



P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. 11.7.2
Halifax Regional Council
August 17, 2021

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: **ORIGINAL SIGNED**

Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Chair, Grants Committee

DATE: August 10, 2021

SUBJECT: Regional Special Events Community Celebrations Grant Report 2021/22

ORIGIN

August 9, 2021 meeting of the Grants Committee, Item 9.1.2.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter
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;

2014-021-GOV Administrative Order, Regional Events Grants
Respecting Regional Special Events Grants, approved by Halifax Regional Council on May 26, 2015.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council approve the six (6) Event Grants summarized in Table 1 of the attached staff report (Attachment A) for a total of \$10,000 to be distributed to the applicants listed in Attachment 1 of the attached staff report (Attachment A) with funding provided from the approved 2021/2022 Operating Budget – C760 Community/Civic Events.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The Grants Committee received a staff recommendation report dated July 28, 2021, at their August 9, 2021 meeting.

The Grants Committee reviewed the staff recommendation report and approved the recommendation as outlined in this report.

For further discussion on this item, refer to the attached staff report dated July 28, 2021 (Attachment A).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial implications are outlined in the attached staff report dated July 28, 2021 (Attachment A).

RISK CONSIDERATION

Risk consideration is outlined in the attached staff report dated July 28, 2021 (Attachment A).

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The agenda and reports of the Grants Committee are posted on Halifax.ca, and draft minutes of the meeting will be made available on Halifax.ca within three business days.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Environmental implications are outlined in the attached staff report dated July 28, 2021 (Attachment A).

ALTERNATIVES

The Grants Committee did not provide alternatives.

For further information on alternatives as it relates to this item, refer to the attached staff report dated July 28, 2021 (Attachment A).

ATTACHMENTS

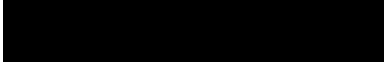
Attachment A – Report dated July 28, 2021 received by Grants Committee

A copy of this report can be obtained by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

Report Prepared by: Jill McGillicuddy, Legislative Assistant 902.483.2810

TO: Chair and Members of Grants Committee

SUBMITTED BY:

 (Original Signed)

Denise Schofield, Executive Director, Parks & Recreation

 (Original Signed)

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: July 28, 2021

SUBJECT: Regional Special Events Community Celebrations Grant Report 2021/2022

ORIGIN

Applications received pursuant to *2014-021-GOV Administrative Order Number – Respecting Regional Special Events Grants*.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter
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;

2014-021-GOV Administrative Order, Regional Events Grants

Respecting Regional Special Events Grants, approved by Halifax Regional Council on May 26, 2015.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve the six (6) Event Grants summarized in Table 1 for a total of \$10,000 to be distributed to the applicants listed in Attachment 1 with funding provided from the approved 2021/2022 Operating Budget – C760 Community/Civic Events.

BACKGROUND

This report outlines the recommended Regional Special Events Grant Awards for the 2021/2022 Community Celebrations and Significant Anniversaries funding intake. All Regional Special Events grant recommendations are governed by *2014-021-GOV Administrative Order, Respecting Regional Special Events Grants* (AO). There is one intake per year in which staff undertakes the grant application and evaluation process as outlined in the AO. In a typical year, the Community Celebrations funding program would be included with the Regional Special Events 2021/2022 grant report (approved by Regional Council on June 29, 2021); however, with ongoing COVID-19 restrictions not permitting in-person events, the intake for the Community Celebrations event grant program was delayed. These events are generally volunteer run and do not have the ability to host hybrid or virtual events. As public health restrictions were lifted to permit in-person events, the Community Celebrations and Significant Anniversaries intake opened for applications.

DISCUSSION

Regional Events AO

2014-021-GOV Administrative Order establishes consistent and equitable funding for community and cultural events and includes four funding programs: Community Celebrations, Established Community Festivals, Significant Anniversaries and Cultural Events & Showcases. On June 29, 2021 Regional Council approved the Regional Special Events Grant Report 2021/2022 allocating funding in Established Community Festivals and Cultural Events & Showcases.

The Community Celebrations program provides support for small scale community events that are organized primarily for the benefit and enjoyment of residents, coincide with a community gathering or civic holiday, and are free to the public to attend. The maximum grant award in this program is \$1,000.

The Significant Anniversaries program provides support for the community events organized around major quarterly significant anniversaries (25th, 50th, 75th, etc.) that celebrate Halifax Regional Municipality's heritage and community and have a minimum budget of \$7,500. The maximum grant award in this program is \$10,000.

The Community Celebrations, Established Community Festivals and Significant Anniversaries programs have a total budget of \$215,000 funded from the operating budget C760. On June 29, 2021 the Regional Special Events Grant Report 2021/2022 was approved by Regional Council allocating \$188,225 to the Established Community Festival program.

In 2020/2021 Council approved funding to 21 Community Celebrations through the regular program intake period. After Council approval, however, 17 of the 21 organizations cancelled their events due to COVID-19 impacts, citing concern for the safety of the public and event volunteers. In considering the 2021/2022 program, the opening of the 2021/2022 Community Celebrations and Significant Anniversaries program intake was delayed due to the public health restrictions on in-person gatherings and the administrative strain on volunteers and organizers given the challenges faced by not-for-profit organizations in planning events under evolving conditions. In July, the re-opening phases of Nova Scotia Public Health and Wellness permitted in-person events. At that time, staff communicated with previously funded 2020 and 2019 Community Celebrations recipients advising the intake was now open.

Evaluation

As per the Regional Special Events AO, all applications are evaluated on:

- Community engagement;
- Community cultural development;
- Demonstrated financial need; and
- Demonstrated added value to the community.

Community engagement is evaluated based on volunteer involvement, diversity, accessibility, attendance, and programming. Community cultural development is based on the provision of arts and cultural programming and experiences. Demonstrated financial need is evaluated on access to potential sponsorship, as well as the ability to self-fund. Demonstrated added value to the community is evaluated on the impact of the experience that would have otherwise not been available to the community in which the event is held.

Summary of Recommended Funding

The proposed Regional Special Events funding amounts for 2021/2022 Community Celebrations and Significant Anniversaries are summarized in Table 1, with details outlined in Attachment 1.

Table 1: 2021/2022 Proposed Regional Events Funding			
	# of Events	2021/2022 Requests	2021/22 Proposed Grant
Community Celebrations	5	\$5,000	\$5,000
Significant Anniversaries	1	\$5,000	\$5,000
Total 2021/2022 Regional Events	6	\$10,000	\$10,000

All recommended applicants have been screened for debt to the Municipality and none have outstanding payments to HRM.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The grants in the amount of \$10,000 can be accommodated from the approved 2021/2022 operating budget for Community/Civic Events, account C760-6919.

RISK CONSIDERATION

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations in this Report. The risks considered rate Low. To determine this, consideration was given to financial and reputational risk.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Information regarding program eligibility, application timelines, and applicant timelines are posted on the HRM website. Communication was provided via email to 2020 and 2019 previously funded Community Celebrations event organizations advising 2021/2022 intake was open. Communication is ongoing with event clients on the status of events.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No environmental implications were identified.

ALTERNATIVE

The Grants Committee could choose to recommend that Regional Council amend the recommended amount of any event grant in accordance with 2014-021-GOV Administrative Order within the budget capacity of C760.

ATTACHMENT

Attachment 1: Summary of Funding Recommendations for 2021/2022 Community Celebrations and Significant Anniversaries

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

Report Prepared by: Shari Dillman, Event Grant Coordinator, Culture & Events, 902.497.3729

**Summary of Funding Recommendations for 2021 /2022 Community Celebrations
and Significant Anniversaries**

Community Celebrations 2021/2022		
	2021/2022 Request	2021/22 Proposed Grant
Musquodoboit Harbour Pride Festival	\$1,000	\$1,000
PEHRA & Scouts Storage Unit Celebration	\$1,000	\$1,000
Porters Lake Business Association Block Party	\$1,000	\$1,000
Sackville Christmas Tree Lighting	\$1,000	\$1,000
Upper Hammonds Plains Fun Day	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total Community Celebrations	\$5,000	\$5,000

Significant Anniversaries 2021/2022		
	2021/2022 Request	2021/22 Proposed Grant
50 Bits and Pieces: An MSVU Art Gallery Retrospective - Reunion	\$5,000	\$5,000
Total Significant Anniversaries	\$5,000	\$5,000