



P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
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**Item No. 15.1**  
**Audit & Finance Standing Committee**  
**Special Meeting**  
**March 25, 2021**

**TO:** Chair and Members of Audit & Finance Committee

*-Original Signed-*

**SUBMITTED BY:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Denise Schofield, Executive Director, Parks and Recreation

*-Original Signed-*

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Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** November 18, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Revised Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV, Respecting Marketing Levy  
Special Event Reserve Grants

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**ORIGIN**

February 19, 2020 motion of Special Events Advisory Committee; MOVED by Ken Bagnell, seconded by Deputy Mayor Blackburn:

THAT the Special Events Advisory Committee recommends that the Audit and Finance Committee request a staff report to amend the Administrative Order on Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve Grants to include a new Established Events funding program stream to bridge the funding gap between the New Events (Emerging) program and the Signature Events program.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED**

March 11, 2020 motion of Audit and Finance Standing Committee; MOVED by Councillor Adams, seconded by Councillor Whitman:

THAT the Audit and Finance Committee request a staff report to amend the Administrative Order on Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve Grants to include a new Established Events funding program stream to bridge the funding gap between the New Events (Emerging) program and the Signature Events program.

The Standing Committee requested that the resulting staff report include a discussion on the possibility of extending one funding stream by two years instead of adding a third stream.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**RECOMMENDATION ON PAGE 2**

## **LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

### ***Halifax Regional Municipality Charter***

Section 71 (1) The Municipality may

(c) pay grants to a body corporate for the purpose of promoting the Municipality or any part of the Municipality and the surrounding areas as a location for institutions, industries and businesses;

### ***Halifax Regional Municipality Marketing Levy Act***

Section 3(4) The levy collected pursuant to this Section shall be used by the Council to promote the Municipality as a tourist destination.

**Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV, Respecting Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve Grants.**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Audit & Finance Standing Committee recommend that Regional Council adopt the amendments to the Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV, *Respecting Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve Grants* as set out in Attachment 2 of this report.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve (MLSER) business case, approved by Regional Council in November 2015 defines the purpose of the reserve as follows:

- To provide funding to attract and host exceptional, large-scale sporting events and tourism events that create significant economic impacts; promote Halifax as a multi-experiential event destination; and attract tourists to Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) for multiple day visits;
- To provide funding to community non-profit and public institutions in support of major capital initiatives by facilitating the development of significant community infrastructure to realize tangible cultural, and economic impacts on a national, provincial, regional or sectoral scale; and
- To provide funding to support the principles and objectives of the Cultural Plan and the HRM Public Art Policy.

All recommendations respecting the allocations of the MLSER are governed by Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV, *Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve Grants* (AO 2014-020-GOV), and the MLSER Reserve Business Case. HRM receives 40% of the total revenue generated from the hotel tax levy for the purposes of supporting tourism and economic development through funding events; the other 60% supports the operation of Discover Halifax. Funds from the hotel tax levy are deposited in the Community and Events Reserve (Q621) and withdrawals are approved by Regional Council, in accordance with AO 2014-020-GOV. Staff undertakes the annual grant application and evaluation process as outlined in the AO. After review staff make recommendations to the Special Events Advisory Committee (SEAC) for approval which then makes recommendations to Regional Council.

There are four (4) program streams under the MLSER granting framework:

1. Signature Events – supports large-scale, annual events that have been in existence for 5 years and have a minimum budget of \$100,000;
2. Distinguished Events – supports one-time events that have a minimum budget of \$50,000;

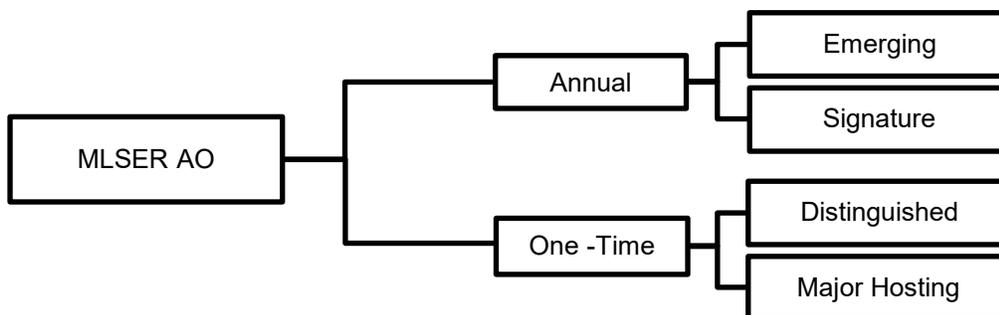
3. New Events (Emerging) – supports organizations that bring or create a developing event with potential and have a minimum budget of \$50,000; and
4. Major Hosting Events – supports organizations bidding on the rights to host major events that draw tourists, have a minimum budget of \$500,000, and are in receipt of funding from other levels of government.

Below is a short history of the revisions to the Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve (MLSER) granting program from 2015 until present.

As stated, in 2015, Regional Council approved Administrative Order Number 2014-020-GOV, *Respecting Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve Grants*. Included in the AO were new program categories with new criteria and a scoring system primarily focused on data driven economic and tourism impacts to replace the previous event granting framework.

On February 27, 2017, SEAC passed a motion requesting staff to host a workshop on additional changes to the Administrative Order Number. On March 8, 2017, that motion was ratified by the Audit & Finance Standing Committee, the governing body to SEAC. The motion directed staff to consult with SEAC to identify areas for improvement as part of the review process. The review process included an analysis of criteria such as program budget minimums, annual funding, eligibility criteria and intake timelines. Staff hosted two workshops with SEAC at which members proposed a ‘two-bucket’ approach; one stream for annual events to apply, and another stream for one-time (non-annual) events.

The Committee endorsed the revisions determined through the workshops and in June 2018, Regional Council approved amendments to AO 2014-020-GOV. The below chart summarizes these approved category changes:



## DISCUSSION

Towards the end of the 2019/2020 funding intake, events that had received funding in the New Event (Emerging) category were about to complete the three-year funding cycle. As stated in the AO under Section 4 (c)(iv) a. (paraphrasing), “HRM may provide sustainable funding up to a maximum of three (3) years to events in the New Events (Emerging) and Signature categories to assist with the sustainability of events”. These events had successfully established an audience base and wished to continue to operate and expand (meeting the intention of the New Events (Emerging) program) but were reliant on further municipal funding to continue. Staff discussed this issue with members of SEAC at the February 19, 2020 meeting proposing a modification the AO that might include the introduction of a new stream that would accommodate these event applicants on an annual basis. Under the current AO terms, the only annual program is for Signature Events. Under Section 4 (a) of the AO for Signature Events it states: “(ii) The special event must be in existence for a minimum of five (5) consecutive years and have a minimum budget of \$100,000.” Since the majority of the newly established have not operated consistently for a five-year term, they would not qualify as Signature Events.

After further review, staff have determined that a new program stream is not required to accommodate the gap between New Events (Emerging) program and the Signature Events Program. The most efficient way to bridge this program gap is to extend the maximum length of consistent operation in the New Events (Emerging) program to state “up to five (5) years” from the current “up to three (3) years.” That would amend the AO to read:

Section 4 (c) New Events (Emerging)...

(iv) The New Events (Emerging) Program:

- a. provides up to five (5) years of sustainable funding; and
- b. may provide the cost of executing a Sport Tourism Economic Assessment Model (STEAM) or an alternate industry recognized economic assessment tool as approved by staff in the first and fifth year of funding.

If the revisions to the AO are approved, eligible events that receive funding under the new extended program will, at the conclusion of the five (5) years’, either qualify for Signature Event status, be required to self-sustain, or seek alternative sponsorship. The extension of “up to five (5) years” provides continued value when considering the municipal investment previously provided to the new emerging events as well as impacts of COVID-19 on local events. The relevant amendments to the Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV, *Respecting Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve Grants* can be found in Attachment 2.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications with respect to this report, but it should be noted that this is an administrative change and the grants will be funded from within the existing grants budget,

### **RISK CONSIDERATION**

The risks associated with this report rate low. To determine this, consideration was given to financial, operational and reputational risks. While there is limited risk to HRM with the propose amendments, the changes would reduce risk to emerging events by extending the amount of sustained funding.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Information regarding program eligibility and application timelines are posted on the HRM website. Communication is ongoing with event clients on the status of events.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

None.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

The Audit & Finance Standing Committee may choose not to recommend that Regional Council approve the proposed amendments to Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: 2014-020-GOV Showing Amendments

Attachment 2: Amending Administrative Order

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A copy of this report can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Elizabeth Taylor, Manager, Culture & Events, 902.229.7622

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## ATTACHMENT 1

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NUMBER 2014-020-GOV Respecting Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve Grants**

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality values the economic impact of large scale events to the Halifax Regional Municipality;

**AND WHEREAS** the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality wishes to support organizations to attract and host large scale special events within the Halifax Regional Municipality through grants;

**BE IT RESOLVED AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER** of the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality under the authority of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, as follows:

#### **Short Title**

1. This Administrative Order may be known as the *Administrative Order on MLSE Grants*.

#### **Interpretation**

2. In this Administrative Order,
  - (a) “Anniversary” means a celebration at quarter century intervals that an event acknowledges with enhanced programming;
  - (b) “Applicant” means an organization applying for funding under this AO;
  - (c) “Concerned status” means conditions attached to the release of grant funds in accordance with section 31 of this AO;
  - (d) “Council” means the Regional Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality;
  - (e) “Enhanced visibility” means multi-media opportunities to promote the Municipality that would not occur, in whole or in part, without a grant under this AO;
  - (f) “Grant” means a transfer of funds to an organization subject to eligibility criteria;
  - (g) “Special Events Advisory Committee” or, “SEAC” means the advisory committee of Council pursuant to the Terms of Reference attached in Schedule 1 to this AO;
  - (h) “Major Hosting Event” means a national or international event that typically does not recur annually in the same location and is awarded to a host destination through a competitive bidding process;

- (i) “Multi-media opportunities” means opportunities to profile the Municipality through a number of marketing platforms such as radio, television, video, print, internet and social media;
- (j) “Municipality” means the Halifax Regional Municipality;
- (k) “New or Emerging Event” means an event that has been held in Halifax for the first time within the past ~~three (3)~~ **five (5)** years, or strongly demonstrates a recent change or growth;
- (l) “Organization” means a registered charity, non-profit society or for-profit entity with demonstrated event management experience;
- (m) “Organizer” means the organization responsible for delivering the special event;
- (n) “Special event” means an event, festival or public celebration that:
  - (i) demonstrates capacity and the ability to develop as a tourism driver over the long term;
  - (ii) is promoted to and marketed to tourists; and
  - (iii) is available to the general public to attend, either free or through the purchase of tickets.
- (o) “Staff” means staff of Parks & Recreation; and
- (p) “Tourist” means a person who travels 100 kilometres or more specifically to attend the special event.

### **Purpose**

3. The purpose of this Administrative Order is to provide grants from the Municipality to direct financial support to large scale special events in Halifax Regional Municipality that support and promote tourism and business development.

### **Grants Available**

4. There are hereby established four grant programs:

- a) Signature Events: supports annual large scale special events.

- (i) Available to Organizations that have operated for a minimum of three (3) consecutive years with strong event management and a track record of success.
  - (ii) The special event must be in existence for a minimum of five (5) consecutive years and have a minimum budget of \$100,000.00.
  - (iii) May provide sustainable funding up to a maximum term of three (3) years.
  - (iv) Provides additional funding up to a maximum of 10% of the previous year's total grant amount to support additional programming for an anniversary of the event.
- b) Distinguished Events: supports one-time large scale events that have high potential for national and/or international exposure, an ability to encourage multiple day visits to the Municipality, and provide the Municipality with a competitive advantage.
- (i) Repealed.
  - (ii) The event must have a minimum budget of \$50,000.00.
  - (iii) Repealed.
  - (iv) Repealed.
  - (v) Repealed.
  - (vi) National University Sports Championships may be considered for funding within this category.
- (c) New Events (Emerging): supports Organizations that bring or create a new event in Halifax.
- (i) Available to Organizations that have operated for a minimum of one (1) year with demonstrated experience in event management.
  - (ii) The event must have a minimum budget of \$50,000.00.
  - (iii) Preference will be given to applicants that have secured corporate and government funding.

(iv) The New Events (Emerging) Program:

- a. provides up to ~~three (3)~~ five (5) years of sustainable funding; and
- b. may provide the cost of executing a Sport Tourism Economic Assessment Model (STEAM) or an alternate industry recognized economic assessment tool as approved by staff in the first and ~~third~~ fifth year of funding.

(d) Major Hosting Events: supports Organizations bidding on the rights to host major events and supports programs, activities and services specific to the delivery of a major event being hosted in Halifax. Events must be of a size and scope sufficient to draw tourists to the Municipality's communities, attract significant media exposure, and profile Halifax destinations nationally and globally.

- (i) The event must have a minimum budget of \$500,000.00.
- (ii) Funding conditional on receiving event funding from other levels of government.

**Application Requirements**

5. Repealed.

5A. (1) The intake periods for each grant program shall be as follows:

- (a) Signature Events: one intake period per fiscal year;
- (b) Distinguished Events: two intake periods per fiscal year;
- (c) New Events (Emerging): two intake periods per fiscal year; and
- (d) Major Hosting Events: application to this program may be made at any time.

(2) The intake periods and application deadlines will be established by staff and advertised on the HRM website.

6. Applications must be signed by the applicant's authorized representative(s).

7. All applications must be received by mail, in person or emailed by the application deadline. Applications may be submitted:

- a) in person to:  
HRM Event Grants Officer  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Dartmouth Ferry Terminal
  - b) by mail to:  
HRM Event Grants Officer  
P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, NS  
B3J 3A5
  - (c) by email to:  
eventgrants@halifax.ca
8. Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed or considered.
9. All applications shall be in a format prescribed by staff and include:
- (a) a description of the applicant, including history and organisation's staffing and structure;
  - (b) details on any other funding received from the Municipality within the current and two previous fiscal years, including tax relief;
  - (c) a statement of corporate funding sources sought by the applicant, including current status of applications;
  - (d) a statement of other government funding sources sought by the applicant, including current status of applications;
  - (e) a detailed event description with a statement on the tourism and economic impact in the community;
  - (f) previous year's municipal service costs when applicable;
  - (g) a detailed event budget; and
  - (h) completion of an economic impact analysis, such as the Sport Tourism Economic Assessment Model (STEAM) or an alternate industry recognized economic assessment tool as approved by staff.

**Eligibility**

10. To be eligible for funding, an applicant shall be a registered not-for-profit society or for-profit entity in good standing with the Provincial Registrar of Joint Stock Companies or federally registered under the *Corporations Act* and:

- (a) Repealed;
- (b) has no outstanding municipal service costs due to the Municipality; and
- (c) has no outstanding reports or due to the Municipality.

11. For the organization to be eligible for funding the event must:

- (a) provide an element of the event open to the general public to attend;
- (b) secure additional sources of revenue such as corporate contributions, donations, sales, and membership fees and must pursue other sources of public or private funding;
- (c) be held within the geographical boundaries of the Municipality; and
- (d) be fourteen (14) days or less in duration.

12. The following organizations are not eligible for funding:

- (a) government agencies;
- (b) organizations aligned with a political party or to support activities thereof;
- (c) individuals;
- (d) educational institutions; or
- (e) groups using the funds for activities outside the Municipality.

13. The following events are not eligible for funding:

- (a) consumer shows;
- (b) trade shows;
- (c) meetings;

- (d) seminars;
- (e) repealed;
- (f) symposiums;
- (g) public lectures;
- (h) fundraisers;
- (i) professional training and development;
- (j) educational initiatives;
- (k) banquets;
- (l) conferences; and
- (m) marketing initiatives.

**Expenses**

- 14. Grants may be applied to programing, operating, marketing and promotional expenses.
- 15. No portion of the grant shall be:
  - (a) applied to volunteer bursaries or honoraria; or
  - (b) paid to members or officers of an organization's Board of Directors either directly or indirectly.

**General Provisions**

- 16. Staff is available to assist with the application process and other issues that may arise.
- 17. Staff may consult with provincial and federal government funders to thoroughly assess the rights and benefits being offered by the applicant.
- 18. Retroactive funding will not be awarded.

19. Any event that will occur less than three (3) months after the application deadline, or after the application submission in the case of a Major Hosting Event, will be assessed on a case by case basis with no guarantee of a decision before the date of the event.

20. All grant recipients must provide staff full access to the event for the purposes of monitoring and evaluation, including but not limited to audit and inspection of accounts, records, receipts, invoices, vouchers and other documents related to the funding provided through HRM.

**Application Evaluations**

21. The following criteria will be used to evaluate applications for Council's consideration:

- (a) degree of economic impact;
- (b) number of consecutive, multiple day visits from tourists;
- (c) enhanced visibility to Halifax as a tourist and business destination;
- (d) expertise of event organizer;
- (dd) amount of funding received from the Municipality within the current and two previous fiscal years, including tax relief;
- (e) financial stewardship as demonstrated through financial statements and proposed event budget; and
- (f) for New Events (Emerging) and Major Hosting Events, funding support from other levels of government.

22. To ensure transparency in the evaluation of applications:

- (a) all staff and SEAC members will complete a "Disclosure of Conflict of Interest" declaration;
- (b) staff or SEAC members who have provided direct assistance to support an applicant in completing an application shall not be involved in any part of the grant assessment process for that application;
- (c) advice or information given to one applicant shall be made available to all other applicants; and

(d) staff or SEAC members who declare an interest in an application, shall not be involved in any part of the grant assessment process for that application.

**Application Review Process**

23. Applications will be administered by staff of Parks & Recreation.
24. Applicants will be notified promptly if their application is ineligible for consideration.
25. Final approval of all applications for a grant, and the amount thereof, is a decision of Council in its sole discretion.
26. Notification of the decision of Council will be communicated to applicants after it is made.
27. Approval of grants is conditional on Council's approval of the annual program budget.
28. Due to limited funds, not all eligible applications may receive funding.

**Conditions of Approval & Payment of Grants**

29. Successful applicants are required to sign an HRM Event Grant Agreement. Funds will not be released prior to the HRM Event Grant Agreement being executed.
30. All HRM Event Grant Agreements will contain the following terms regarding Concerned Status:
  - (a) The Special Events Advisory Committee or Council may identify concerns with an organization or event and recommend the organization be placed under Concerned Status. An organizer will be notified immediately upon the organization being placed under Concerned Status.
  - (b) Concerned Status may occur if the organization:
    - (i) has a major deficit, such deficit being ten percent (10%) or more of the organization's annual budget;
    - (ii) shows evidence of not being financial viable;
    - (iii) has a significantly reduced audience or sales base that differs from stated intentions;
    - (iv) does not demonstrate the ability to plan into the future;

- (v) does not address major artistic concerns, such as artistic or editorial direction, declining quality of activity, or failure to achieve activity plan;
  - (vi) does not meet contractual obligations or minimum requirements outlined in the agreement; or
  - (vii) demonstrates management or governance practices which do not conform with generally acceptable practices in the sector.
- (c) An organization placed under Concerned Status will be required to meet quarterly with Parks & Recreation staff for review of the following documentation:
- (i) profit & loss statement;
  - (ii) balance sheet;
  - (iii) year-to-date budget;
  - (iv) bank reconciliation (only required upon specific request from staff);
  - (v) new or updated business plan; and
  - (vi) any other documentation relevant to the Concerned Status designation.
- (d) When an organization receiving a multi-year grant commitment has been placed under Concerned Status it may result in:
- (i) a lower grant award;
  - (ii) additional conditions placed on the current grant and any future grants; and
  - (iii) discontinuation of the grant term if applicable where issues go unresolved.

31. Grant monies for applications approved will be dispersed according to a schedule as outlined in the executed HRM Event Grant Agreement, with up to twenty per cent (20%) being withheld until completion of the event and submission of the final report.

32. Successful applicants are required to complete a final report form within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the conclusion of the event describing the impact of the funding received from the Municipality. A final report template will be available from Parks & Recreation staff. The criteria for reporting includes:

- (i) name of organization, amount of grant, terms and conditions;
- (ii) total event costs;
- (iii) a breakdown of the expenditure of the grant funds (the Municipality reserves the right to require proof of payments made);
- (iv) a final description of the event, including information on the completeness of the project; and
- (v) copies of printed and web based materials funded through the grant as well as documentation of events or projects directly or indirectly supported by the Municipality through this grant process.

33. A successful applicant may request an extension to file the final report if unable to meet the one hundred and twenty (120) days deadline. The request must be received one (1) month prior to the deadline. Submission of a request for extension does not guarantee that an extension will be awarded.

34. Failure to submit a final report within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the conclusion of the event or at the end of an approved extension period will result in:

- (a) the forfeiture of any remaining grant; and
- (b) placement of the organization on the Municipality's delinquent organizations list.

The organization will be notified of any forfeiture of grant funds.

35. Organizations placed on the delinquent organizations list are ineligible to apply for future grants from HRM. Organizations will be removed from the delinquent organizations list on submission of a final report.

36. The Municipality's support must be recognized as outlined in the "Requirements for Acknowledging Funding" set out in the HRM Event Agreement.

### **Referral by Council**

37. The question of grant funding for a particular event pursuant to this Administrative Order may be referred by Council to a Standing Committee or to the Council in Committee for a recommendation to the Council on whether to provide grant funding.

**Scope**

38. Notwithstanding this Administrative Order, an application for an event may be considered by Council or the SEAC for a grant.

39. Nothing in this Administrative Order shall be interpreted to limit or otherwise prescribe Council’s general discretion to provide grants under the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* or otherwise.

**Transition**

40. Notwithstanding this Administrative Order, current multi-year grants awarded by Council under the “Civic Events Granting Framework and Policy” shall be governed in accordance with the agreement made at the time of the award, including payment schedules and reporting requirements.

40A. A committee member appointed to SEAC at the time this Administrative Order comes into force shall remain a member of the committee until the member’s position is vacated, at which time any new appointments to SEAC shall be in accordance with the Terms of Reference as set out in Schedule 1.

**Repeal**

41. The “Civic Events Granting Framework and Policy” adopted by Council on March 27, 2007 and all amendments thereto are hereby repealed.

Done and passed in Council this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Municipal Clerk

I, Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk of the Halifax Regional Municipality, hereby certify that the above noted Administrative Order was passed at a meeting of Halifax Regional Council held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk

## **Schedule 1**

### **Special Events Advisory Committee Terms of Reference**

#### **MANDATE**

The HRM Special Events Advisory Committee shall review, evaluate and make recommendations to Regional Council regarding the annual Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve (MLSER) with staff support from Parks and Recreation.

#### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

Pursuant to the Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV, members of the HRM Special Events Advisory Committee will evaluate applications for funding for events that support and generate economic and tourism development.

#### **1. COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE**

- 1.1. The HRM Special Events Advisory Committee shall comprise a voting membership of up to nine (9) as follows: Three (3) elected members of Halifax Regional Council appointed by the Audit and Finance Standing Committee;
  - 1.1.1. The three (3) elected members are to be appointed from Community Councils, with one (1) elected member appointed from each Community Council;
  - 1.1.2. One (1) elected member is also to be a member of the Audit & Finance Standing Committee;
- 1.2. The Chair shall be appointed by the Audit and Finance Standing Committee from the membership of the Audit and Finance Standing Committee;
- 1.3. The Vice Chair shall be appointed by the Audit and Finance Standing Committee from the Community Council membership;
- 1.4. The members-at-large from professional agencies shall be appointed by the Audit and Finance Standing to include:
  - 1.4.1. One (1) member from the Hotel Association of Nova Scotia;
  - 1.4.2. One (1) member from Destination Halifax;
  - 1.4.3. One (1) member from the Halifax Partnership;

1.4.4. One (1) member from the Restaurant Association of Nova Scotia;

1.4.5. One (1) member from the Business Improvement Districts (BIDS); and

1.4.6. One (1) member from a business tourism organisation

## 2 **TERM OF OFFICE**

2.1 Each elected representative shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years, renewable.

2.2 Agency representatives shall be appointed for a term of two (2) years and thereafter may be re-appointed for a term of one (1) year so as to ensure staggered terms.

## 3 **VACANCIES**

3.1 The Chair shall inform the Clerk's Office of any vacancies.

3.2 Should a vacancy occur during an elected member's term of office the Council Selection Committee and Regional Council shall appoint a new representative to complete the balance of the term.

3.3 Should a vacancy occur during an agency member's term of office Regional Council shall appoint a replacement to complete the balance of the term.

## 4 **DUTIES**

The duties of the HRM Special Events Advisory Committee are to:

4.1 Advise Regional Council on all matters related to the allocation of the MLSER;

4.2 Continue to review eligibility criteria, priorities, policy and procedures for assistance under the respective programs and services managed under the auspices of the Marketing Levy Special Events Reserve Administrative Order 2014-020-GOV; and

4.3 The duties of the HRM Special Events Advisory Committee shall be reviewed annually by staff and Committee members and may be amended by Regional Council on an on-going basis.

## 5 **QUORUM**

5.1 A quorum at a regular meeting of the HRM Special Events Advisory Committee shall be a simple majority of members of which at least one (1) shall be an elected member of Regional Council.

6 **MEETINGS**

6.1 The committee shall meet as required to facilitate the timely review and recommendations on the MLSER.

6.2 The Chair in consultation with staff shall be responsible for calling all meetings of the HRM Special Events Advisory Committee.

6.3 Notice of the HRM Special Events Advisory Committee meetings and minutes shall be provided by the Clerk's Office.

7 **REMUNERATION**

Members of the HRM Special Events Advisory Committee shall not be remunerated for serving on the committee except where reimbursement is made in accordance with HRM policy for reasonable expenses incurred while in the service of the Committee.

8 **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Where personal or professional involvement or association could result in an actual or perceived conflict of interest for a member of the HRM Special Events Advisory Committee, the member shall declare the conflict and abstain from debate on the related topic, or where appropriate remove themselves from a meeting and shall not vote on any motion applying to the declared conflict.

Approved March 27, 2007  
Amended April 1, 2008  
Amended March 24, 2009  
Amended November 30, 2010  
Amended October 18, 2011  
Amended December 6, 2011 (Appointment of Chair)  
Amended October 30, 2012 (Composition & Quorum)

Administrative Order Number 2014-020-GOV  
Respecting Marketing Levy Special Event Reserve Grants

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Notice of Motion:  
Approved:

October 27, 2015  
November 10, 2015

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Amendment # 1

Notice of Motion:  
Approval:  
Effective Date:

May 22, 2018  
June 5, 2018  
N/A

