



**COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
FONDATION COMMUNAUTAIRE
DE NOVA SCOTIA
DE LA NOUVELLE-ÉCOSSE**

*A public charitable foundation
created by and for the people of
Nova Scotia*

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Registered Charitable Number
870389368 RR0001

February 23, 2017

Dear Halifax Regional Municipality's Community Grants Committee:

Community Foundations of Canada and the community foundation network is currently stewarding the Community Fund for Canada's 150th, an initiative supported by the Government of Canada and matched by local community foundations. This national initiative is rooted in the principle that community-led, locally-relevant initiatives are a powerful way of shaping the significance of this milestone for our country.

The Fund seeks to support a broad range of local projects connected to Canada's 150th that build vibrant and healthy communities; encourage community participation; and inspire a greater understanding of our communities and our country; to ultimately work towards a greater sense of belonging, inclusion, and Reconciliation. These projects may come from a wild variety of fields, including arts and culture, the environment, youth leadership, recreation, commemoration, education, and many other areas. To date, the Fund has supported over 700 projects in every province and territory.

The Community Foundation of Nova Scotia (CFNS) has been working closely with local organizations and engaging private philanthropists and businesses to help groups in Nova Scotia access these funds. Founded in 2008, the CFNS is a small foundation with few unrestricted funds, and our ability to provide the matching dollars to unlock this opportunity for local organizations has been very limited.

With the desire to ensure that strong projects are supported in the Halifax region, Community Foundations of Canada is willing to recognize an award issued to a charity under the 2017 HRM Community Grants Program as the equivalent to the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia's matching contribution, unlocking additional funding for those initiatives that also meet the criteria of the Community Fund for Canada's 150th. This will ensure greater support for local projects while also minimizing additional fund raising effort by local groups. A charity receiving up to \$7,500 from the HRM Community Grants program could access up to an additional \$7,500 through the Fund.

The CFNS has a volunteer selection committee that reviews all applications for the Community Fund for Canada's 150th. In the event that HRM staff could alert charities that receive support through the 2017 Community Grants Program of the opportunity for additional funds, those charities could apply for the Community Fund for Canada's 150th. The CFNS committee would base its final decisions on the criteria for that Fund.

The CFNS understands that the Community Grants Program will not give preferential consideration to charities, but recognizes that there is mutual benefit to both HRM and the CFNS in advising HRM grant recipients of the potential of additional support. Ultimately, there is an opportunity to leverage at least \$60,000 in much-needed support for projects in the Halifax region.

Please feel free to contact Angela Bishop with any additional questions, at 902 490 5907 or angela.bishop@cfns-fcne.ca. We hope that we can make the most of this opportunity for the community in Halifax.

Regards,

Angela Bishop, Executive Director
Community Foundation of Nova Scotia