



P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
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## Information Item No. 2

Halifax Explosion 100th Anniversary Advisory Committee  
September 20, 2017  
HRM Grants Committee  
October 2, 2017

**TO:** Chair and Members of the Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Advisory Committee and the HRM Grants Committee

**SUBMITTED BY:** *Original signed*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ed Thornhill, Acting Director of Finance & Asset Management

**DATE:** August 21, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grants Update

### INFORMATION REPORT

#### ORIGIN

October 6, 2015 - Regional Council approved Administrative Order 2015-003-ADM respecting the Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grants Program.

#### LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

*HRM Charter (2008)*

**Section 79(1)** The Council may expend money required by the Municipality for

(av) a grant or contribution to

(v) any charitable, nursing, medical, athletic, educational, environmental, cultural, community, fraternal, recreational, religious, sporting or social organization within the Province;

(vi) a registered Canadian charitable organization.

**Section 79(2)** a grant issued pursuant to s.71(1) shall be publicized in a newspaper in circulation throughout the region.

*Administrative Order 2015-003-ADM Respecting the Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grants Program.*

## **BACKGROUND**

The centennial grant program, Administrative Order 2015-003-ADM, was a 2-year designated award program aimed at broadening public participation in recognizing the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion through assistance to projects undertaken by non-profit organizations and charities. Project-specific awards of up to \$10,000 were available to assist in the development of educational or interpretive projects, cultural research and/or presentation, and ceremonial or dedication events. The first call for applications was issued in October, 2015, and a second and final call in August, 2016. Staff will return to Council to repeal the Administrative Order upon completion of the program.

## **DISCUSSION**

### *Highlights:*

- The 2015 call for applications received a total of eighteen (18) on-time applications for a combined total of \$145,223.70 in requests. Ten (10) awards were granted for a combined total of \$90,760.
- The 2016 call for applications received a total of twenty-four application (24) for a combined total of \$213,523 in requests. Eleven (11) awards were granted for a combined total of \$76,480.
- In addition to awards issued under the *Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grant Program*, centennial-related grants were also issued under the *Community Grants Program* and the *Grants to Professional Arts Organizations Program* as follows:
  - (i) *Community Grants Program* (2015-2017): seven (7) awards for a combined total of \$32,500; and
  - (ii) *Grants to professional Arts Organizations* (2017): two (2) awards for a combined total of \$12,000.
- Over a 3-year period (2015 to 2017) a total of thirty-seven (37) grants were issued for projects commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion for a combined total of \$256,240. The thirty-three (33) recipient organizations<sup>1</sup> represent a range of interests, from community-based/volunteer initiatives to professional productions, and vary in scale, complexity and content.
- Upon referral, three (3) Halifax Explosion commemorative projects funded by the Municipality also received matching funding under the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia/Community Foundations of Canada *Community Fund for Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>* program: Friends of Barra Society, St. Mark's Anglican Church, and St. Joseph's A. McKay Home and School Association for a combined total of \$10,230.

Although the designated commemorative funding program is closed, the attention generated by the Halifax Explosion centennial could be a catalyst and encourage on-going community-based initiatives that expand public awareness.

### *Next Steps:*

- Receipt of final reports by March 31, 2018, from grant recipients and confirmation of expenditures in accordance with the terms and conditions of funding.
- Evaluation of *Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grant Program* and a final report in 2018.

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<sup>1</sup> Dalhousie University Art Gallery, Narratives in Space and Time Society, Neptune Theatre/Eastern Front Theatre, and the Calvin Presbyterian Church received two grants, one in each of two fiscal years.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications. This report is for information purposes only.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Halifax Explosion 100th Anniversary Advisory Committee is comprised of eight (8) members of the public. The Grants Committee is comprised of one (1) elected member of Regional Council from each Community Council and six (6) members-at-large from the community. Public information sessions were held in Dartmouth and Halifax prior to the launch of the 2015 and 2016 *Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grant Program*. Notices were placed in the Chronicle Herald and affiliated community newspapers. The program was also promoted on the Municipality's web site.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grants Program Awards: Funded Element or Project Complete.
2. Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grants Program Awards: In Progress
3. Other Explosion-Related Awards:
  - (i) Community Grants Program;
  - (ii) Grants to Professional Arts Organizations.

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca>, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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ATTACHMENT 1

**Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grants Program Awards: Funded Element or Project Complete.**

Organizations in receipt of a grant under the *Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grant Program* are listed in alphabetical order. Although some of the projects listed below will be presented to the public in 2017 the specific element funded under the designated grant program has been completed and final reporting remitted.

**1. Atlantic Book Awards Society – Dartmouth – Interpretation**

The Society received a grant of \$3,000 towards incorporating a special programming element in the annual Atlantic Book Awards Shortlist Announcement event at Alderney Landing, Dartmouth. The project included a facilitated interview with three writers to explore individual approaches to the creation and publication of a fictional or non-fiction book based on the Halifax Explosion. *Halifax Explosion: Writers' Perspectives* panel featured Jacqueline Halsey (*Explosion Newsie*), Steven Laffoley (*The Blue Tattoo*) and Janet Maybee (*Aftershock: The Halifax Explosion and the Persecution of Pilot Francis MacKey*). The Society also commissioned an original work by HRM Poet Laureate Rebecca Thomas. The poem, *Remember Turtle Grove*, was performed at the April 5th event and reproduced in the May 18th, 2017, Awards Gala event program.

**2. Halifax Camerata Singers – Halifax- Interpretation**

Halifax Camerata Singers were awarded a grant of \$5,000 to commission an original choral composition, *Halifax, 1917*, by musician/composer Christopher Palmer based on the poem *December Sixth, 1917*, by Duncan M. Matheson. In his role as principal of the Alexander McKay School destroyed in the explosion, Matheson witnessed the disaster's immediate impact and captured some of his initial emotions in poetry including *An Elegy Written in Richmond; December Sixth, 1917; and Peace November 11, 1918*. The inaugural performance of this original work was presented as part of the *Halifax, 1917: From Dreams to Despair* commemorative concert on March 25th, 2017, at the Paul Regan Hall, Halifax Central Library, Halifax. The concert incorporated music reflective of daily life preceding the Halifax Explosion animated by an original narrative written and performed by actor/director Jeremy Webb and archival images. The concert was presented at the *Edmonton International Choral Festival*, June 1st to 4th, 2017, and a sequel performance may be staged at the Halifax Central Library, 5440 Spring Garden Road, Halifax, in December, 2017. [www.halifaxcamerata.org](http://www.halifaxcamerata.org)

**3. Halifax Theatre for Young People – Dartmouth/Halifax – Educational Initiative**

The Halifax Theatre for Young People was awarded a grant of \$10,000 towards the production of an original play, *No Safe Harbour*, an adaptation of the fictional children's book by Canadian author Julie Lawson augmented by a selection of monologues created by school students about their imagined experience of the Halifax Explosion. The story's central character is a 12-year-old girl whose parents are killed in the Halifax Explosion. The play was performed at the Museum of Immigration at Pier 21, November 8th to 13th, 2016. The audience entered the performance area through a train as though taking a journey through time and the performance was staged on a large ship-like structure. School performances were also staged November 21st to December 1st, 2016, reaching a total of 900 students. Audience feedback suggests that actively engaging students made the story relevant, encouraged empathy, and animated local history.

#### **4. Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children/Voices Black Theatre Ensemble – Dartmouth – Cultural Research and Presentation**

The collaborative community research and presentation project undertaken by the Nova Scotia Home for Colored Children and Voices Black Theatre Ensemble explores the Black community's experience of the Halifax Explosion. A grant of \$10,000 was awarded towards research conducted in Nova Scotia and Ontario and the development of a script for the play *Extraordinary Acts* by artist/curator David Woods.

The play's three central characters are local lawyer James R. Johnston, physician Dr. Clement Lagoure, and artist Edith MacDonald-Brown. Johnston was a staunch advocate for the establishment of a Normal and Industrial Institute and an orphanage for Black children but a small residence purchased on Veith Street was destroyed on December 6, 1917, just prior to its opening. The Home for Colored Children was subsequently developed on 200 acres in Westphal and opened in 1921. Dr. Lagoure, the first medical doctor of African descent to practice in Nova Scotia, operated a small private hospital on North Street that aided those injured by the blast and ensuing fires. Edith MacDonald-Brown, an artist living in Africville, was influenced by Lawren Harris who later gained recognition as a member of the Group of Seven, an internationally recognized Canadian art movement. The research portion of this project also identified other notable members of the Black community whose experiences inform the script: journalists Wilfred DeCosta and Ehelbert Cross, and Reverend William White, Pastor with the African Baptist Association, all of whom were members of the No.2 Construction Battalion, H.D Nicholas a train porter and friend of Dr. Lagoure, and an interview with Emily Clyde age 103, one of the last known survivors of the Halifax Explosion. The project also received funding from the Nova Scotia Museum and the James R. Johnston Chair in Black Canadian Studies, Dalhousie University. A presentation of this original work is planned for December, 2017.

#### **5. Nova Scotia Cultural Society of the Deaf – Halifax – Cultural Research and Presentation**

The Society was awarded a grant of \$10,000 to support sociocultural research and script-writing for the documentary film *The Halifax Explosion: The Deaf Experience*. The film tells the story of Deaf and Deafblind students attending the Halifax School for the Deaf, Gottingen Street, Halifax, at the time of the Halifax Explosion. Content includes recognition of the school's Principal James Ferron who is credited with ensuring the children's safety and relocation to Wolfville while building repairs were undertaken with financial aid provided by the Halifax-Massachusetts Relief Fund and the Province of Nova Scotia. The film includes interviews with living descendants and older members of the Deaf community who recall traditional stories of survivors, archival film and still images from the Nova Scotia Archives, Toronto Archives, United States National Archives, Naval Archives, Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, and various private collections. The film premiered at the *Toronto International Deaf Film & Arts Festival* on May 26th, 2017, and the Society is seeking venues in Halifax for the film to be presented in the Fall of 2017.

## ATTACHMENT 2

### Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grants Program Awards: In Progress

Organizations in receipt of a grant under the *Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grant Program* are listed in alphabetical order. The projects listed below will be completed in 2017. A final report is due on or before March 31st, 2018.

#### 6. Archdiocese of Halifax/Yarmouth – Halifax - Interpretation

In 2014, the Archdiocese launched the commemorative project, *Lost-Not Forgotten: Victims of the Halifax Explosion in Catholic Cemeteries* to honor the memory of persons killed in the Halifax Explosion interred in two historical burial grounds located in Halifax: Mount Olivet Cemetery (c.1896) and Holy Cross Cemetery<sup>2</sup> (1843). A grant of \$10,000 was awarded towards the fabrication and installation of an interpretive panel in both cemeteries. Research undertaken by volunteers and summer students has been published in book form. Guided tours of both Mount Olivet and Holy Cross are offered Monday to Friday, 11am to 2pm (check parish calendars for dates). The book sells for \$25.00 and will be of interest to historians, genealogists, and descendants of the deceased. A commemorative mass is planned for September 9th, 2017, at Mount Olivet Cemetery, 7076 Mumford Road, Halifax. Book sales: Catholic Pastoral Centre, 1531 Brunswick Street, Halifax. [www.halifaxyarmouth.org](http://www.halifaxyarmouth.org)

#### 7. Army Museum Halifax Citadel – Halifax - Interpretation

A grant of \$6,000 was awarded towards development and presentation of *The City Regiments Response to the Halifax Explosion* exhibition. The project recognizes the contribution of military personnel stationed in the Halifax region in search and rescue efforts and medical care following the Halifax Explosion. The immediate deployment of military personnel, equipment and supplies in advance of a coordinated civic response is credited with reducing the number of fatalities. Army Museum Halifax Citadel, Cavalier Building, Halifax Citadel National Historic Site, Rainnie Drive, Halifax. Admission to the museum is free and Parks Canada has waived admission to Halifax Citadel National Park in 2017 to recognize Canada's sesquicentennial.

#### 8. Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative – Halifax - Interpretation

*The Halifax Explosion Commissioning Project* supports the creation and presentation of five short animated films by local independent filmmakers that commemorate, educate or explore the diversity of communities impacted by the disaster. A grant of \$8,500 was awarded towards commissioning fees and a public screening at the Halifax Central Library. The presentation will be televised by CBC Television with the filmmakers present to talk about their film and answer audience questions. Anticipated screening in late Fall, 2017. Halifax Central Library, 5440 Spring Garden Road, Halifax. Free Admission. [www.afcoop.ca](http://www.afcoop.ca).

#### 9. Dalhousie University Art Gallery – Halifax - Exhibition

Dalhousie University was awarded a grant of \$6,760 to commission a digital photo-essay by local artist Claire Hodge entitled *The Hydrostone Project*. The artist engaged residents in an examination of the historical significance of the neighbourhood in relation to the Halifax Explosion and the relationships between personal stories and the development of the Hydrostone district. The work "is a tribute to the people who have lived in the area for the past century; encouraging participants to see history not as isolated events but a continuum of lived experiences". An artist-led discussion of this project will be integrated into the larger exhibition *Five Projects Affiliated with the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax*, October 12<sup>th</sup> to December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Dalhousie Art Gallery, Dalhousie Arts Centre, 6101 University Avenue, Halifax. Free Admission. [www.artgallery.dal.ca](http://www.artgallery.dal.ca)

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<sup>2</sup> Holy Cross Cemetery is located at 1259 South Park Street, Halifax

#### **10. Fort Sackville Foundation – Bedford – Educational Initiative**

This community-based research and presentation project examines the role of Bedford in local relief efforts and includes an exhibition at Scott Manor House and the production of a short video based on the retrospective personal account of 15-year old Evelyn Fox. A grant of \$8,000 was granted towards video production costs. At the time of the explosion, Evelyn lived in Bedford and commuted to Halifax on the Intercolonial Railway to attend the Halifax Academy on Brunswick Street. Fox, a keen observer and recorder of her surroundings at a young age, survived the blast and walked to the Alexandra School where her father Arthur Fox was the Principal. Evelyn's story follows her path alone through the city's devastated North End as she walked to the Rockingham railway station. The exhibition opens in the Fall of 2017, Scott Manor House, 15 Fort Sackville Road, Bedford. [www.scottmanor.ca](http://www.scottmanor.ca)

#### **11. Grace United Church – Dartmouth - Interpretation**

The Grace United Church was partially destroyed in the Halifax Explosion and its replacement re-opened in the same location in 1920. This historical legacy will be remembered within the broader context of the disaster's impact on Dartmouth and how people overcame a sense of disconnection created by the loss of communication, transportation, and human life. A grant of \$9,500 was awarded towards the development of an interpretive multi-media installation by visual artist Nick Iwaska projected onto the architectural features of the church sanctuary to create two and three-dimensional images. A "history fair" featuring local historians, researchers and non-profit organizations encourages collaboration and visitor interaction. The event will be presented at *Nocturne Art at Night*, October 14th, 2017, Grace United Church, 70 King Street, Dartmouth. Free Admission. [www.graceunited.ca](http://www.graceunited.ca)

#### **12. Halifax Community Planning & Design Association/PLANifax – Halifax - Educational Initiative**

The collaborative development of a short video and podcast by the Association and PLANifax explores how the Halifax Explosion shaped urban planning. A grant of \$9,000 was awarded towards reproduction of archival materials and technical production fees. Content includes an examination of the Hydrostone district as an example of the Garden City Movement, archival maps and photographs, newspaper excerpts, reconstruction plans, and interviews with subject matter experts. Background research has been completed and production commenced in June. The final products are due to be launched in phases commencing in December, 2017. See: [www.planifax.ca](http://www.planifax.ca) or [www.pdcentre.ca](http://www.pdcentre.ca).

#### **13. Narratives in Space and Time Society – Halifax/Dartmouth - Interpretation**

A grant of \$10,000 was awarded to support the development of interactive and location-specific software applications for free public use during a series of interpretive walking tours entitled *Walking the Debris Field: Public Geographies of the Halifax Explosion*. Starting in 2012, the series has explored the explosion's impact on areas of Halifax and Dartmouth using the natural landscape and interpretive methods to animate contextual story-telling including personal mobile devices, text, photographic material, artefacts/models, and performance. The series concludes in 2017 with a web-based repository and an exhibition at Dalhousie University Art Gallery. For information on walking tours see: [www.narrativesinspaceandtime.ca](http://www.narrativesinspaceandtime.ca) and *Five Projects Affiliated with the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax*, October 12<sup>th</sup> to December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017, Dalhousie Art Gallery, Dalhousie Arts Centre, 6101 University Avenue, Halifax. Free Admission. [www.artgallery.dal.ca](http://www.artgallery.dal.ca)

#### **14. Neptune Theatre Foundation/Eastern Front Theatre Society – Halifax/Regional – Educational Initiative**

A collaborative theatre project developed and presented by Neptune Theatre Foundation and Eastern Front Theatre was awarded a grant of \$10,000 to (i) commission an original script and (ii) subsidize access for local schools serving lower income communities. *Lullaby: Inside the Halifax Explosion* by playwright Karen Bassett explores the impact of the disaster on diverse ethno-cultural communities as three survivors share their stories and come to terms with not only the situation they find themselves in, but who they are stranded

with and their differences and commonalities. The script has been completed. Rehearsals commence in late summer with presentation to local schools commencing in September, 2017, a provincial tour to select schools and theatres, and the main gallery of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic will be converted into a 120-seat theatre for a 3-week engagement. [www.neptunetheatre.com](http://www.neptunetheatre.com) or [www.easternfronttheatre.com](http://www.easternfronttheatre.com). Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, 1675 Lower Water Street, Halifax, November 24th to December 10th, 2017. [www.maritimemuseum.novascotia.ca](http://www.maritimemuseum.novascotia.ca)

#### **15. North End Business Association – Halifax - Display**

A grant of \$7,750 was awarded towards reproduction of archival materials, fabrication and temporary installation of “before and after” photographs of buildings and sites pre-and post the Halifax Explosion intended to help viewers comprehend the scale of destruction and reconstruction. Linking these locations visually and with an online map demonstrates their connectivity both to the event and to each other to present part of a larger story. The indoor/outdoor exhibit is due to commence Fall of 2017 to December 6th, 2017, various locations. [www.gonorthhalifax.ca](http://www.gonorthhalifax.ca)

#### **16. Photopolis Society - Halifax/Dartmouth – Cultural Research and Presentation**

The Society was awarded a grant of \$10,000 to fund *The Turtle Grove Project*, a youth engagement/community art project for Mi'kmaq youth with mentorship provided by Mi'kmaq visual/performance artist Ursula Johnson and photographer Jayme-Lynn Gloade. The project explores the impact of the Halifax Explosion on the Mi'kmaq community of Turtle Grove, Dartmouth, assisted by educators and elders from the local Mi'kmaq community. Archival and archaeological resources at the Nova Scotia Archives, Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, and the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic have been examined and participants visited the *Walking with our Sisters*<sup>3</sup> exhibition at Mt. St. Vincent University. Based on their discoveries and interpretations, participants will produce a photographic record to be displayed at the annual *Photopolis Festival of Photography*. The educational and self-guided research phase is complete; the final phase includes artwork production and exhibit planning assisted by the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design and the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. *Photopolis Festival of Photography*, October 1st to 31st, 2017. Various locations. [www.photopolis.ca](http://www.photopolis.ca). Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, 1723 Hollis Street, Halifax. [www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca/](http://www.artgalleryofnovascotia.ca/)

#### **17. St. Joseph's A. McKay Home and School Association – Halifax – Educational Initiative**

The St. Joseph's Alexander McKay School was built in 1867 on Russell Street, Halifax, and destroyed in the Halifax Explosion. A grant of \$2,730 was awarded towards production of a ceramic mosaic to be on permanent display at the school. *The Children of the Explosion: Remembrance, Resilience and Pulling Together* is a collaborative community art project that actively engages students of all abilities in the development of visual or written content for clay tiles that will be produced by artist Andrea Puszkas. A short video documenting the process will be screened at an official unveiling at St. Joseph's A. McKay Elementary School, 5389 Russell Street, Halifax.

Recipient of matching award of \$2,730 under the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia/Community Foundations of Canada *Community Fund for Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>* program.

#### **18. St. Paul's Anglican Church – Halifax - Ceremonial Event**

St. Paul's Anglican Church was awarded a grant in the amount of \$10,000 towards development and presentation of *The Lost Memorial Project*, a re-creation of the memorial service for victims of the Halifax Explosion that took place at St. Paul's on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1918. The project includes community-based

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<sup>3</sup> A memorial installation exhibited at Mt. St. Vincent University Art Gallery, January 14<sup>th</sup> to February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, to honor missing and murdered Indigenous women featuring 1,800 pairs of embroidered moccasin tops (“vamps”) presented in a winding path configuration. The vamps were made by contributing artists and community volunteers across Canada and internationally and included 100 children's vamps representing children who did not return from residential schools.



research, the commission of a work for the choir and pipe organ by writer/composer David Christensen, and the projection of visual images and text onto the church's exterior walls. The commemorative event includes a 90-minute program of music, prose, traditional Anglican liturgy and a display of archival material. The research stage has been completed and relevant church records and memoirs will be integrated into the project and artist/writer Nathen Little has been engaged as Art Director for the overall project. The anticipated memorial service date is December 6th, 2017, St. Paul's Anglican Church, 1749 Argyle Street, Halifax. [www.stpaulshalifax.org](http://www.stpaulshalifax.org).

#### **19. Second Chances Community Band Society of Nova Scotia – Regional – Educational Initiative**

The Society was awarded a grant of \$4,000 to commission the creation of an original musical score by composer/conductor Robert Buckley to be co-performed annually by members of the community band and a local high school band to commemorate the Halifax Explosion supplemented by visual and/or written material. Invitations will be sent annually to regional schools to jointly perform the commissioned piece for the public at their school location. The inaugural performance of this new work will be staged at the *Halifax Community Band Festival*, May, 2018.

#### **20. Symphony Nova Scotia Foundation – Regional - Interpretation**

In 2015, the Foundation was awarded a grant of \$10,000 to commission a commemorative work by musician/composer Derek Charke to be performed at a *Halifax Explosion Commemorative Concert* in 2017. The project has been modified in scale to encompass the creation of a musical arrangement to accompany the recital of a poem by George Elliott Clarke, Canadian Parliamentary Poet Laureate, to be performed at the Halifax Central Library on the evening of December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The grant amount remains unchanged but will be reassigned to professional fees for composer, additional percussion and brass musicians, equipment transportation, and guest conductor fees. The final report deadline is amended to March 31, 2018<sup>4</sup>. Halifax Central Library, 5440 Spring Garden Road, Halifax. [www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/branches/locations/halifax-central-library.html](http://www.halifaxpubliclibraries.ca/branches/locations/halifax-central-library.html).  
<https://symphonynovascotia.ca/>

#### **21. Zuppa Circus Theatre Society – Halifax - Interpretation**

A grant of \$7,000 was awarded towards the development and presentation of an original play, *The Halifax Explosion Inquiry*, based on the book *Aftershock: The Persecution of Pilot Francis MacKey* by author Janet Maybee. The play is based on MacKey's testimony at the formal inquiry that followed the explosion and draws parallels between the post-explosion climate of public anxiety and contemporary cases in which public anger incites a desire for vengeance or blame. One performance will be live-streamed to expand audience participation. Anticipated performance Fall/Winter 2017, The Provincial Courthouse, 5250 Spring Garden Road, Halifax. <https://zuppatheatre.com>

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<sup>4</sup> Report to Regional Council meeting of September 19, 2017, "Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grants Program: Request for Amendment to Awards – Symphony Nova Scotia" dated August 10, 2017. Decision pending.

ATTACHMENT 3

**Other Halifax Explosion-Related Awards**

**(i) Community Grants Program: Fiscal Years 2015 to 2017**

**22. Calvin Presbyterian Church – Halifax – Community History**

*The Halifax Explosion Anchor Monument* is a remnant of the *Mont-Blanc* anchor which landed 2km away from the Halifax Harbour on the grounds of what is now the Calvin Presbyterian Church. To recognize the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary the congregation refurbished and re-mounted the artefact, installed an interpretation panel, new walkway and landscaping. In 2014, the Church received a grant of \$5,000 towards artefact restoration and re-mounting and \$5,000 in 2015 towards the fabrication and installation of an interpretation panel. The Church self-funded the new landscaping. A dedication service was hosted on December 4th, 2017. Calvin Presbyterian Church, 3311 Ashburn Avenue, Halifax. [www.calvinhalifax.ca/](http://www.calvinhalifax.ca/)

**23. Friends of Barra Society (Craidean Do Bharraidh) – Halifax – Community History**

Commemorative markers will be placed in Fairview cemetery and on the Isle of Barra, Scotland, to recognize five crew members from this remote island in the Hebrides who were killed in the Halifax Explosion. The men were working aboard the *S.S Curaca* at Pier 8 when the ship was struck by the blast. Next of kin were notified by the Halifax Relief Commission but had to await months until someone visiting the island could translate the letters and finally inform them of the tragic event. In 2016, the Society received a grant of \$2,500 to fund the fabrication and installation of a marker in both English and Gaelic in Fairview Cemetery, Halifax. A matching marker will be installed on the Isle of Barra, Scotland. The local memorial marker will be unveiled on December 6, 2017, Fairview Lawn Cemetery, 3720 Windsor Street, Halifax.

Recipient of matching award of \$2,500 under the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia/Community Foundations of Canada *Community Fund for Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>* program.

**24. Narratives in Space and Time Society – Halifax – Community Arts**

In 2013, the Society initiated a series of walking tours focused on the Halifax Explosion: *Lismer Walk* and *Tufts Cove Walk* (2013) and *Walking the Debris Field: Public Geographies of the Halifax Explosion* (2014). In 2015, the Society received a grant of \$5,000 towards professional fees to design a mobile application. The series was expanded with *Research Walk: Africville*, *Research Walk: Across the Narrows*, *Walking the Debris Field: Aftermath*, and *Walking the Debris Field: A Natural History* (2015). [www.narrativesinspaceandtime.ca](http://www.narrativesinspaceandtime.ca)

**25. St. Mark's Anglican Church – Halifax – Community Arts**

Constructed in 1866 at the intersection of Barrington and Russell Street, the church was destroyed in the Halifax Explosion. Despite extensive loss of life among its congregation those who survived assisted relief efforts as volunteers serving in temporary first aid and feeding stations. In 2017, the Church received a grant of \$5,000 towards the *Halifax Explosion Commemorative Concert and Memorial Garden* project that begins with a commemorative church service at St. Mark's scheduled for 2:00pm November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017. A commemorative concert featuring an inter-generational program of music and readings is planned for December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 7pm. Enhancements to the church grounds will represent a 'legacy' memorial. St. Mark's Anglican Church, 5522 Russell Street, Halifax. [www.stmarkshalifax.ca/](http://www.stmarkshalifax.ca/)

Recipient of matching award of \$5,000 under the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia/Community Foundations of Canada *Community Fund for Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>* program.

## 26. Union Fire Club Pipes and Drums – Regional – Community Arts

The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion holds special significance to current and former members of the fire service and first responders. On December 6<sup>th</sup>, 1917, the Halifax Fire Department lost nine members in the line of duty. In 2017, members of this community band will perform at various commemorative events including the *Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo*, the *Canadian Fallen Firefighters Memorial Ceremony* in Ottawa, and the annual *Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service*, Halifax. In 2017, a grant of \$5,000 was awarded towards the purchase of instruments and ceremonial costumes. Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017, HRM Fire Station #4, 5830 Duffus Street, Halifax.

## 27. Veith House/Halifax Children's Foundation – Halifax - Community Arts

In 2014, Veith House was awarded a grant of \$5,000 towards a community garden/arts project that installed a new garden fence featuring a painted mural depicting the site's relationship with the Halifax Protestant Orphanage (c.1857) destroyed in the Halifax Explosion with the loss of fifteen lives. The facility was re-built and when it closed in 1969 the property was transferred to the Halifax Children's Foundation to serve as a community centre. Veith House, 3115 Veith Street, Halifax.

### (ii) Grants to Professional Arts Organizations: Fiscal Year 2017

## 28. Dalhousie University Art Gallery – Halifax – Project Grant

A grant of \$5,000 awarded towards expansion and enhancement of a suite of Halifax Explosion centennial exhibitions: *Five Projects Affiliated with the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax*. In addition to the *Hydrostone Project* (Claire Hodges) a digital photographic essay commissioned with assistance under the *Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grants Program*, concurrent exhibitions include:

- *Footsteps of Art: Arthur Lismer and the Halifax Explosion* (Dalhousie Art Gallery);
- *Arthur Lismer and the Halifax Explosion* (Alan Ruffman, guest curator);
- *Halifax Digital Map* (James Boxall, Dalhousie University); and
- *Walking the Debris Field: Public Geographies of the Halifax Explosion* (Narratives in Space and Time Society).

Audience engagement is enhanced by a commemorative illustrated catalogue and a weekly series of gallery-based artist-led tours, a curated film series, guided walking tours, and public lectures in partnership with exhibitors, guest speakers, and Dalhousie University faculty on a range of topics including the impact on nursing, ophthalmology, architecture, and emergency/disaster planning.

*Five Projects Affiliated with the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Halifax* opens October 12<sup>th</sup> and closes December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Dalhousie Art Gallery, Dalhousie Arts Centre, 6101 University Avenue, Halifax. Free Admission. [www.artgallery.dal.ca](http://www.artgallery.dal.ca)

## 29. Eastern Front Theatre Society – Halifax – Project Grant

A grant of \$7,000 awarded towards presentation of the play *Lullaby: Inside the Halifax Explosion*. The original script was developed with assistance under the *Halifax Explosion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grants Program* and a public reading presented at the *Stages Theatre Festival*, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The presentation includes three phases:

- September 18<sup>th</sup> to October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – tour to Nova Scotia high schools in partnership with Neptune Young Company and the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic (small artefact exhibit accompanied by interpretive curator);
- tour to regional theatres for two weeks;
- November 24<sup>th</sup> to December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – ticketed public performances at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic.

Audience engagement is enhanced by a study guide and designated web site. [www.maritimemuseum.novascotia.ca](http://www.maritimemuseum.novascotia.ca) or [www.easternfronttheatre.com](http://www.easternfronttheatre.com).