music. Revenues are primarily registration fees, net proceeds from an annual Band Fest event, and fundraising. A grant of \$25,000 is requested to purchase assorted percussion band instruments, only one of which costs over \$5,000 [Policy, Section 4 (b)]. Therefore, a grant toward the purchase of orchestra bells (\$5,299) is recommended. The Society's contribution of \$5,802.75 is confirmed. If the value of HRM's grant is approved, the Society's contribution can be directed toward the purchase of other instruments. The band equipment is stored at the Aurora Community Church, Halifax, and the Society carries insurance for any damage or loss. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,299 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of a set of orchestra bells for the Second Chances Community Music Society.***

4. Sheet Harbour Radio Society – Sheet Harbour – Capital Grant/Facility Upgrades

The Society incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 2016 and operated out of donated space in a local hardware store before acquiring land and purchasing a transport trailer to convert into a small, designated broadcast studio. The group relies on volunteers, in-kind donations, project-specific grant, and municipal

tax relief. A grant of \$17,734 is requested to fully fund assorted projects: (i) exterior grading to enclose space beneath the trailer to reduce heat loss, (ii) construct an access ramp, and (iii) refurbishment of an abandoned community garden that once operated on-site. Funding is recommended only in relation to the broadcast studio. Specifically, enclosure of the trailer and construction of a replacement front entry. ***A grant in the amount of \$9,500 is recommended towards upgrades to the 94.7 FM community radio station. Excludes funding for the community garden. The grant is conditional upon proof of applicable building permit approval.***

Note: This application was reassigned from Recreation to Community Arts because broadcasting is typically included in data on cultural industries and most community radio programming focuses on music/entertainment.

Tier 2

5. Halifax Art and Performance Association – Dartmouth – Capital Grant/Equipment

Incorporated as a nonprofit society in 2023, the Association has a partial lease of the former First Baptist Church in downtown Dartmouth that has been partially renovated to host professional and non-professional performing arts and small events. The main floor is wheelchair-accessible, and the property is located on a public transit route. Operations rely on volunteers, venue rentals, and fundraising. A grant of \$24,992.84 is requested to fully fund the purchase and installation of a professional-grade sound system. As a start-up operation, the applicant has limited ability to fully fund the acquisition and this equipment should enhance the venue's appeal, presentation quality and audience experience. ***A grant in the amount of \$24,000 is recommended toward the purchase of a professional-grade sound system for the Sanctuary Arts Centre venue.***

6. Halifax Gay Men's Choir – Halifax – Project Grant/Equipment

Incorporated in 2019, the Society presents choral music performed by members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. The organization is volunteer and sustained by membership dues, ticket sales, and fundraising. Membership is not auditioned, and bursaries are available to enhance inclusion. A grant in the amount of \$1,000 is requested toward the purchase of a wireless headset and a laptop computer to enable online access to live-stream rehearsals. The applicant's contribution of \$350 is confirmed. ***A grant in the amount of \$1,000 is recommended toward the purchase of a wireless headset and laptop computer for the Halifax Gay Men's Choir.***

7. Nova Scotia Choral Federation – Halifax/Provincial – Project Grant/Marketing

The Federation incorporated as a society in 1976 and as a registered Canadian charity in 1980 (Community Benefit/Arts) for the purpose of supporting choral music in Nova Scotia. The Federation is sustained by funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism, and Heritage supplemented by revenues from instructional camps, non-recurring grants, and membership dues. In addition, the Federation occupies shared office rent free except for any operating deficit. The property is leased from the federal government by the Cultural Federations of Nova Scotia, a collective of eight professional arts umbrella organizations, and receives annual municipal tax relief. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards assorted website upgrades costing \$8,000. The applicant's contribution of \$3,000 is confirmed. Although the Federation fosters professional development, including online webinars, there is programming for aspiring children and youth through the Children's Chorus of Nova Scotia (ages 5-9), Nova Scotia Youth Choir (ages 6-25), Sing Summer Choir Camps, and a school outreach program. Partial funding is recommended based on the extent of public support received by the Federation from three levels of

government. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended towards professional fees to upgrade the Choral Federation's website.***

Tier 3

8. Seaside Broadcasting Corporation – Eastern Passage - Capital Grant/Facility Upgrade

Incorporated in 2000, the community radio station 105.9 FM provides music programming, news, and local events. Operations rely on an online lottery, fundraising, advertising sales, seasonal government employment grants, and municipal tax relief. The society acquired ownership of the former residential property in 2020, assisted by a mortgage, and commenced renovations. A grant of \$25,000 is requested to fund (i) the purchase of new sound mixing equipment and (ii) the installation of upgraded/replacement electrical wiring throughout the building. The Community Grants Program does not fund retroactive expenses [Policy, Section 25 (m)]. Therefore, only the electrical upgrade is eligible for consideration. The applicant will be referred to staff for assistance with any future grant application. ***A grant in the amount of \$14,000 is recommended to fully fund electrical upgrades to the Seaside FM radio station.***

COMMUNITY HISTORIES

Tier 1

9. Friends of St. James UC Heritage Society – Spry Bay – Capital Grant/Building Restoration (Registered Heritage Property)

The Society is a registered Canadian charity (Community Benefit/Public Amenities) whose purpose is to protect and preserve the former church property, a registered heritage building (c.1872) parts of which were constructed from wood salvaged from shipwrecks and hand-hewn wood harvested from around Grand Lake. The Society is entirely volunteer and relies on fundraising and project-specific grants. In 2024, the Society completed the first phase of a 3-year restoration project to address wood rot. Phase II requires replacement of the bell tower roof, reinforcement of bell tower railings, and associated exterior painting at a cost of \$16,388. Due to the height of the steeple the work requires rental of a boom truck. Heritage Planner approval confirmed. ***A grant in the amount of \$16,388 is recommended to fully fund restoration of the St. James Church steeple, a registered heritage property.***

10. Hammonds Plains Historical Society – Hammonds Plains – Project Grant/Equipment

Established in 2010 the Society's volunteers collect and preserve the history of the Hammonds Plains community's settlement and development much of which was related to forestry (sawmills, barrel and box making, ship building). Operations are sustained by the St. Margaret's Bay Lottery, membership dues, and project-specific grants. A grant of \$1,190 is requested to fully fund the purchase of a laptop computer and software to scan photographs, maintain a digital archive, and produce a limited number of albums to loan to local schools. The Society's contribution of \$600 is confirmed. ***A grant of \$1,190 is recommended towards the purchase of a laptop computer and software for a digital archive of photographs.***

11. Middle Musquodoboit Cemeteries Committee – Middle Musquodoboit – Project Grant/Equipment

The Society was established in 2022 to preserve the history and genealogical significance of the Pioneer Cemetery and Hillside Cemetery located in Middle Musquodoboit which were founded in mid-1800's and exempt from property tax under the Assessment Act. Both became independent from the Middleton United Church to accommodate non-denominational burials. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards the

development of a website to publicize the location, marked and unmarked graves, and related stories of settlers and notable contributions to the community. The goal is to establish and update an interactive website with a link for online donations. The applicant's contribution of \$2,500 is confirmed and they aim to raise an additional \$2,500. ***A grant of \$5,000 is recommended for professional fees to develop a website for the Middle Musquodoboit Cemeteries Committee.***

12. Moser River and Area Historical Society – Capital Grant/Building Upgrade

Established in 1999 the Society is a registered Canadian charity (Community Benefit/Public Amenities) whose purpose is to preserve the building known as the McMann House (c.1870). The premises are used for meetings, small events, and static displays depicting the history of the village of Moser River. Operations are entirely volunteer except for seasonal employment grants, and sustained by fundraising, project-specific grants, and municipal tax relief. A grant of \$10,600 is requested to fully fund the purchase of thirteen replacement vinyl windows and two vinyl-clad exterior doors. The applicant will provide volunteer labour to complete the installation. As a registered charity the Society may apply to Revenue Canada Agency for a partial rebate on HST. ***A grant in the amount of \$10,600 is recommended for the purchase of replacement windows for the McMann House.***

Note: Although the property has historical significance to the community it is not a registered heritage building. The use of vinyl and metal fixtures may compromise any future application for heritage designation and access to government funding for heritage conservation.

13. Polish Emigration Memorial Society – Provincial – Project Grant/Monument

The Society was established in 2018 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Poland's independence with a monument at Pier 21 and an acknowledgement of the cultural, social, and military contribution of immigrants to Nova Scotia. The Society provides stewardship of the monument and the graves of notable citizens. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards the production and installation of a monument costing \$61,175 recognizing the role played by the Polish Navy in the Battle of the Atlantic during WWII (1939-1945). Polish personnel and ships served in protecting Canadian Navy convoys, transporting military personnel, and the safe passage of artefacts of historical significance from England to Halifax for safekeeping during WWII. The project has strong endorsement and financial support from the Institute of National Remembrance (Poland), Halifax Port Authority, individuals and organizations affiliated with the Polish diaspora. The Society's contribution of \$8,975 is confirmed and application has been made to the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage (pending). ***A grant of \$5,000 is recommended toward the construction and installation of a monument on the Halifax waterfront commemorating the role of the Polish Navy in the WWII Battle of the Atlantic.***

14. St. Paul's Church – Anglican Parish of French Village – French Village – Capital Grant/Restoration (Registered Heritage Property)

The Anglican Parish of French Village is a registered Canadian charity (Advancement of Religion/Christianity) that encompasses four churches, including St. Paul's, a registered heritage property (c.1832) located in French Village. As a place of worship, the property is exempt from property tax under the Assessment Act. A grant of \$14,580 is requested to fund professional services to restore six stained glass windows at a cost of \$14,580 + HST. The church's contribution of \$2,187 is confirmed, but as a registered charity the owner may apply to Revenue Canada Agency for a partial rebate. Further, the applicant acknowledges that they have an ability to cost share but that these funds are to be used to reconfigure the church interior to expand its utility for events hosting and interpretation. Although full funding

is recommended, the applicant will be encouraged to secure non-municipal funds¹ or a designated capital fundraising campaign. ***A grant in the amount of \$14,580 is recommended toward the professional restoration of select stained glass windows in the St. Paul's Church, French Village, a registered heritage property.***

Tier 2

15. William Black Memorial United Church – Glen Margaret – Capital Grant/Building Restoration (Registered Heritage Property)

The William Black Memorial United Church is a registered Canadian charity (Advancement of Religion/Christianity) sustained by congregational offerings, facility rentals, and fundraising. Built in 1821, the church is a registered heritage property. A grant in the amount of \$50,866.50 is requested towards several property-related projects: (i) exterior painting (\$13,225), (ii) replacement of the wooden walkway to the church (\$2,575), (iii) the purchase and installation of a new digital sign (\$10,120), and (iv) paving the church/church hall parking lot (\$37,892.50). The maximum funding threshold for a Capital Grant is \$25,000 [Policy, 5 (b)] and only the exterior painting is directly related to heritage preservation. Heritage Planner approval confirmed. The applicant will be referred to staff for assistance with any future grant application. ***A grant in the amount of \$13,225 is recommended for exterior painting of the William Black Memorial United Church, a registered heritage property.***

Tier 3

16. Canadian Naval Memorial Trust – Halifax – Project Grant/Equipment (National Historic Site)

The Trust is a registered Canadian charity (Community Benefit/Community Amenities) formed for the purpose of providing stewardship of HMCS Sackville, Canada's oldest warship, a Naval memorial, and a National Historic Site. The Trust raises funds towards the preservation and interpretation of both the ship and its role in Canadian naval history. A grant of \$5,000 is requested toward enhancing awareness of the vessel's significance and visitor experience through the purchase of updated signage (pier and ship banners), print advertising and rack cards, and the purchase of podcaster handsets and docking stations for onboard guided tours. ***A grant of \$4,700 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of podcast recording equipment to enhance self-guided tours aboard the HMCS Sackville.***

DIVERSITY & ACCESSIBILITY

Tier 1

17. NS Resettlement Society – Bedford – Project Grant/Marketing

Incorporated in 2023, the Society's volunteers assist displaced individuals and families. The organization is sustained by donations and donated office space which is open two days a week. A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund the purchase of a filing cabinet, laptop computer and printer, and professional fees for a website. The applicant is not eligible to apply for federal or provincial immigrant settlement funding in 2025 because the next multi-year intake will not open until fiscal 2026. Although the development of a website will add to annual operating costs (license, internet, updates) it may enhance access to information for individuals with limited language proficiency or socially isolated. ***A developmental grant of \$3,250 is***

¹ For example, the provincial government provides a partial rebate on provincial sales tax for materials (not labour) for materials purchased for the restoration of registered heritage property.

recommended to fully fund professional fees for the development of a website for the NS Resettlement Society.

18. St. James Hall Renovations Committee – Head of Jeddore – Capital Grant/Building Upgrade (Accessibility)

Incorporated in 1996, the society operate a church hall affiliated with and abutting St. James Anglican Church. Volunteers raise funds through rentals and fundraising to pay utilities and minor upkeep. The church hall is assessed exempt property tax under the Assessment Act. A grant of \$11,000 is requested to consolidate two existing washrooms into a single wheelchair-accessible washroom. The work includes interior renovations, new fixtures, and plumbing at a total cost of \$12,000. The applicant's contribution of \$1,000 is confirmed and as a registered charity may apply to Revenue Canada Agency for a partial HST rebate. The church hall serves as a rural area with limited public facilities. ***A grant in the amount of \$10,000 is recommended toward construction of an accessible washroom in St. James Church Hall.***

Tier 2

19. Acadia Recreation Club Society – Lower Sackville – Capital Grant/Building Upgrade (Accessibility)

Incorporated in 1932, the Club gained registered Canadian charity status in 2012 (Community Benefit/Public Amenities) and operates a community hall and park open to the public. Operations are primarily sustained by earned revenues and fundraising, supplemented by project-specific grants. The property is not assessed as taxable. A grant of \$25,000 is requested for assorted building repairs and upgrades (exterior doors, ramp, electrical, signage) and equipment (a computer and software). Funding is recommended towards the cost of an exterior wheelchair ramp and accessible steel door. The project is estimated to cost \$30,000. As a registered charity the Club could apply to Revenue Canada Agency for a partial HST rebate. ***A grant in the amount of \$25,000 is recommended toward the purchase and installation of a replacement main door with accessibility hardware and a wheelchair ramp for Acadia Hall. Excludes funding toward computer equipment, general repairs, or digital signage.***

20. Lakeview, Windsor Junction, Fall River Firemen's Association – Fall River – Capital Grant/Building Upgrade (Accessibility)

Incorporated in 1965, the Association owns two properties accessible to the public for a variety of leisure activities supported by bar sales and hall rentals revenues, grants, and municipal tax relief. The larger of the two properties (843 Fall River Road) has operated as a community hall for many years while the smaller property located on Highway 2, a former fire station, accommodated a collection of firefighting artefacts and memorabilia owned by a separate nonprofit entity who have vacated the site. This building is equipped with a small kitchen, washroom, and meeting rooms suited to small meetings and events. As proposed, the Association will renovate the vacant building in two phases, starting with a replacement wheelchair-accessible front entrance at a cost of \$11,212.50. The Association's contribution of \$3,212.50 is confirmed. ***A grant in the amount of \$8,000 is recommended toward the purchase and installation of a wheelchair-accessible main entrance to the LWF Fireman's Association property located at 3214 Highway Two, Fall River.***

Tier 3

21. Canadian National Institute for the Blind (Nova Scotia Branch) – National/Toronto (Provincial/Halifax) – Capital Grant/Equipment (Accessibility)

Founded in 1918² the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (“CNIB”) is a national charity (Relief of Poverty/Organizations Relieving Poverty) with headquarters in Toronto and branches throughout Canada. The organization advocates and provides specialized services for the blind, visually impaired, and deafblind communities. The operation of the Halifax branch relies primarily upon donations and fundraising. A grant of \$18,991.10 is requested to fully fund the purchase and installation of two (2) enclosed workstations. The booth is soundproof, which will enable volunteers to make weekly telephone calls to clients unable to use, or have limited access to, email, social media, and website communications. In addition to providing information verbally, the call service also addresses the social isolation experienced by some clients, many of whom are seniors. As a registered Canadian charity, the CNIB could apply to Revenue Canada Agency for a partial HST rebate. Funding for only one workstation is recommended. ***A grant in the amount of \$9,000 is recommended toward the purchase of equipment for the CNIB Nova Scotia Branch client contact service.***

22. LEARNINGO: Community Recreation and Education Society – Bedford – Project Grant/Equipment

Established in 2016, the Society gained status as a registered Canadian charity in 2019 (Community Benefit/Core Health Care) to provide community-based recreation, leisure, and educational opportunities for neurodiverse children, youth and young adults. Revenue is primarily from program fees, grants and fundraising. HRM Parks and Recreation also has an agreement with the Society to provide space at no cost³ in the Captain William Spry Centre and the Sackville Sports Centre in lieu of recreational programming and training for recreation leaders. A grant of \$5,000 is requested toward establishing a sensory room through the purchase of assorted small sensory, tactile, and play equipment. The applicant's contribution of \$1,500 is confirmed. Partial funding is recommended. The remaining costs in the project budget are made up of multiple small items (e.g. fidget kits, blankets, bean bags, etc.). Financial statements indicate the ability to purchase the remaining items; purchases could also be phased. ***A grant in the amount of \$1,500 is recommended toward the purchase of small play equipment for a sensory room serving neurodiverse individuals.***

23. Royal Canadian Legion (Dieppe Branch #90) – National/Ottawa (Waverley Branch) – Capital Grant/Building Upgrade (Accessibility)

The Royal Canadian Legion is incorporated under an Act of the Parliament of Canada. The Waverley Branch's operations are sustained by bar sales, video lottery machine proceeds, hall rentals, and fundraising. The property is exempt from property tax under the Assessment Act. A grant of 18,847.82 is requested toward the purchase and installation of a replacement entry doorway with automated door opening device and associated electrical work at a total cost of \$21,847.82 included. Partial funding is recommended based on an ability to increase cost share and efforts to access funding under the provincial

² The CNIB was initially incorporated under the Companies Amendment Act of 1917, a registered charity under the Income Tax Act (Canada) in 1967, and under the Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act (2013).

³ According to the financial information provided by the applicant the estimated cost of HRM's in-kind facility contribution is ~\$40,000 in 2025.

*Legion Capital Assistance Fund*⁴. **A grant in the amount of \$8,000 is recommended toward the purchase and installation of a replacement entry doorway with accessibility features for the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #90 in Waverley. Holdback funds pending confirmation of an ability to proceed.**

24. YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth – Halifax – Capital Grant/Equipment (Accessibility)

Incorporated under an Act of the Nova Scotia Legislature the YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth is a registered Canadian charity (Advancement of Religion/Support of Religion). Revenues are primarily from membership dues, program registration fees, interest earnings, and government grants. Property owned by the YMCA is exempt from property tax under an Act of the Nova Scotia Legislature. A grant of \$25,000 is requested to fully fund the purchase of assorted equipment (i) a shower bench, (ii) two resistance exercise machines, and (iii) a specialized mobile transfer hoist to assist clients. The YMCA's contribution of \$2,270.25 is confirmed. As a registered charity the applicant may apply to Revenue Canada Agency for a partial HST rebate. Funding to purchase only the transfer lift is recommended because the item is adaptive and an important safety feature in relation to transfer in and out of the indoor swimming pool area. The financial information provided indicates an ability for the applicant to cost-share or purchases could be phased as funds permit. **A grant of \$4,954 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of a mobile transfer lift for the YMCA swimming pool.**

25. Ummah Society – Halifax – Capital Grant/Building Upgrade (Accessibility)

The Society was registered as a Canadian Society in 1999. Currently the Society manages four independent entities in Nova Scotia: a licensed daycare, a private school Primary to twelve years of age, a community center, and a mosque. The community centre contains a mosque as well as a gymnasium and various rooms that are available to rent for the broader community. A capital grant in the amount of \$25,000 towards the cost of replacing a sidewalk and accessibility ramp to the main entrance shared by the centre and the mosque. A grant in the amount of \$25,000 requested towards replacing the sidewalk and wheel accessibility ramp. **A grant in the amount of \$10,000 recommended towards the cost of replacing the wheelchair ramp.**

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE & PUBLIC SAFETY

Tier 2

26. Cobequid Food Security Network – Lower Sackville and Area – Project Grant/Marketing (Food)

Incorporated as a nonprofit society in 2023, the Network is a coalition of organizations⁵ and individuals collaborating in their efforts to reduce or eliminate food insecurity. Member organizations are primarily located in Sackville, Beaver Bank, Bedford, and surrounding areas including Hammonds Plains, Lucasville, Waverley, Windsor Junction, Wellington, and Stillwater Lake. Although a relative start-up the organization has received funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage and operations are coordinated from the Beacon House facility in Lower Sackville. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards professional fees to upgrade the Network's website. A grant in the amount of \$2,340 from the Nova Scotia Department of Opportunities and Social Development is confirmed. The existing website helps

⁴ The Legion Capital Assistance Program is administered by the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism, and Heritage. Funding of up to 50% to a maximum of \$10,000 is available but the review process prioritizes applicants who have not received funding over the previous five years – past recipients may be considered subject to budget capacity, but the program is heavily over-subscribed.

⁵ An extensive list of organizations was provided with the application but for brevity are not listed in this report.

individuals and groups seeking information and/or assistance locating a food program such as a food bank, feeding program, or food delivery service. The enhancements are intended to add features such as online payment to enhance sponsorship, a platform for volunteer recruitment, and expanded listings. Municipal funding recognizes the collaborative nature of operations and the need to establish self-generated revenues. ***A grant of \$5,000 is recommended towards professional fees to upgrade the Cobequid Food Security Network website.***

27. Meals on Wheels Volunteer Service – Halifax – Project Grant/Equipment (Food)

Established in 1969, the society incorporated in 1972 as a registered Canadian charity (Relief of Poverty/Organizations Relieving Poverty). Operations are sustained by funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services, full or partial meal recovery costs, and donations. The organization is collaborative and works with Northwood, Shelter Nova Scotia, and the Department of Veterans Affairs. With two part-time staff, the service relies on 45 volunteers to deliver an estimated 25,000 meals annually. Demand is growing but the ability to expand routes and serve more clients requires additional equipment. A grant of \$3,953 is requested to fully fund the purchase of a commercial freezer and small delivery equipment (thermal bags and utility carts). As a registered charity the society can apply to Canada Revenue Agency for a partial HST rebate. ***A grant of \$3,900 is recommended for the purchase of a commercial freezer and small delivery equipment for the Halifax Meals on Wheels service.***

Tier 3

28. Community Care Network Society – Halifax – Capital Grant/ Facility Upgrade (Food/Household)

The Society is a registered Canadian charity (Relief of Poverty/Organizations Relieving Poverty) that provides food, household items, computer equipment, clothing, and emergency funds to lower income individuals and families. Operations are sustained by fundraising, thrift store sales, the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services, municipal tax relief (for two properties) and project-specific grants. A grant of \$22,938.70⁶ is requested to fully fund (i) electrical upgrades to the facility at a cost of \$11,206.75 and (ii) the purchase of a portable freezer costing \$13,200 HST included. As a registered charity the Society is eligible to apply to Canada Revenue Agency for a partial HST rebate. The electrical upgrade is seen as a funding priority to ensure safety and capacity in advance of adding any additional large-scale appliances. ***A grant of \$20,000 is recommended toward an electrical system upgrade and the purchase of a free-standing industrial freezer for facility known as the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank.***

29. Dartmouth Senior Citizens Service Centre Commission – Dartmouth – Project Grant/Equipment (Food)

In 1982 the Commission incorporated as a registered Canadian charity (Relief of Poverty/Organizations Relieving Poverty) in 1982 and a registered society in 1990. The Centre's operations are sustained by a less than market value lease for premises owned by the Government of Nova Scotia in downtown Dartmouth, funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services, and strong fundraising revenues. A grant of \$5,000 is requested for the purchase and installation of stainless-steel racks costing \$5,821.91 (including shipping, HST, and installation) for a new walk-in freezer acquired in 2024. The cooler expands the society's capacity to store donated food and to expand Meals on Wheels service to include frozen prepared meals for clients. As a registered charity the society may apply to Canada Revenue Agency for a partial rebate on HST. The society's contribution of \$1,000 is confirmed. The applicant will be provided with written feedback and referred to staff for assistance with any future funding request. ***A grant of \$5,000 is recommended towards the purchase of small equipment for a walk-in freezer to expand food***

⁶ In 2024 the Society received a capital grant of \$25,000 towards the purchase of a delivery truck.

storage and home delivery for community feeding programs coordinated by the Dartmouth Senior Citizens Centre.

Note: This application was reassigned from Diversity & Accessibility to Emergency Assistance & Public Safety because the grant expenditure is directly linked to the provision of a community feeding program.

30. Souls Harbour Rescue Mission – Regional/Provincial – Project Grant/Equipment (Food/Household)

The Mission is a registered Canadian charity (Relief of Poverty/Organizations Relieving Poverty) that operates drop-in centres and supportive housing facilities in Halifax, Lower Sackville, Eastern Shore, Truro, Bridgewater, Amherst, and /Sydney Mines/New Waterford. The Mission is sustained by thrift store sales, donations, and government grants/financing. HRM provides tax relief for three (3) properties and capital funding under Affordable Housing Grants Program. A grant of \$5,000 is requested toward the purchase of a commercial food processor for the Halifax drop-in centre to increase meal production and address demand. The Mission's contribution of \$1,200 is confirmed. As a registered charity the society may apply to Canada Revenue Agency for a partial rebate on HST. ***A grant of \$5,000 is recommended toward the purchase of a commercial-grade kitchen appliance for the community meal program located at the Souls Harbour Mission drop-in centre in Halifax.***

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

Tier 1

31. Nova Scotia Environmental Network – Halifax/Provincial – Project Grant/Equipment

Incorporated in 1991, the society supports a network of approximately 40 community-based organization⁷s to foster capacity building and public participation. Revenues are primarily government grants and fundraising. Funding is recommended to fully fund the purchase of film/audio equipment (\$1,000), two portable point-of-sale terminals (\$500), and a laptop computer (\$500) to be made available on loan to member organizations. Subscriptions to online services are a recurring operating expense and ineligible for consideration [Policy, S.17]. ***A grant of \$2,500 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of point-of-sale terminals, a laptop, and small audio-visual equipment.***

32. Urban Farm Museum Society – Spryfield – Project Grant/Site Improvement

Incorporated in 1998 as the Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield the society registered as a Canadian charity (Community Benefit/Public Amenities) the following year⁸. Operations are sustained by government summer employment and project-specific grants, and municipal tax relief. The Society's original goal was to establish a museum to preserve the history of farming in Spryfield, notably Kidston Farm, but recently decided not to pursue accreditation as a museum and an artefact collection. Instead, the Society will focus on their community garden. A grant of \$5,000 is requested to (i) hire an arborist to remove/prune selected trees and chip debris, the purchase of (ii) wood mulch for tree roots and pathways, (iii) six picnic tables, and (iv) a replacement lawn mower. The Society's contribution of \$202.72 is confirmed. As a registered charity the applicant is eligible to apply to Canada Revenue Agency for a partial HST rebate. ***A grant of***

⁷ Member organizations located in HRM include the Back to the Sea Society, Halifax Cycling, Deanery Project Co-operative, Friends of Sable Island, Halifax Northwest Trails, Eastern Shore Forest Watch, Hope for Wildlife, Sandy Lake Conservation Association, and Ecology Action Centre.

⁸ The charity name is abbreviated as Urban Farm Museum Society.

\$2,329 is recommended for professional arborist fees and the purchase of a heavy-duty lawn mower.

Note: Although the Society plan to develop a relationship with a local food bank operated by the St. Paul's Family Resource Centre this application was reassigned from the Emergency Assistance and Public Safety category to align the proposed grant expenditures with the appropriate funding category.

Tier 2

33. Local Council of Women – Halifax – Project Grant/Site Improvement

Established in 1894, the Local Council of Women has played a pivotal role in advancing the interests of women and children in numerous spheres (for example, the right to vote, children's playgrounds, health, employment). The property known as the George Wright House (c.1903) was bequeathed to the Council by local philanthropist George Wright who died when the Titanic sank in 1912. The Council is sustained by earned revenues from monthly rentals and project-specific grants – notably for capital repairs and upgrades to the premises. The property is tax exempt under an Act of the Nova Scotia Legislature. A grant of \$5,000 is requested toward improvements to the garden which include the removal of grass and invasive species and the addition of shade, pollinator, and "historic" garden beds, pathways, and educational signage at a total cost of \$12,600. The Council's contribution is confirmed. ***A grant of \$5,000 is recommended for landscaping services to remove lawn and invasive species from the grounds of the George Wright House, a registered heritage property.***

Note: Although the George Wright residence is a registered heritage property this application was reassigned from Community Histories to Environment & Climate Change because the project is to remediate the grounds and install a pollinator garden; it is not a project to restore the gardens to their original design and plant species, hardscaping or decorative features.

34. Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists – Halifax/Provincial – Project Grant/Public Education

Incorporated in 1990 the Federation is a registered Canadian charity (Community Benefit/Environment) and acts as a coalition of environmental professionals and nonprofit organizations under the name of Nature Nova Scotia. The Federation's aim is to protect the natural environment (woodlands, wetlands, wilderness and habitat preservation, and species at risk). Operations are supported by charitable donations, membership dues, and grants. A grant of \$3,500 is requested towards an existing program, Bird Friendly Halifax, aimed at achieving certification as a Bird Friendly City, a national program managed by Nature Canada. The goal is to reduce the decline in the native bird population. The funding requested is for 150 window strike kits, a website update, two public education events at demonstration gardens in Halifax, and to re-print educational pamphlets. The decal kits are considered consumables [Policy, s.17] and because this is an established, recurring program partial funding is recommended to fully fund website update and public education materials. Any re-prints are the responsibility of the Federation. ***A grant in the amount of \$600 is recommended toward a public education program to encourage the prevention of bird population decline due to window strikes. Excludes funding for the "widows strike kits" for private property owners.***

35. Sackville Rivers Association – Middle Sackville – Project Grant/Equipment

Established in 1998, the Society achieved status as a registered charity in 1992 (Community Benefit/Public Amenities) and relies on volunteers to provide stewardship of the Sackville Watershed and the Sackville River. With an established local profile, the group has strong fundraising revenues supplemented by project-specific grants. HRM provides leased premises at less than market value in the Sackville Heights Community Centre and municipal tax relief (pending 2025). A grant of \$4,000 is requested to fully fund the

purchase of small safety equipment (hip waders/safety gloves). As a registered charity the applicant is eligible to apply to Canada Revenue Agency for a partial HST rebate. ***A grant of \$4,000 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of small safety gear for community clean-ups on the Sackville River and Watershed.***

Tier 3

36. East Coast Environmental Law Association – Halifax/Atlantic Canada – Project Grant/Public Education

Incorporated in 2011 the Association is a registered Canadian charity (Community Benefit/Community Resources) that provides public-interest environmental law services that include advocacy for progressive environmental laws, public education, and support to environmental networks. The Association receives core funding from the Law Foundation of Nova Scotia, in-kind and financial support from foundations, institutions, businesses, and undertakes collaborative projects with other nonprofit organizations. Government funding is primarily through seasonal employment grants or project-specific initiatives. A grant of \$3,000 is requested to fully fund production of two promotional pamphlets: (1) a general overview of the Association's purpose and services, and (2) a rack card explaining the Association's environmental law inquiry service which is free to the public. As a registered charity, the Association is eligible to apply to Canada Revenue Agency for a partial HST rebate. Funding is recommended based on niche programming and services, but any re-prints will be the Association's responsibility. ***A one-time grant in the amount of \$3,500 is recommended for production of print materials to raise public awareness of the East Coast Environmental Law Association's resources and services.***

37. Wellington Fletcher's Lake Station House – Wellington – Capital Grant/Energy Efficiency

The Society owns and operates a former volunteer fire station, a portion of which is leased to HRM Fire & Emergency Services. The annex is now used as a community hall which supports its operations through bar and food sales and rentals. Because an active HRM Fire Station operates at this location under a lease agreement the property has been assessed exempt property tax under the Assessment Act. A grant of \$19,492.50 is requested to fully fund insulation of the facility. Partial funding is recommended based on previous site improvements paid for by HRM in relation to the lease agreement and prior capital grants under the HRM Community Grants Program. Because full funding was requested any approved grant will be held pending confirmation of the society's ability to complete the project in accordance with the scope and cost identified in their grant application. ***A grant in the amount of \$10,000 is recommended toward insulation. Funds will be held back pending confirmation that the project can proceed in terms of scope and cost as described in the society's grant application.***

LEISURE

Tier 1

38. Eastern Shore Wildlife Association – East River – Capital Grant/Building Repairs

Incorporated in 1978, the Association's volunteers work to preserve wildlife habitat in the Eastern Shore area, notably bird and fish habitat. Operations are sustained by revenues from East River Lodge Campground and Trailer Park, a seasonal and overnight campground owned by the Association, and municipal tax relief. In addition to services RV and camping sites, the location provides access to nearby hiking trails and the East River for water sports. The Lodge is used extensively for meetings, low or no cost rentals to local nonprofit organizations, social events, and a weekly seasonal farmers market. A grant of \$16,445 is requested to replace the roof and vinyl siding of the small outbuilding that serves as the

campground office. ***A grant in the amount of \$16,445 is recommended for the roof and siding replacement to the East River Lodge Campground administration building.***

39. Waverley Community Association – Waverley – Project Grant/Building Repair

Incorporated in 1995 the Association own the former St. John the Baptist Anglican church (c 1862) which is used by local groups for meetings and hosts a small museum operated by the Waverley Heritage Society. Operations are supported by an area rate, fundraising, project grants, and municipal tax relief. In 2024 the Association received provincial funding towards re-shingling the roof, minor exterior repairs and painting but the required two thirds contribution from the Association depleted their funds and new guttering had to be deferred. A grant of \$2,445 is requested towards replacement guttering and downspouts. Although the building is a registered heritage property, work is not considered a significant capital improvement and Heritage Planner approval is confirmed. The Association's contribution of \$1,000 is confirmed. ***A grant in the amount of \$2,445 is recommended towards replacement guttering for the former St. John the Baptist Anglican Church.***

Tier 2

40. Musquodoboit Harbour Lions Club – Musquodoboit Harbour – Capital Grant/Building Repair

Incorporated in 1988, the club has been a member of the Club of Lions for forty-three (43) years. Club revenues are derived primarily from fundraising and donations. The Club provides direct financial assistance to individuals in need, nonprofit and charitable organizations, and indirectly through the Lions Foundation of Nova Scotia, the Lions Foundation of Canada (Guide Dog Program), and the Lions Clubs International Foundation. The facility is fully accessible and frequently used by the community for a variety of social and leisure activities. A grant of \$18,515 is requested to fully fund the re-shingling of the clubhouse roof. The quotes provided include removal of the existing shingles, replacement sheathing *if required*⁹, and new shingles. Because the condition of the wood cladding cannot be confirmed until the shingles are removed, the scope of work and actual cost could be lower. Therefore, as a condition of funding any balance remaining in the grant is to be returned to HRM. ***A grant in the amount of \$18,500 is recommended toward roof repairs to the Lions Hall in Musquodoboit Harbour.***

Note: This application was reassigned from Emergency Assistance & Public Safety to Leisure because although the Eastern Shore Volunteer Food Bank is accommodated at this location their use of the facility is not exclusive.

Tier 3

41. Eastern Shore Family Resource Association – Chezzetcook – Project Grant/Equipment

Established in 1994, the Association is a registered Canadian charity (Community Benefit/Community Resource) that provides programs and services to support parents, children and youth. Operations rely on funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services, the Nova Scotia District Health Authority, and fundraising. A grant of \$1,098.96 is requested toward a program for teenagers at the HRM Grand Desert West Chezzetcook Community Centre¹⁰. The application indicates that the Centre will provide access to the facility at no cost and the grant requested is for small equipment and art materials. Some of the items listed are consumables and ineligible for consideration. Partial funding is recommended to fund

⁹ Sheathing refers to the wooden cladding attached to the roof trusses upon which the outer covering is applied.

¹⁰ The facility (also known as the St. Therese Community Centre) is operated under agreement by the West Chezzetcook and Grand Desert Recreation Society.

the purchase of yoga mats and a small portable sound system. ***A grant in the amount of \$700 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of small sound and exercise equipment for the Eastern Shore Family Centre youth program.***

42. Herring Cove Community Association – Herring Cove – Project Grant/Equipment

The Association incorporated in 2017 for the purpose of acquiring ownership of the former volunteer fire station and operating the premises as a community hall. In 2018, HRM subdivided and consolidated a portion of the parent parcel of land to enable the less than market value sale and provided funds to demolish a derelict portion of the premises. HRM Regional Council also approved \$225,800 from the Herring Cove Treatment Plant Community Integration Fund toward capital improvements and amended zoning to reduce on-site parking requirements. The Association subsequently secured \$2.2M in federal funding and \$465,000 in provincial funds for facility enhancements such as energy efficiency and accessibility. HRM provides tax relief. A grant of \$5,000 is requested for the purchase of tables and chairs costing \$6,164. The community hall is due to open in 2025. ***A one-time grant in the amount of \$4,000 is recommended for the purchase of furniture.***

43. North End Parent Resource Centre – Halifax – Project Grant/Equipment

The Centre is a registered Canadian charity sustained by funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services, the former Metropolitan Regional Housing Authority, and the Public Health Agency of Canada. An extensive array of free programming is offered for children, parents/caregivers, and families including trusteeship, budgeting, child development, the loan of small electronic equipment, books and toys, peer support groups, support to newcomers, a food bank and various food programs, and access to a fully equipped laundromat. A grant of \$5,000 is requested to purchase small play equipment and storage for a small outdoor play area for children under 6 years of age. The Centre's contribution of \$1,000 is confirmed. ***A grant in the amount of \$4,500 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of outdoor play equipment for the North End Parent Resource Centre.***

44. Porter's Lake Community Services Association – Porter's Lake – Project Grant/Building Repair

Established in 1975, the Association has a long-standing role in operating the former school property, initially under a lease agreement with the former Halifax County. Following the opening of the Lake & Shore Community Centre, HRM transferred title to the Association in 2012 and provides annual tax relief. The facility offers assorted leisure activities and events, pickleball and tennis, and rentals are available. A capital grant of \$25,000 is requested toward assorted interior and exterior building repairs and upgrades including refinishing interior flooring, replacement basement flooring, replacement carpeting, replacement entry railings, and digital sign. Of the items listed the exterior entry handrails (\$3,675) are considered a safety hazard and full funding is recommended with an additional \$3,075 toward replacement basement flooring. The scope of work can be phased as cash-flow permits. ***A grant of \$10,425 is recommended toward the cost of replacing exterior entry handrails (\$3,675) and toward the purchase and installation of replacement basement flooring for the Porter's Lake Community Hall.***

45. Royal Canadian Legion (Centennial Branch #160) – National/Ottawa (Westphal) – Project Grant/Equipment

The Royal Canadian Legion was incorporated under an Act of the Parliament of Canada. The Legion's Hall is exempt from property tax under the Assessment Act. Operations are self-sustained through bar sales, bingo, fundraising, and project-specific grants. In addition to veterans, service personnel, and their relatives, membership is open to individuals who support the Legion's aims. A grant of \$2,052 is requested to fully fund the purchase of four (4) commercial-grade change tables. The financial information provided indicates

an ability to cost-share. ***A grant in the amount of \$1,000 is recommended toward the purchase of commercial-grade change stations for the Legion Hall.***

46. Veith House – Halifax – Project Grant/Equipment

The property known as Veith House is owned by the Halifax Children's Foundation (Community Benefit/Foundation) and leased to the nonprofit society which incorporated in 1974 to provide programs serving marginalized members of the community. In 1979 the society attained status as a registered Canadian charity (Relief of Poverty/Organizations Relieving Poverty) and have expanded the scope of services in response to emerging needs. Operations are sustained by core funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services, Halifax Children's Foundation, United Way, and strong fundraising. A grant of \$5,000 is requested for the purchase of replacement furniture for program meeting spaces. As a registered charity the applicant may apply to Revenue Canada for a partial HST rebate. ***A grant in the amount of \$4,500 is recommended toward the purchase of replacement furniture for Veith House.***

RECREATION

Tier 1

47. HRM Junior Roller Derby Club – Halifax Region – Project Grant/Marketing

Incorporated in 2023, the Club provides roller skating (flat track roller derby) for youth aged 8 to 17. Operations are volunteer and largely self-funded through registration fees and fundraising. A grant of \$4,000 requested to develop a website (\$1,000), the purchase of signage and banners (\$2,000) and printing (\$1,000). Although relatively new, participation rates are growing, but access to information is limited to social media. Full funding for professional fees to design a basic website is recommended to encourage active participation. ***A grant in the amount of \$1,000 is recommended to fully fund the creation of a website.***

48. Kiwanis Club of Cole Harbour Westphal – Dartmouth – Project Grant/Site Maintenance

The Cole Harbour/Westphal branch of Kiwanis was formed in 1979 and is part of an international network of service clubs with a focus on child development. In addition to raising funds for community causes, club members own a public park located on Morris Lake which is maintained through fundraising, project grants, and municipal tax relief. The park has a sandy beach with floating docks for swimming, fishing, and canoeing. The grounds include walking trails and a picnic area. A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund the purchase of topsoil to prevent erosion in areas where the lake drains through the park. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended to prevent erosion in the Kiwanis Centre Park.***

49. Twin Dragon Martial Arts Club – Beaver Bank – Project Grant/Equipment

Incorporated in 2019, the Club provides youth (14+) and adults martial arts instruction, primarily Jiu Jitsu and Karate, and circuit training. Operating out of the HRM-owned Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre the program sustained by membership fees (\$100/month for instruction and circuit training). A grant of \$2,800 is requested to fully fund the purchase of landing mats, focus mitts, and a remote-control gym timer. ***A developmental grant in the amount of \$2,300 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of landing mats and martial arts safety mitts***

50. St. Mary's Lawn Bowls Club – Halifax – Project Grant/Marketing

Incorporated 2002, the Club is entirely volunteer and has operated out of an HRM-owned lawn bowls facility adjacent to the St. Mary's Boat Club. In 2020, the Club entered into a less than market value lease agreement with HRM and receives municipal tax relief. A grant of \$5,000 is requested toward the development of a website to promote membership, enable online registration, encourage bookings, and publicize events to generate revenues. The service provider will also instruct volunteers how to maintain the site. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended for the development of a website for the St. Mary's Lawn Bowls Club.***

51. Lucasville Community Association – Lucasville – Project Grant/Equipment

Incorporated in 2014, the volunteer-run Association operate the HRM-owned Wallace Lucas Community Centre under agreement with the Municipality and engage residents in a variety of social and community-building activities such as restoring the original boundaries of the Lucasville and its historical roots as a predominantly Black community, heritage designation for a cemetery dating back to original settlers, social events, and wellness programs. As a municipal facility the property is exempt from property tax. A grant of \$2,000 is requested towards the purchase of softball equipment (bases, safety helmets, catcher's safety gear) to enable participation in a new league with other African Nova Scotian communities. The equipment will be loaned to participants, and the Association will raise funds for team uniforms and annual league registration fees. ***A grant in the amount of \$2,000 is recommended toward the cost of a softball equipment lending program.***

Tier 2

52. Bedford Beavers Parents Association – Bedford – Project Grant/Equipment

Incorporated in 1986, the Association operates the Bedford Beavers Swim Team that provides introductory swimming programs for children and youth aged 5-18 at HRM's Bedford Outdoor Pool (July/August) operated in association with the HRM LeBrun Recreation Centre. In 2024, the program had over 100 participants from a catchment area that includes Bedford, Sackville, Hammonds Plains, Fairview, and Clayton Park. Operations are sustained primarily from registration fees and seasonal government employment grants. A grant in the amount of \$3,575 requested to fully fund (i) 16 replacement stopwatches used to monitor progress and introductory time trials, (ii) a replacement starter system used to introduce participants to competitive swimming, (iii) and a laptop computer for coaching/administration. Full funding for the timing equipment (stopwatches and starter system), including HST and delivery is recommended; excludes laptop. ***A one-time grant in the amount of \$3,000 is recommended toward the purchase of timing equipment***

53. Dartmouth She Devils Softball Association – Dartmouth – Capital Grant/Equipment

Incorporated in 2023, the Association promotes the sport of softball children and youth at the recreational and competitive level. The Club's primary source of revenue is registration fees and fundraising but has been assisted by HRM through a non-exclusive license agreement for a portion of Woodlawn Park. The Club subsequently secured a grant from Nova Scotia department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage and the HRM District capital Fund to install and batting cage and a storage container. A grant of \$8,084.47 is requested to fully fund the purchase of a pitching machine and balls. Full funding is

recommended for the purchase of the pitching machine. ***A grant in the amount of \$6,450 toward the cost of the purchase of a pitching machine for a new softball facility in Dartmouth.***

54. Halifax Rowing Club – Halifax – Project Grant/Equipment

The Club operates out of HRM's St. Mary's Boat Club on the Northwest Arm and offers seasonal adult and junior Learn to Row instructional programs, annual regattas, and off-season fitness. Operations are sustained by municipal support, registration fees and membership dues. A grant of \$2,575.10 is requested to fund the purchase of 12 waterproof transmitter radios, dry bags, and a megaphone. ***A grant in the amount of \$2,500 is recommended toward small communications equipment used for paddling instruction and competition.***

Note: This application was reassigned from the Diversity & Accessibility category to Recreation because the nature of the equipment is standard for water-based instructional sport programs and not specifically adaptive for individuals who are hearing impaired.

55. Halifax Ultimate Recreational League Society – Halifax Region – Project Grant/Marketing

Incorporated in 2004, the Society consists entirely of volunteers and revenue is self-generated through league and membership fees, and fundraising. The Society organizes year-round, indoor and outdoor, disc sport (also known as "Ultimate Frisbee") that is accessible and affordable for various skills levels. Current membership is approximately 400, a decrease due to disruption caused by Covid 19. A grant of \$5,000 is requested toward a website upgrade to improve site navigation and assist in the recruitment of new members, volunteers, data collection, merchandise sales, and overall administration (total cost \$8,000-\$10,000). The Society's contribution of \$3,000 is confirmed. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended towards professional fees for website redesign.***

56. Petpeswick Yacht Club – East Petpeswick – Capital Grant/Outdoor Amenity (Docks)

Founded in 1966, the Club owns and operates a sailing club on Petpeswick Inlet to offer mooring, learn-to-sail lessons, kayaking, and paddle boarding. The facility has a clubhouse, boat shed and launch, and a small beach. Membership fees are modest and include a social category. Operations are sustained by membership dues, facility rentals, program fees, and municipal tax relief. A grant in the amount of \$15,625.92 towards the cost of three (3) new docks and associated installation hardware. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$45,958.60. An application has been made to the province to cover the remaining costs of the project. ***A grant in the amount of \$15,000 is recommended towards the cost to purchase three new docks and associated hardware. Given that a provincial grant is required to complete the project, a holdback of municipal funds is recommended pending confirmation.***

57. Three Brooks Homeowners' Association – Hubley – Project Grant/Outdoor Amenity (Playground)

Incorporated in 1993, the Association collectively own 18 properties within the catchment area of the Three Brooks Subdivision in Hubley. Included in their portfolio is a vacant parcel of land adjacent to an extensive public trail system and a community playground constructed by the Association. Both amenities, the trail and the playground, are also used by the public. A grant of \$4,900 is requested to purchase materials to construct a gazebo-style structure to serve as a gathering/resting space for trail and playground users. The Association has obtained the required development permit. ***A grant in the amount of \$4,900 is***

recommended for the purchase of building materials for the construction of a gazebo for trail and playground users.

58. LWF Hardball Association – Windsor Junction, Fall River, Grand Lake, and Waverley – Capital Grant/Equipment

The Association organizes baseball teams, league competitions, and manages several baseball fields, one of which is a multi-sport field for softball, football, and soccer. The group is also undertaking the development of four additional baseball fields. The Association's primary source of revenue is team/player registration fees. Given the scale of their operations the Association has acquired ride-on grass-cutting equipment, all-terrain vehicles to move equipment and materials, storage containers, and assorted tools and small equipment. A grant of \$6,000 is requested toward the purchase of a trailer costing \$7,179.45 HST included. The applicant's contribution of \$1,179.95 is confirmed. ***A grant in the amount of \$6,000 is recommended toward the purchase of a utility trailer.***

Tier 3

59. Dartmouth Yacht Club – Dartmouth – Capital Grant/Outdoor Amenity (Boat Launch)

Incorporated in 1962, the Club operates a sailing facility and marina located on the Bedford Basin. Operations are largely self-sustaining through marina fees and associated hauling and storage fees, membership dues, instructional fees for children, youth, and adults, and municipal tax. A grant of \$25,000 is requested toward relocation and construction of a new concrete pad and boat ramp, storage container, and small equipment to serve instructional and competitive programs for children and youth (ages 5-18). The aim is to provide direct access from the clubhouse to a designated launch area and reduce the risk associated with the current access through a parking lot and mechanical service area. At a total projected cost of \$78,308 +HST. The Club's application indicates a confirmed commitment of \$78,308. The value of grant requested exceeds the total HST payable, therefore partial funding is recommended. ***A grant in the amount of \$10,000 is recommended toward construction of new amenities for junior sailing programs.***

60. Emanuel Baptist Church – Upper Hammonds Plains – Capital Grant/Outdoor Amenity (Sports Field)

Founded in 1812 by Black refugees of the War of 1812, the Upper Hammonds Plains community has an extensive history, including the Hammonds Plains Second Baptist Church established in 1822 and the Hammonds Plains Baptist Church in 1845. These two congregations amalgamated in 1939 to form the Emmanuel Baptist Church, a registered Canadian charity, that plays a prominent role in community capacity-building. A grant of \$25,000 is requested towards the development of a new, regulation-sized, ballfield for softball and baseball located behind the local community centre. The entire site comprises 5.3 acres but has been under-utilized due to poor drainage. The project design and land survey have been completed, and work is to commence on clearing brush, site grading, drainage, an infield, fencing, and basic amenities such as seating for players and spectators at an estimated total cost of \$632,000. To date, \$25,000 has been secured from HRM's Anti-Black Racism Grants Program (\$10,000), the Upper Hammonds Plains Community Development Association (\$5,000), and the Upper Hammonds Plains Community Land Trust (\$10,000). Applications have been submitted to municipal, provincial, and federal government grant programs for the balance. The goal is to encourage the active participation of children and youth, whose access to organized sport may be limited by a lack of public transit, foster community

pride, and host tournaments. The application demonstrates good planning, tangible progress, and the facility will provide affordable access to residents. ***A grant in the amount of \$25,000 is recommended towards the construction of a new ballfield for Upper Hammonds Plains.***

61. Maskwa Aquatic Club – Halifax – Capital Grant/Outdoor Amenity (Docks)

Incorporated in 1974, The Club provides recreational and competitive paddling and is largely self-funded through membership and program fees, equipment and apparel sales supplemented by project-specific government grants. HRM provides tax relief. Some of the clubs' programming includes an under ten and under fourteen years of age programs, master's program for older adults, and paracanoe, as well as Special Olympics membership. In 2024, the Club had approximately 300 youth attend their summer paddling programs. A grant of \$25,000 is requested toward the cost of replacing and repairs to their docks. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$60,000 with the Club's contribution of \$35,000 confirmed. ***A grant in the amount of \$25,000 recommended towards the cost of replacing and repairing the Maskwa Club docks.***

62. Middle Musquodoboit Agricultural Society – Middle Musquodoboit – Project Grant/Facility Upgrade

The Society was established under an Act of the Nova Scotia Legislature in 1909 and is exempt from property tax. The organization's purpose is to preserve and promote the area's agricultural Heritage. Membership dues are nominal (\$5 youth/\$25 adult) and revenues are primarily events-related, facility rentals, and project-specific grants including an annual HRM grant for the Halifax County Exhibition. A grant of \$5,000 is requested toward electrical upgrades to the horse and cattle barn costing \$20,991.60 HST included. Located on the Exhibition Grounds, this large-scale barn is the most frequently used amenity and can accommodate up to 70 horses and supplies. An upgrade to the barn's electrical system is required for safety and to maintain or improve operational capacity. The Society's contribution of \$15,991.61 is confirmed. ***A grant of \$5,000 is recommended toward electrical upgrades to the Middle Musquodoboit Exhibition Grounds horse/cattle barn.***

63. Purcell's Cove Social Club – Halifax – Capital Grant/Outdoor Amenity (Wharf)

The Club was incorporated in 1965 and has operated as a social club since its inception. Revenues are derived primarily from bar and food sales, video gaming, membership fees, and fundraising. HRM provides annual tax relief. In addition to the clubhouse the society owns a small wharf located adjacent to the facility which is available to non-members for kayaking, small sailboats or watercraft, and swimming. The wharf was damaged during Hurricane Dorian and needs replacement at an estimated total cost of \$31,917. A grant of \$14,917 is requested towards capital costs. A \$15,000 grant from the HRM District Capital Fund is confirmed. The Club has confirmed they will contribute \$2,000 and fund any cost overruns. ***A grant in the amount of \$14,000 is recommended for the construction of a new wharf and associated floating dock for the Purcell's Cove Social Club.***

Prior Funding

At the request of Regional Council, a list of proposed grant recipients is presented to identify any prior year funding. The intent was to address any perception of repeat funding to a minority of applicants – "Are the same groups receiving recurring funding?" Readers are cautioned that the value of an individual grant and any successive award(s) will vary significantly due to the difference in funding threshold between a Project

Grant (>\$5,000) and a Capital Grant (>\$25,000). Further, the value of a grant is not indicative of HRM's contribution as a percentage of total project costs and does not include any refund to HRM if the project was completed under budget.

Table 1. Prior Year Funding (2023 to 2024) to Proposed Grant Recipients in Fiscal Year 2025					
Name	2022	2023	2024	2025 Proposed	Other
Acadia Recreation Society				\$25,000	Tax Exempt
Bedford Beavers Parents Association				\$3,000	
Canadian Naval Memorial Trust			\$5,000	\$4,700	
Canadian National Institute for the Blind				\$9,000	
Cobequid Food Security Network				\$5,000	
Community Care Network	\$25,000			\$20,000	Tax Relief
Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre				\$5,000	Tax Exempt
Dartmouth She Devils Softball Association				\$6,450	
Dartmouth Yacht Club				\$10,000	Tax Relief
East Coast Environmental Law Association				\$3,500	
Eastern Shore Family Resource Centre				\$700	
Eastern Shore Wildlife Association				\$16,445	Tax Relief
Emanuel Baptist Church				\$25,000	Tax Exempt
Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists		\$3,000		\$600	
Friends of St James UC Heritage Society of Spry Bay.				\$16,388	Tax Exempt
Halifax Art and Performance Association				\$24,000	
Halifax Gay Men's Chorus Society			\$5,000	\$1,000	
Halifax Rowing Club				\$2,500	LMV HRM lease
Halifax Ultimate Recreational League Society				\$5,000	
Hammonds Plains Historical Society				\$1,190	
Herring Cove Community Association				\$4,000	LTMV property sale, Tax Relief
HRM Junior Roller Derby Club				\$1,000	
Kiwanis Club Of Cole Harbour Westphal	\$4,000	\$4,800	\$3,800	\$5,000	Tax Relief
Lakeview Windsor Junction Fall River Firemen's Association				\$8,000	

Lawrencetown Sew-ciety Guild		\$600	\$600	\$750	
LEARNINGO Community Recreation & Education Society				\$1,500	
Local Council of Women	\$25,000			\$5,000	Tax Exempt
Lucasville Community Association				\$2,000	
LWF Hardball Association	\$8,480	\$7,500	\$6,500	\$6,000	
Maskwa Aquatic Club	\$5,000			\$25,000	Tax Relief
Meals on Wheels Volunteer Service		\$4,500		\$3,900	
Middle Musquodoboit Agricultural Society		\$5,000		\$5,000	Tax Exempt
Middle Musquodoboit Cemeteries Committee				\$5,000	
Moser River and Area Historical Society		\$16,000		\$10,600	Tax Relief
Musquodoboit Harbour & District Lions Club				\$18,500	Tax Relief
Newcomer Choir Association - Canada				\$4,000	
North End Parent Centre Association		\$10,000		\$4,500	Tax Exempt
Nova Scotia Choral Federation				\$5,000	Tax Relief
Nova Scotia Environmental Network Association				\$2,500	
NS Resettlement Society				\$3,250	
Petpeswick Yacht Club				\$15,000	Tax Relief
Polish Emigration Memorial Society				\$5,000	
Porters Lake Community Services Association	\$15,000		\$4,900	\$10,425	LMV property sale Tax Relief
Purcell's Cove Social Club				\$14,000	Tax Relief
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 160		\$10,000		\$1,000	Tax Exempt
Royal Canadian Legion Branch 90 Waverley				\$8,000	Tax Exempt
Sackville Rivers Association				\$4,000	
Seaside Broadcasting Organization				\$14,000	
Second Chances Community Music Society of Nova Scotia				\$5,299	
Sheet Harbour Radio Society		\$8,200		\$9,500	
Souls Harbour Rescue Mission				\$5,000	Tax Relief
St Paul's Church, Anglican Parish of French Village		\$17,231		\$14,580	Tax Exempt
St. James Hall Renovations Committee			\$18,500	\$10,000	Tax Exempt
St. Mary's Lawn Bowls Club				\$5,000	Yax Relief, LTMV lease

Three Brooks Homeowners' Association				\$4,900	
Twin Dragon Martial Arts Club				\$2,300	
Ummah Society				\$10,000	Tax Exempt
Urban Farm Museum of Spryfield		\$5,000	\$1,700	\$2,329	Tax Relief
Veith House				\$4,500	Tax Exempt
Waverley Community Association	\$4,000			\$2,445	Tax Relief
Wellington Fletcher's Lake Station House	\$10,000		\$12,00	\$10,000	Tax Exempt
William Black Memorial United Church				\$13,225	Tax Exempt
YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth				\$4,954	Tax Exempt

Notes to Table 1.

If approved, awards to organizations which are considered 'new' – meaning that the organization has not applied to or has not received funding under the Community Grants Program within the last three years (2022 to 2024), have been **bolded**. Forty-one (41) out of the sixty-three (63) organizations are considered new. This represents an increase of sixteen new applicants from 2024.

Not Recommended for Funding: 2025 Community Grants Program

Note to readers: where financial information was not included, or unavailable, and the applicant cannot be assigned by tier they are listed first within each category, in alphabetical order.

COMMUNITY ARTS

Tier 1

64.Coastal Voices Men's Choir – Eastern Shore

A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund a free workshop on vocal technique and repertoire for members, other men's choirs, and church choirs. The expenses to be paid by the Municipality are vaguely described ("artistic team, music, venue, small equipment purchases and equipment rentals"). A modest fee for participants could offset some of the expenses and non-municipal support has not been sought. The Choir was awarded grants in 2021 (\$4,500), 2023 (\$5,000) and 2024 (\$5,000).

COMMUNITY HISTORIES

Tier 3

65, Parish of St. George – Halifax

A grant of \$25,000 is requested towards exterior repairs to the Little Dutch Church, a National Heritage Site. The total cost of the project is \$33,655.47. The Parish's contribution is stated as up to \$25,000 and application for provincial funding in the amount of \$10,000 is unconfirmed. If successful, the provincial grant plus the owner's contribution appears sufficient to complete the project as described. Heritage Planner approval was not included with the application. From 2019 to 2023 the Parish has received a combined total of \$90,500 through the Community Grants Program of which \$60,000 was for restoration of the Little Dutch Church property.

DIVERSITY & ACCESSIBILITY

Tier 1

66. Nada Initiative Society – Halifax

A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund a "Tenants Rights Awareness Series" in collaboration with Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN). Most of the expenses are vaguely described or ineligible for consideration. The project does not align with the Community Grants Program funding criteria.

67. Wellness Wags Assistance Dog Society – Mount Uniacke

A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund five (5) free public information sessions across Halifax to increase awareness and understanding of service dogs and the individuals they support. The project expenses include venue rentals, promotional speakers, materials, and miscellaneous materials. The locations and miscellaneous materials are unknown. Refreshments, honoraria, and rentals are ineligible for consideration.

Tier 2

68. Phin Performing Arts Society – Halifax

A grant of \$4,000 is requested to fund “Dance Move”, an instructional dance as a form of exercise for individuals with Parkinson’s disease. This is an existing program funded by Parkinson’s Canada CARE Fund in 2024. The CARE Fund requires that “funded programs must develop long-term strategies to continue beyond the grant period, ensuring lasting benefits and reducing reliance on short-term funding”¹. A grant of \$4,000 is requested towards operating costs totaling \$16,950. The program instructor is the Society’s founder and Artistic Director, and the assistant’s qualifications are unspecified. The Community Grants Program does not fund salaries and wages [Policy, s.25 (a)] and a cost of \$1,000 for “accessibility support” is for participant transportation or ASL “as necessary”. Although professional fees for ASL interpretation are an eligible grant expenditure, transportation is not [Policy, s25 (g)]. Consequently, the incremental impact of nominal municipal funding cannot be gauged, and program sustainability cannot be established. The Phin Performing Arts Society is in receipt of an annual Operating Grant from the HRM Professional Arts Grant Program as well as funding from other levels of government. Under the Community Grants Program preference *may* be given to organizations not in receipt of recurring municipal, provincial, or federal government funding [Policy s. 27 (c)].

Tier 3

69.St. Leonard's Society of Nova Scotia – Halifax

The Society is a registered Canadian charity that provides overnight shelter, transitional housing, and support services for men. Operations are sustained by funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services, Corrections Canada, rentals, and fundraising. A grant of \$5,000 is requested for interpreter services (\$4,500) and staff training (\$500). There were no specifics regarding the duration of the translation services and could represent a recurring operating cost. The application would have been strengthened with the inclusion of client demographic data demonstrating a need for such services and how the service would be sustained independent of recurring municipal funding. Staff training is ineligible for consideration.

70. John Howard Society of Nova Scotia – Halifax

A grant of \$25,000 is requested to renovate a washroom to address accessibility in a property acquired by the Society in 2022. The total cost of the project is \$34,500 and the balance of \$9,500 is to be funded by the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services. Although accessibility is a priority under the Diversity & Accessibility funding category, there is no evidence that the building itself is accessible for clients with a disability (entrance, emergency egress, stairs etc). The subject property is also included in an application to the 2025 Tax Relief Program with two other properties owned by the Society which if approved by Regional Council would realize a saving to the Society of approximately \$30,000 in fiscal 2025 which could be directed towards the accessibility project.

71. Nova Scotia Islamic Community Center – Bedford

A grant of \$12,000 is requested to support an existing intergenerational program to address social isolation experienced by some seniors. The request does not meet the criteria for a capital grant {Policy, s.5 (b)} and most of the expenses (wages, transportation) are operating costs ineligible for consideration (Policy, 25) or unspecified. Although the application alluded to the purchase of an interactive Smart Board and a camera

¹ <https://www.parkinson.ca/care-fund/#about>

to enhance virtual participation there was no quote provided or itemized expenses. The applicant will be referred to staff for guidance if considering a future application to the Community Grants Program.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE & PUBLIC SAFETY

Tier 2

72. St. Alban's Anglican Church – Woodside

A grant of \$11,000 is requested towards the cost of repairing potholes and applying an asphalt sealant to the church parking lot at a cost of \$10,566.22, minor landscaping repairs costing \$500, and a contingency of \$1,993.80. The applicant attributes the need for the repairs to the placement of two shipping containers in the parking lot in 2023 which has increased vehicular traffic and truck deliveries. The storage containers are owned by the Salvation Army Encounter Community Church which operates a food bank one afternoon a week. Parking lot repairs are a low priority under the Community Grants Program. In the alternative the Church might consider a cost-share with the operator of the food bank and increase their contribution given that the parking lot serves members of the congregation. Both parties are registered charities and could apply to Revenue Canada Agency for a partial HST rebate.

Tier 3

73. The North Grove – Dartmouth

A grant of \$4,478 is requested to fully fund the purchase of assorted medical/first aid supplies (2 defibrillators, EpiPens, an eye washing station, first aid supplies, and emergency escape signage). Some of these items are consumables [Policy, s.25]. Although workplace safety and emergency preparedness are an important issue, the project is not a strong alignment with the Community Grants Program funding priorities and the financial information provided indicates an ability to self-fund or phase purchase as cash flow permits.

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

Tier 1

74. Young Naturalists Club of Nova Scotia – Halifax

A grant of \$1,300 is requested towards a one-day field trip to McNab's Island to conduct a beach cleanup and to learn more about the ecological and cultural significance of the Island from a field guide. The main cost is the boat charter (\$1,200) and the balance of \$200 is for consumables (refreshments, disposable gloves, notebooks/pencils, photocopied forms) of which \$100 from other sources is unconfirmed. Given the reliance on municipal funding the nature of this project is not considered sustainable and guided heritage or shoreline field trips are available through the Friends of McNab's Island Society who also organize an annual clean-up and have opened the newly renovated Teahouse Outdoor Education Centre for visitors.

75. It Takes a Village Community Outreach and Advocacy Society – Halifax Region

A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund a day outing for seniors to experience farming resources and learn about nutritious food. Most of the costs are consumable and ineligible for consideration and sustainability cannot be demonstrated. This type of project may be better aligned with the local health authority staff who provide free wellness workshops including nutrition/healthy eating.

76. Canadian Council on Invasive Species – British Columbia (Willams Lake)

The Council is in British Columbia with chapters and individual members throughout Canada. While some chapters have obtained their own registration status within the province in which they operate the Nova Scotia Invasive Species Council has not, nor does the provincial chapter have its own financial statements. A grant of \$4,722 is requested to fund a series of guided walks in six (6) municipal parks to educate participants on invasive species. The Council also proposes the fabrication and installation of site-specific signage in each park and production of site-specific “materials and resources”. Most of the project expenditures are ineligible for consideration (consumables or items for personal ownership), HRM Parks & Recreation approval with respect to signage on municipal property was not included. The grant amount requested also appears to be overstated if the total project cost is \$4,722 and the Council has committed \$2,160.

LEISURE

77. 670 Residents Council Association - Bedford

A grant of \$2,000 is requested to upgrade the Association's “secure” website wherein access is limited to residents of The Pemberley an 85-unit retirement facility for seniors, owned by Shannex Incorporated. The website focuses on tenants and their families, and groups within the building, and as such has limited public benefit as compared to other applications.

78. East Coast Bengali Society - Halifax

A grant of \$3,565 is requested to fully fund the construction of a custom storage container for a Goddess idol used in religious ceremonies and events. The nature of the project does not align with the Community Grants Program's funding criteria.

Tier 2

79. L'Acadie de Chezzetcook Association – West Chezzetcook

A grant of \$22,721.50 is requested toward subdivision and the the purchase of land from a private residence adjacent to the Association's property in West Chezzetcook which hosts a seasonal museum and events celebrating Acadian culture. The intent of the project is to create a recreational area to appeal to tourists, school groups, and residents. The project budget totals \$29,596 and includes the property purchase (\$8,000), associated legal fees (\$5,192.50), survey fees (\$7,7785.50), a contractor to infill a pond and grade for pathways. There is no third-party appraisal for the land valuation - albeit the transaction may be by mutual agreement and the documentation not included with the application. The Association's commitment of \$5,500 is confirmed and an HST rebate from Canada Revenue Agency is expected by virtue of charitable status. Although the location of the subject property suggests an association with visitors to the community museum and related events, the additional property would not be considered an accessory use eligible for funding under HRM's Community Museums Grants Program annual operating grant. Therefore, the additional annual operating expenses incurred by the Association such as insurance, grass-cutting, and maintenance would be at the Association's expense. Ownership would however entitle the Association to make application to the Municipality's tax relief program in 2026. Overall, the application to HRM for 77% of total costs appears premature in the absence of any timeline to complete the land acquisition in 2025 and application has not been made to any non-municipal sources. Feedback will be provided to the applicant in anticipation of any future funding request.

80. South End Baptist Church – Dartmouth

A grant of \$750 is requested to fund the purchase of a used sewing machine (\$300-\$350) and the cost to service five (5) sewing machines (\$450) for a free sewing class. The Church's contribution of \$50 is confirmed. In 2023 the applicant received a "one-time" grant of \$500 to service five machines. Partial funding was intended to encourage the group to raise an equal amount to service the balance of the equipment. In 2024 a request for \$1,000 to buy three (3) sewing machines and service five (5) machines, and the purchase of small materials, was declined in the absence of any fundraising or non-municipal support. The sustainability of the sewing class cannot be demonstrated in the absence of a modest user fee.

Tier 3

81. Association of Nigerians in Nova Scotia – Provincial/Halifax

A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards hosting the annual Nigeria BBQ Party. The Community Grants Program does not fund events. The applicant will be referred to the 2026 HRM Regional Festivals and Events Grants Program application process.

82. Old School Gathering Place Co-operative Limited – Musquodoboit Harbour

The society was founded in 2010 for the purpose of operating a former school property donated by HRM as a community centre and in 2021. The scope of programming has since expanded to encompass leisure and social activities, youth employment assistance, community garden, and a navigator service for mental health consumers and seniors². Operations are sustained by extensive government grants, municipal tax relief, facility rentals, and membership dues. A grant of \$19,476.55 is requested to replace interior flooring. The applicant's contribution is an HST rebate in the amount of \$1,358. The cooperative's financial statement indicates an ability to self-fund the project or work could be phased as cash flow permits. From 2019 to 2024 the cooperative received a combined total of \$57,250 towards capital upgrades and repairs (heating system, insulation, wall repairs and electrical upgrades).

83. Eating Disorders Nova Scotia – Provincial/Halifax

A grant of \$5,000 is requested toward an existing workshop program regarding recreational activity and recovery from an eating disorder. The total cost is \$10,000, of which 94% is for facilitation and project coordination and 6% (\$600) in unspecified supplies and promotion. The applicant's confirmed contribution of \$5,000 is in-kind. The applicant receives significant funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Nova Scotia Department of Addictions and Mental Health which reflects the health-related mandate of the society. The Community Grants Program evaluation process may give preference to organizations not in receipt of recurring municipal, provincial, or federal government funding [Policy s. 27 (c)]. This type of recurring mental health program may be better aligned with funding from a Nova Scotia District Health Authority, a philanthropic or corporate foundation.

² In 2023, a separate nonprofit society was formed, Eastern Shore Musquodoboit Valley Well-Being HUB Association, to advance the initiative with a focus on aging in place, support for unpaid caregivers, and mental health. <https://wellbeingub.ca>

RECREATION

Tier 1

84. Silversides Residents Association – Waverley

Membership of the Association consists of private homeowners residing in the Silversides Subdivision in Waverly and owns two properties in the area, one of which is a 7.5-acre parcel of land referred to as Silversides Park which is included in HRM's tax relief program. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards the construction of a communal garden for homeowners featuring raised garden beds, irrigation, fencing, a pergola, signage, and picnic tables at an estimated cost of \$12,000. The Association's contribution of \$3,000 is confirmed and grant applications have been submitted to corporate programs for a combined total of \$4,000. An emphasis on "Silversides residents" may limit access to members of the public who do not reside in the subdivision. In the alternative the Association could phase development as cash-flow permits or apply to the community area rate for partial funding.

85. Sheet Harbour Marina Association – Sheet Harbour

The Association was established to develop and operate a marina in Sheet Harbour. In 2022, the Association received a one-time grant of \$50,000 from HRM under a Contribution Agreement to engage professional services to evaluate the project feasibility and develop a business plan. A grant of \$18,526.24 is requested to fully fund the purchase of a barbecue (\$804.99) and a large-scale "industrial" tent (\$17,721.25) to be used for events and workshops. A barbecue is not considered a capital expense [Policy, s 5 b] and although the seasonal use of a tent may generate some earned revenues it is unclear how this expenditure will advance the development of a permanent recreational facility. The Association will be referred to staff for guidance if considering future applications to the Community Grants Program.

Tier 2

86. Sack A Wa Canoe Club – Lower Sackville

A grant of \$16,200 is requested toward the cost of building replacement beach volleyball courts used in conjunction with paddling summer camps to replace those removed during the construction of the new clubhouse facility. The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$21,200 and the Club has committed \$3,000. The amount requested of HRM represents ~76%. The Club has received recurring grants through the Community Grants Program over the prior three (3) years fiscal 2022, 2023, and 2024. The nature of the project might not be conducive to a phased approach but could be deferred pending fundraising.

Tier 3

87. Cole Harbour Minor Basketball Association – Cole Harbour and Area (Halifax)

A grant of \$4,625 is requested toward establishing a 20-week summer basketball program in Halifax, one session per week, exclusively for home-schooled children. The Association's contribution is \$800 in program registration fees to pay for a gymnasium rental and an HRM grant would pay for uniforms, basketballs, a scoreboard, and small accessories (ball bag, cones, whistles, first aid kit). The application did not provide rationale as to what barriers are faced by home-schooled children that restrict their participation in the Association's current teams or leagues, or the need for additional equipment.

88. Dartmouth Curling Club – Dartmouth

Founded in 1936 and incorporated in 1987, the Dartmouth curling club has an established presence in sport. A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund professional fees for a site development feasibility study to determine the property's value³ and assist in presentations to potential partners with a goal of relocating and building a new curling rink within Dartmouth. The application to the Community Grants Program was received on March 10, 2025, and March 25th the Club made a presentation to HRM 's Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee indicating they would like to create a partnership with the Municipality, possibly in relation to an existing municipal facility or new development. The Club's request was referred to HRM Parks & Recreation for consideration. Because a response to the Club's presentation to HRM is pending a funding commitment may be premature at this stage or a potential conflict of interest if HRM were perceived to benefit from the information provided in the study.

89. St. Luke's United Church – Upper Tantallon

A grant of \$25,000 is requested toward a refurbishment project that includes replacement washroom fixtures, baseboard, rental of a temporary storage pod, and refinishing the concrete floor to remove peeling paint and carpet glue residue at a total cost of \$35,050. The cost of floor sanding and epoxy finish cost is listed at \$32,895⁴. The applicant's contribution of \$5,050 is confirmed but an additional \$5,000 in fundraising is unconfirmed. Floor refinishing or coverings, including aesthetic upgrades, are a lower priority in relation to other applications and the percentage of municipal funding (72%) is high relative to the owner's confirmed share. The applicant will be provided with written feedback to suggest that any future application for this project would align with the Leisure category but would be strengthened by a significantly higher cost-share, including non-municipal sources.

³ In 2025 both the Nova Scotia Land Registry and Property Valuation Services Corporation give an assessed value based on current use, configuration, and building age.

⁴ Quotes ranged from \$22,576 to \$32,985 + HST depending on the number of coats and the option of an additional UV stable abrasion resistant finish.

ATTACHMENT 4

Applications Ineligible for Consideration: 2025 Community Grants Program

Summary

- None of the applications submitted were deemed to be late (March 31 deadline).
- Thirty-one (31) applications are ineligible for consideration. This number represents 26.5% of this year's 120 applications.
- The combined value of ineligible requests was \$284,694.50 or 23% of the combined total value of all requests. In part, this value is a function of the number of applications for a Capital Grant which has a maximum funding threshold of up to \$25,000 as compared to a maximum of up to \$5,000 for a Project Grant.

Potential Improvements

Inevitably grant programs receive ineligible applications but efforts can be made to reduce the frequency or recurring issues through policy clarification, print materials, and the application of technology. Suggestions are included at the end of this attachment.

Presentation of Information

- Tier: If a financial statement is not included with the application (incomplete) and the applicant cannot be assigned by tier the organization is listed first within each funding category, in alphabetical order.
- Policy: the references in the Policy column can be cross-referenced to the appropriate section in [Administrative Order 2022-005-ADM](#).
- Organization's Registration Status: Must be 12 months as of application deadline. The review shall confirm the date of registration and if status is in default or revoked.
- Project: Is the type of project eligible for consideration? For capital improvements to land or a building, is the applicant the property owner? Heritage Planner approval is required for improvements to a registered heritage property (Guidebook, p.10).
- Grant Expenditures: Are the expenditures for which a grant is requested eligible for consideration?
- Reporting Default: Recipients of a grant are required to provide proof that the intended grant expenditure(s) are in accordance with the terms of funding.

Community Arts

Tier	Organization	Grant Type Requested	Amount	Rationale	Policy
1	Latispanica Cultural Association	Capital	\$7,500	Expenditure: Event Project: Not Capital Expenditure: Operating	25 (f) 5 (b) (iii) 25 (a)
1	The Beacon Publishing Society	Project	\$5,000	Expenditure: Operating	25 (a)
2	Filipino Cultural Society of Nova Scotia	Capital	\$25,000	Project: Event Project: Not Capital	25 (f) 5 (b) (iii)
Total		3	\$37,500		

Community Histories

Tier	Organization	Grant Type	Amount	Rationale	Policy
	Kidston Lake Conservation Society	Project	\$2,000	Incomplete: Financial Registration	17 14 (1) (b)
1	Parish of St. Peter's Church (Peggy's Cove)	Capital	\$24,282	Ownership: Church of England Place of Worship	5 (b) (ii) 25 (n)
2	Parish of Christ Church (Dartmouth)	Capital	\$11,000	Incomplete: Financial	17
Total		3	\$37,282		

Diversity & Accessibility

Tier	Organization	Grant Type	Amount	Rationale	Policy
1	Canadian Blue Wellness	Project	\$5,000	Registration	14 (1) (b)
1	Easter Passage Food Security Society	Project	\$5,000	Ownership: HRM	25 (c)
1	Focused 360 Youth Association	Project	\$3,000	Registration	14 (1) (b)
1	Golden Empire International Corporation	Capital	\$15,000	Registration Project: Not Capital Expenditure: Operating Project: Medical	14 (1) (b) 5 (b) (iii) 25 (a) 25 (k)
2	Parish of Christ Church (St. George's - Dutch Settlement)	Capital	\$6,840	Project: Place of Worship	25 (n)
3	QEII Health Sciences Foundation	Project	\$5,000	Project: Ineligible	25 (b)
3	St. Ignatius Church	Capital	\$25,000	Ownership	5 (b) (ii)
3	Easter Seals Association	Project	\$5,000	Expenditure: Operating Expenditure: Consumables	25 (a) 25 (g)
3	Motionball for Special Olympics	Project	\$5,000	Project: Event Registration: Outside HRM	25 (f) 3
Total		9	\$74,840		

Emergency Assistance & Public Safety

Tier	Organization	Grant Type	Amount	Rationale	Policy
	Canadian Professional Councillors Association of Canada	Capital	\$25,000	Incomplete: Financial Registration: Outside HRM	17 3
1	Black Point and Area Community Centre	Capital	\$6,215	Ownership: HRM Registration	14 (1) (b)
2	Public Good Society of Dartmouth	Capital	\$10,000	Incomplete: No Quotes Reporting Default	17 45 (1)
3	Bide Awhile Animal Shelter Society	Project	\$5,000	Project: Consumables	25 (g)
3	Team Rubicon Canada	Project	\$5,000	Project: Consumables Registration: Outside HRM	25 (g) 3

3	Halifax Young Women's Christian Association	Project	\$4,500	Ownership: Private Property	5 (b) (iii)
Total		6	\$55,715		

Environment & Climate Change

Tier	Organization	Grant Type	Amount	Rationale	Policy
	NSCC Foundation	Project	\$5,000	Incomplete: Financial Project: Academic	17 25 (f) (h)
1	Maynard Lake Conservation Society	Project	\$5,000	Project: Operating Ownership: HRM (Trail)	25 (a) 6 (3)
3	Hope for Wildlife	Capital	\$25,000	Ownership: Government Property	6 (1)
3	Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development	Capital	\$5,957.50	Project: Academic	25 (h)
Total		4	\$40,957.50		

Leisure

Tier	Organization	Grant Type	Amount	Rationale	Policy
2	Deanery Project Co-operative Limited	Capital	\$13,000	Reporting Default	44 (1)
Total		1	\$13,000		

Recreation

Tier	Organization	Grant Type	Amount	Rationale	Policy
	Alnass Community and Youth Development Association	Capital	\$6,500	Incomplete: Financial Project: Not Capital Grant	17 5 (b) (iii)
	Stroke Survivors Social Club	Project	\$2,000	Incomplete: Financial Expenditure: Operating and Consumables	17 25 (a) (g)
1	Wise Group Non-Profit Association	Project	\$25,000	Expenditure: Operating Project: Not Capital	25 (a) 5 (b) (iii)
3	Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Education	Capital	\$9,400	Expenditure: Operating Project: Academic Project: Not Capital	25 (a) 25 (h) 5 (b) (iii)
3	Sheet Harbour and Area Chamber of Commerce and Civic Affairs	Capital	\$20,000	Ownership: HRM Project: Economic Development	6 (3) 25 (i)
Total		5	\$62,900		

Potential Improvements

1. Provide additional guidance for applicants regarding the complete presentation of financial information. For example, the inclusion of an opening balance, assets and liabilities, and the distinction between restricted and unrestricted funds. Explain how this information can strengthen a grant application.

2. Consider amending the “Diversity & Accessibility” funding category to remove the term “Diversity” and expand the interpretation of “Accessibility” beyond reducing or removing visual, hearing, mobility, and cognitive barriers to include projects that reduce barriers based on language or literacy (for example, website translation software, screen-to-text, touch screen words or symbols) or online video instruction.
3. Provide additional clarification (online and print) regarding the eligibility of places of worship, cemeteries and burial grounds, church halls and related amenities such as parking lots, and outreach programs. Consideration could be given to an Interpretation Bulletin given that religious affiliation may be a social, cultural, psychological, or philosophical barrier for some residents.
4. Review the Emergency Assistance & Public Safety category in relation to HRM Community Safety department grants, programs and services (for example, overnight shelter for the homeless or victims of violence).
5. Revise the program application form to add more direction and apply technology to enable a web-based form completion, submission, and acknowledgement of receipt. For example, if a required field is not completed the program will not advance and prompt the user.
6. Investigate the feasibility of using a website function to allow applicants to check on the progress of the grant review and decision-making process in real time. For example, Initial Screening in Progress, Report Writing and Approval Stage, Grants Committee [date], Regional Council [date], Written Notification [date], and Payment Issued [date].

Key Performance Indicators Distribution of Applications and Proposed Awards: Fiscal 2025

Background

Purpose: HRM values the contribution of volunteers in providing a range of leisure, learning, and recreational opportunities for residents and the provision of programs, services, and amenities to enhance public safety and the well-being of individuals and families who require specialized services.

Key Performance Indicators ("KPI"): Annual measures of how the program is achieving or progressing toward realizing desired program outcomes.

Development of KPI's: In 2024 an [information report](#) was tabled with the HRM Grants Committee with an initial KPI which gauged the number and distribution of awards to smaller organizations with gross revenues in the prior fiscal year below a \$50,000 threshold (Tier 1). Two additional KPI's were subsequently added to gauge the distribution of applications and awards by location (urban, suburban, rural) and the distribution of Project Grants as compared to Capital Grants.

Limitation of Year-to-Year Comparison: The distribution of applications is expected to vary year-to-year, in part because an organization's gross revenues for the prior year may fluctuate, especially for smaller groups who rely on self-generated revenues as compared to organizations sustained by government operating grants or contracts. For example, a large one-time grant, donation, or loan could move a group from Tier 1 to Tier 2, but in general anecdotal observation suggests that significant fluctuations in revenues are linked to major capital projects such as new construction or a one-time purchase of large or an expensive item of equipment.

2025 Database: In 2025 a total of 120 applications were received and the combined value of all requests, including those considered ineligible for consideration, was \$1,224,099.14.

Baseline Data: 2025		
Recommendation	Applications	Combined Value of Requests
Proposed Award	63	\$662,040.35
Proposed Decline	26	\$240,874.29
Ineligible	31	\$261,694.50
Sub-Total	120	\$1,224,099.14
Total Less Ineligible Applications	89	\$902,914.54

When the thirty-one (31) ineligible applications are removed, the number of proposed grants represents 71%¹ of eligible applications.

¹ The percentage is calculated by dividing the number of proposed awards by the total number of eligible applications and rounded up.

1) Distribution of Eligible Applications by Tier.

This indicator looks at the distribution of eligible applications and recommended awards by Tier, notably Tier 1 applicants with gross revenues below \$50,000 for the prior year. These groups tend to be volunteer-led with limited, if any, recurring government operating funding.

Table 1. 2025 Distribution of Eligible Applications by Tier			
Tier	Applications	Combined Value of Requests	Value and Number of Proposed Grants
Tier 1 (<\$50,000)	28	\$183,778.24	\$117,832.00 (20)
Tier 2 (\$50,001-\$250,000)	26	\$275,825.69	\$144,819.00 (19)
Tier 3 (>\$250,000)	35	\$443,310.71	\$217,779 (24)
Total	89	\$902,914.64	\$480,430

2) Distribution of Proposed Awards by Project Location.

The purpose of this KPI is to demonstrate that the program is regional in scope. Most non-profits and charities reside in urban and suburban areas of HRM. However, communities situated in rural HRM lack the presence of government infrastructure and services often found in urban and suburban communities. Hence, subsection 28 (b) of program policy states that preference may be given to geographic or interest-based communities with limited access to public amenities.

Table 2. Distribution of Eligible Applications and Proposed Awards by Urban, Suburban, or Rural Project Location			
Location	Number of & Percentage of Eligible Applications	Combined Value of Requests from Eligible Applications	Combined Value of Proposed Grants
Urban	50	\$447,759.47	\$221,482
Suburban	14	\$119,245	\$90,745
Rural	24	\$335,910.17	\$168,203
Total	89	\$902,914.64	\$480,430

3) Number of Proposed Capital and Project Grants.

Capital Grants are typically associated with non-profits who own real property, but it is of particular interest to provide Capital Grants to facilities located in rural communities given that they play an important role in the provision of amenities to support a variety of programs and services. It is also important to support smaller organizations that do not own property through Project Grants because many provide valuable programs and services not associated with property ownership.

Table 3. Distribution of Proposed Grants by Type of Project.		
Type of Grant	Number of Proposed Grants	Percentage of All Proposed Awards
Project	37	59%
Capital	26	41%
Total	63	100%

Note to Table 3: Applications requesting a Capital Grant but do not meet the criteria set out in policy are not disqualified. Instead, the application is reviewed as a Project Grant with as maximum funding threshold of up to \$5,000.