

Re: Item No. 15.2.1

HALIFAX

Funding Request

Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Presentation for Regional Council

February 8, 2022

Timeline of Request

- **December 11, 2019:** Presentation to Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee of the plans for a new waterfront gallery and arts district, and to request that HRM support the project's capital campaign in the amount of \$7,000,000 (or 5% of the overall \$130,000,000 budget for the project).
- **January 29 and January 31, 2019:** Budget Committee meetings, the \$7,000,000 request was captured as an unbudgeted 'pressure' in the 2020/2021 Parks and Recreation Budget and Business Plan. The funding was not included in the 2020/2021 Municipal Budget.
- **January 19, 2021:** Presentation to Audit and Finance Standing Committee on the selected conceptual design of the new gallery, projected timelines and anticipated project budget and funding sources, including the requested \$7,000,000 from HRM in either a lump sum or an incremental series of \$1.4 million payments phased over 5 years.
- A motion of the Committee THAT the Audit & Finance Standing Committee request a staff report regarding the request and to refer the matter to Committee of the Whole on Budget for consideration in the 2021/2022 budget process as a parking lot item.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

A New Art Gallery of Nova Scotia In a New Arts District

130,000 square feet

- Galleries
- Classrooms/workshops/studios
- Resource Centre
- Residency spaces
- Outdoor Spaces (public art)
- Retail
- Food and Beverage

Guided by Four Belief Pillars:

- Welcoming
- Contemporary
- Challenging
- Ambitious

A New Art Gallery of Nova Scotia In a New Arts District

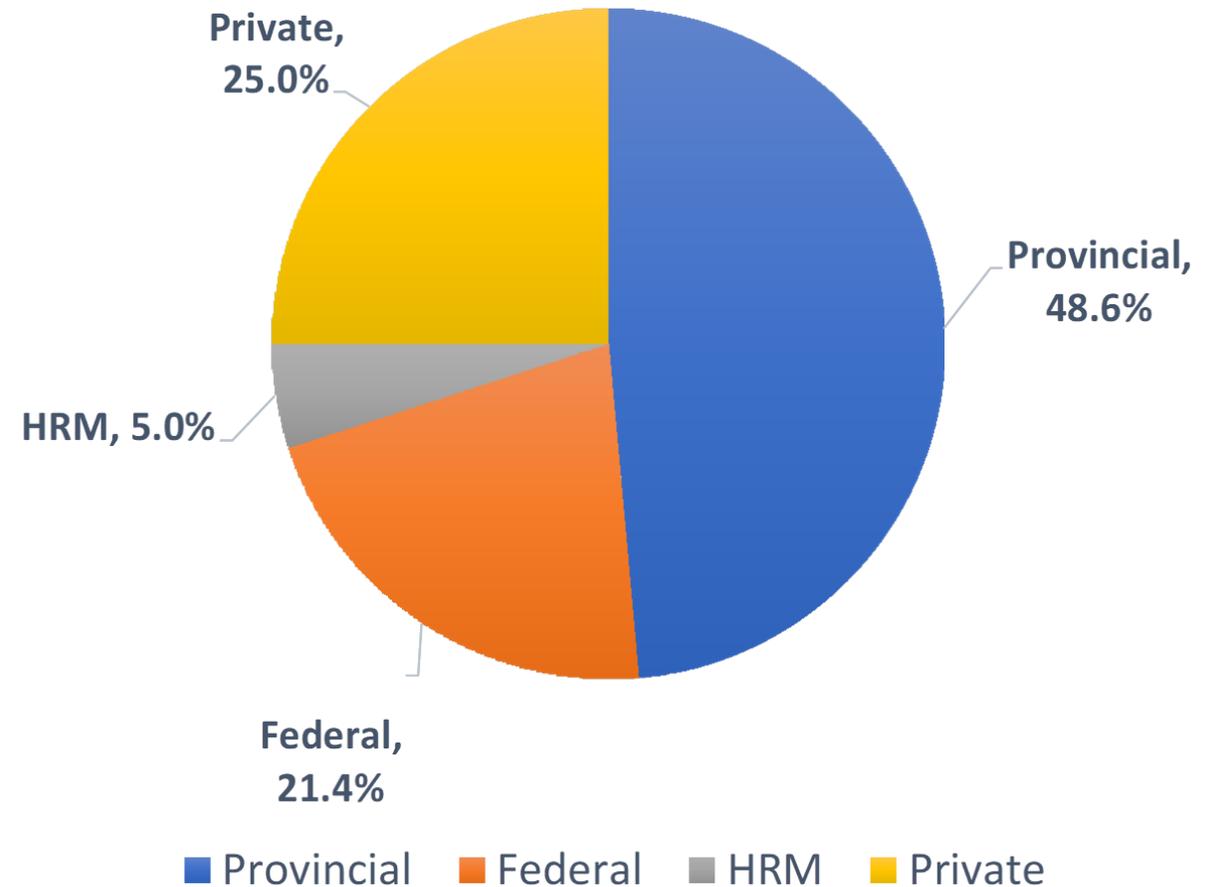


The Mi'kmaq narrative inspired a warm, welcoming, inclusive gallery experience to give all Nova Scotians a strong sense of belonging



**\$140 million
Total Project**

AGNS Sources of Funding



Projected Project Timeline with Benchmarks

Design Phase, Consultation Phase, Construction Phase

Schematic Design (Including Site Planning and Engagement)	Complete
Design Development	Anticipated Approval March 2022
Anticipated Tender Package #1 Issue	February 2022
Earliest Opportunity for Site Mobilization	June 2022
Substantial Completion	November 2024
Move-In/Exhibition Construction	5 months
Anticipated Opening	April/May 2025

Alignment to Council Priority Areas

Prosperous Economy

- Integrated Tourism Master Plan includes as strategic initiatives:
 - Enhance demand generators through the continued designation of districts e.g. Arts District, Entertainment District, Heritage Conservation Districts; and
 - Develop the new Waterfront Arts District as an inclusive place to experience art
- Direct and indirect economic benefits associated with construction & ongoing operating

Alignment to Council Priority Areas Communities

- Significant public engagement on built form, public and amenity space and programming
- Future engagements on parts of interior & exterior spaces, outdoor public space & programming
- Public engagement process included feedback from underrepresented communities
- Barrier-free access initiatives being considered as part of larger equitable access plan
- Facility intends to reflect Mi'kmaq history & culture in design and programming

Alignment to Council Priority Areas Environment

- Coastal resilient design measures planned to address site's vulnerability to sea level rise and extreme water levels
- Active marine edge to protect site from storms and waves
- Project seeking certification of a third-party sustainability program
- Sustainability and resilience aspirations for the AGNS project consistent with the objectives of Nova Scotia's Bill 213 – *The Sustainable Development Goals Act*
- Net zero target aligns with HalifACT goals

Municipal Funding Precedents

HRM has previously provided large-scale capital funding contributions to not-for-profit organizations

Cultural organizations previously supported through capital grants include:

- Neptune Theatre
- Citadel Theatre Society (Spatz Theatre)
- Link Performing Arts Society
- Bus Stop Theatre Cooperative Association

Contributions toward other not-for-profit capital projects include:

- Soccer Nova Scotia
- Seaport Farmers Market
- Tennis Canada
- Discovery Centre

Public Benefit Consideration



This image represents the conceptual design of the new Gallery. The final design may differ.

- Health and Wellness
- Social Engagement
- Tourism
- Education