



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

Item No. 15.1.7
Halifax Regional Council
April 25, 2023

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original Signed

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: April 19, 2023

SUBJECT: **Renewal Downie Wenjack Legacy Room Project**

ORIGIN

July 18th, 2017: Regional Council Motion:

MOVED By Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Outfit, that regional council requested a staff report to:

1. Evaluate the municipality's potential participation in the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room Project, including an annual \$5,000 contribution for 5 years to the Downie Wenjack Fund; and
2. Evaluate the viability of establishing a Legacy Room within City Hall as a dedicated space for the display of aboriginal art.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

December 12th, 2017, Regional Council Motion:

1. Approved a one-time contribution in the amount of \$25,000 for Account M311-Grants and Tax Concession to Tides Canada Foundation to support cross-cultural reconciliation projects funded under the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack;
2. Establish a Downie Wenjack Legacy Room in the Main Floor Boardroom at City Hall as per the terms of the Downie Wenjack Fund;
3. Authorize the Chief Administration Officer, through the office of Diversity and Inclusion, to conduct engagement and participation with the Mi'kmaw Community specifically in the development of an in the ceremonial opening of the room;
4. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer, through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, to conduct the engagement and participation with the Mi'kmaw Community specifically in the development of an in the ceremonial opening of the room; and
5. Direct the Chief Administration Officer, through the Office of Diversity & Inclusion, to collaborate with the Indigenous visual artist, artisans, curators and cultural centers to display Indigenous Art in the proposal Downie Wenjack Room in City Hall.

MAIN MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

RECOMMENDATION ON PAGE 2

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, S.N.S. 2008, c. 39, section 79

(1) The Council may expend money required by the Municipality for
(av) a grant or contribution to

(vii) a registered Canadian charitable organization.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Direct the CAO to renew the agreement with the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund (See Attachment 1) to continue the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room located in Halifax Regional Municipality City Hall.
2. Approve a yearly contribution in the amount of \$5,000.00 for an additional five-year term to support the continued cross-cultural reconciliation project the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room under the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund (GDCWF) at the AMIK benefit level (See Attachment 2);
3. Through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, continue to be a Downie Wenjack ambassador committed to reconciliation and consistent reconciliation actions through the year, both in workplace and surrounding community;
4. Through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, continue to educate those who come into the Legacy Space about the story of Chanie Wenjack, the residential school and the true history of Indigenous Peoples in Canada; and
5. Through the Office of Diversity & Inclusion, provide the new online training modules developed about the intention of the Legacy Space and reconciliation.

BACKGROUND

In December 2015, Halifax Regional Council adopted a Statement of Reconciliation that commits the municipality to learn from the lessons of the Truth & Reconciliation Commission. Subsequently in October 2017, Regional Council adopted Administrative Order 2017-012-GOV, Respecting the Commemoration of Edward Cornwallis and the Recognition and Commemoration of Indigenous History Special Advisory Committee. Administrative Order Number Order 2017-012-GOV states that the Council of the Halifax Regional Municipality acknowledges the importance of work together with indigenous communities to appropriately commemorate and reflect the history of the Municipality.

The 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report included 94 Calls to Action, “ In order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the progress of Canadian reconciliation.” Several Calls to Action encompass a municipal response: Specifically, Call to Action #57, states:

We call upon federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal Rights, Indigenous law, and the Aboriginal -Crown relations. This will require skill based training in intercultural, conflict resolution, human rights and anti-racism.

The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund

Chanie “Charlie” Wenjack was an Anishinaabe boy living in Ogoki Post on the Marten Falls First Nation in Ontario. He was born in 1954 and died in 1966 at the age of 12. Chanie was a student at the Cecilia Jeffery Indian Residential School in Kenora, Ontario, where his name was changed to Charlie. He died of hunger and exposure along the railway tracks near Farlane Ontario, in his attempt to run away from school and return to his home, nearly 600 k away. Chanie’s death compelled officials to conduct the first ever coroner’s inquest into the treatment of Indigenous children at Canada’s Residential Schools.

The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund was established in 2016 by the late musician Gord Downie in memory of Chanie Wenjack. His graphic novel, "The Secret Path" and accompanying album tell the story of Chanie Wenjack through song and text. The Legacy Room project was first conceived on NS Regional Chief for Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.

Halifax Regional Municipality official opening the Halifax City Hall Legacy room on October 4th, 2018, representative from the Halifax Regional Council, Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund, AFN NS/NF Regional Office, Mi'kmaw Elders and community representatives.

DISCUSSION

The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund was inspired by Chanie's story and Gord's call to action to build a better Canada. The organization aims to build a cultural understanding and create a path towards reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians. The vision is to improve the lives of Indigenous people by building awareness, education and connections between all people in Canada.

Key Strategic Priorities:

- Awareness: Continue campaign to raise awareness around Indigenous people and the lasting impacts of residential schools, and to raise funds.
- Education: Provide access to education on the true history of Indigenous People in Canada, the history and impacts of residential schools and the unique cultures, interest, rights and perspectives of Indigenous People today
- Action & Connection: Bring Indigenous and non-Indigenous people together through programming and events.

Legacy Spaces are a safe welcoming place where conversations and education about Indigenous history, and our collective journey towards reconciliation. They serve as symbols and reminders of the important work each of us needs to undertake if the promises of this country and the TRC's Calls to Action are to be fulfilled. In Canada there are currently:

- 56 Legacy Partners
- 45 Active Legacy Spaces
- 35 Pre-Launch Legacy Spaces
- 37 Cities and 9 Provinces /Territories

The Legacy Space Program created a space within Halifax Regional Municipality, both physically and symbolic for open, honest conversations and learning about the true history of Indigenous People in Mi'kma'ki and Canada, the residential school system. The Legacy Space program helps to create a space to honour and showcase the unique culture of the Indigenous people and their contributions.

There are different levels of Benefit & Recognition for organizations that host a legacy space for employees and guest to explore Indigenous history and culture. This report recommends AMIK (Beaver) invest level. The following is a list of the benefits & services for the organization at this level.

- Resource kit for legacy space
- Recognition on Legacy Space Webpage and ReconciliAction Guide
- Access to Cultural Competency Training, web-based training series, and DWF presentation
- Option to complete and Indigenous ReconciliAction plan with access to resources, consultation on the plan during development and review of final plan
- Pin on Legacy space online map with Name and phot of the space
- Recognition on social media channels using pre-approved content
- Invitation to DWF events throughout the year, both public and exclusive for partners
- Access to DWF newsletters

- Access to lunch & learns with DWF representatives for all employees (virtual or in-person)
- Complimentary DWF merchandise
- Access to DWF-hosted booth with materials and options to have DWF representatives to speak at event or activity

The Downie Wenjack Foundation is now offering partners a new component of the Legacy Space Program, called the Indigenous Cultural Competency Training.

The Indigenous Cultural Competency Training (ICCT) offered by DWF will provide professionals with the necessary support to improve the skill, knowledge, attitudes, and values necessary to move reconciliation forward. The ICCT includes multiple courses, each of which is developed within a cultural competency framework that focuses on moving organizations towards being more culturally proficient and promoting cultural humility when engaging with Indigenous employees, colleagues, customers/clients, communities and others. Training is structured to promote culture safety in the learning environment to ensure that all participants feel welcome and respected while being able to express their views.

Halifax Legacy Space has been an intricate part of the municipality's approach toward reconciliation. This space was used to create the report from the Taskforce on Cornwallis. The legacy space has become an important space utilized during Indigenous events coordinated through the Civic Events team, such as Kanata Day, Indigenous People's Day and Mi'kmaw History Month. The legacy space has been identified as learning & sharing location during the upcoming North American Indigenous Games in July 2023.

On March 31, 2018 the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund was established as a registered charity (#78405591RT0001) and agreements now are processed internally, rather than through the Tides Canada Initiatives. HRM can renew their current agreement for an additional 5 years for one-time payment of \$25,000.00 or a \$5,000 donation per year for 5 years to the Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund.

The proposed contribution does not fall within in current funding programs established by Council, but Regional Council may consider it at its discretion. The funding for the previous agreement for the Legacy Space was completed in January 2018, through the Community Grants Program M311-8004.

The current agreement between the Downie Wenjack and Halifax Regional Municipality is set to expire on April 20th, 2023.

Not renewing the agreement would mean that the municipality does not have an active legacy space in Halifax City Hall. Our corporate logo and name will no longer be posted as a partner in the legacy initiative and HRM will not have access to resource materials, training modules and support offered to partner organizations. Renewal of this agreement not only furthers the municipality's work with truth and reconciliation but also supports our upcoming role in NAIG and future initiatives.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial Contribution would be subject to budget capacity in 2023.

RISK CONSIDERATION

This is no significant risk associated with the recommendation of this report. The risks considered rate low. To reach this conclusion, consideration was given to financial, cultural and reputational risk,

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement was completed in preparation for this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No environmental implications were identified.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Regional Council could choose not to participate in the Downie Wenjack Legacy Space Project and allow the current agreement to expire on April 20th, 2023. Allowing the agreement to expire does not support our ongoing work with truth and reconciliation and will also not support our commitment to NAIG and other initiatives within the Indigenous community.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Halifax Regional DWF Gift Agreement 2018-08-21

Attachment 2: Legacy Space Investment Levels and Benefits.

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: Cheryl Copage-Gehue, Indigenous Community Engagement
Office of Diversity & Inclusion/ ANSAIO

902.229.4601

Attachment 1:
Halifax Regional -
DWF Gift
Agreement

HALIFAX

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

CAO Briefing Report

TO: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

SUBMITTED BY: 

DATE: June 27, 2018

SUBJECT: Downie Wenjack Legacy Room Agreement

ORIGIN

December 12, 2017 Regional Council Motion:

1. Approve a one-time contribution in the amount of \$25,000 from Account M311-Grants and Tax Concession to the Tides Canada Foundation to support cross-cultural reconciliation projects funded under the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund;
2. Establish a Downie Wenjack Legacy Room in the Main Floor Boardroom at City Hall as per the terms of the Downie Wenjack Fund;
3. **Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to negotiate and execute an agreement to participate in the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room Project with the Tides Canada Initiatives Society;**
4. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer, through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, to conduct engagement and participation with the Mi'kmaw Community specifically in the development of and in the ceremonial opening of the Room;
5. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer, through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, to collaborate with Indigenous visual artists, artisans, curators and cultural centers to display Indigenous Art in the proposed Downie Wenjack Room in City Hall. **MAIN MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Chief Administrative Officer:

1. Execute the agreement to establish the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room with the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund (Attachment 3);
2. Sign the letter prepared by Tides Canada (Attachment 2) to acknowledge transfer of obligations under the Legacy Room Agreement from Tides Canada Initiatives Society to the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund and that no additional funding is required.

APPROVED: 

BACKGROUND

To qualify as a Legacy Room participant, HRM is required to enter into an agreement with the Tides Canada Initiatives Society which commits to:

- Doing the work of Reconciliation as an organization;
- Providing information about the story of the Legacy Room, Chanie Wenjack and Reconciliation to staff and visitors;
- Providing ongoing training to employees and fostering an equitable workplace; and
- A one-time payment of \$25,000 or a \$ 5,000 donation per year for 5 years to the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund.

The conditions of establishing the Legacy Room involves the following:

- Displaying the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Legacy Room plaque at the entrance to the Room; and
- Displaying a framed Legacy Room print featuring photographs of Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack The Secret Path Story, Gord's Call to Action and information about where a Legacy Room visitor can learn more about creating their own act toward reconciliation.

The Main Floor Boardroom has been identified as the site for a Legacy Room in City Hall. This room is reserved to host external meetings with international groups, residents, organizations and businesses to meet the Mayor, members of Council and executive staff. Staff will ensure the plaque and print are installed at its entrance and the accompanying information is current and is maintained in good order.

DISCUSSION

At the time this matter was considered by Council in 2017, Tides Canada Initiative was the registered charity that oversaw the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room funding and was the signatory authority for the Legacy Room agreement. In January of 2018, \$25,000 in funding was sent by HRM to, and accepted by, Tides Canada Initiative. Due to a change in staffing in the HRM Office of Diversity and Inclusion, the original agreement was not signed at the time of payment. Staff followed up in early March of 2018 and was informed that Tides Canada Initiative and Downie Wenjack Legacy Room was in the process of amending their legal relationship.

On March 31, 2018, the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund was established as a registered charity (#78405591RT0001). With the formal establishment of the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund, the funding and the signatory authority was transferred from Tides Canada Initiatives.

With the change in legal status, staff consulted Legal Services, and subsequently requested a letter from Tides Canada acknowledging the transfer of the \$25,000 in funding from the Tides Canada Initiatives to the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund, and directing that the agreement should be entered into with the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund (Attachment 1).

The letter from Tides Canada was received by staff setting out the change in management of the fund (Attachment 2). Staff is recommending that the CAO execute the agreement with the Gord Downie & Chanie

Wenjack Fund (Attachment 3) to fulfil the direction of Council of December 12, 2017. The obligations of the municipality under the agreement were presented to Council as part of the December 2017 staff report (Attachment 4). It is also recommended that the CAO sign the letter provided by Tides Canada with respect to the change in management of the fund and the transfer of HRM's donation to the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund (Attachment 5).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Community Grants Program M311-8004
2017 Budget \$500,000

Less Approved Awards (448,658)
Balance \$41,342
Less Recommended Contribution (1) (\$25,000)
Balance \$16,342

The implementation of a rotating Indigenous Art exhibit in the Mayor's office may have financial implications that can be accommodated in the balance of Community Grants Program M311-8004.

The \$25,000 in funding was completed as per the terms above in January 2018 (see receipt as Attachment 5).

RISK CONSIDERATION

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations in this Report. The risks considered rate Low. To reach this conclusion, consideration was given to Financial, Cultural and Reputational risks.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1: The CAO could direct staff to negotiate with the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund with respect to the content of the agreement. Staff would require specific direction as to what issues were to be negotiated.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1: Letter from HRM to Tides Canada Initiatives and Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund requesting acknowledgement of transfer of funding and signing authority
- Attachment 2: Letter from Tides Canada acknowledging transfer of the \$25,000 in funding and signing authority to the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund
- Attachment 3: Agreement to establish the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room in Halifax City Hall
- Attachment 4: Regional Council Report Item No. 14.1.14
- Attachment 5: Receipt of \$25,000 in funding for establishing the Legacy Room

A copy of this report and information on its status can be obtained by contacting the Procurement Office at 902.490.4170, or Fax 902.490.6425.

Report Prepared by: Kellie McIvor, Culture and Events, 902.490.1955

Business Unit Review: 
Denise Confield, manager, Program Support Services, 902.490.6252

Sarah Midanik,
President and CEO
The Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund

May 16, 2018

Dear Ms. Midanik,

I am writing to you to request a letter of clarification regarding the change in party in the agreement recently provided to HRM to support the establishment of HRM's Downie Wenjack Legacy Room from Tides Canada to The Downie Wenjack Fund.

As background, in December 2017, Halifax Regional Council voted in favour of opening a Downie Wenjack Legacy Room in Halifax City Hall. At that time, the draft agreement provided to HRM was between Tides Canada and Halifax Regional Municipality, and that is the party with whom HRM understood it would be contracting. Payment was made to, and a receipt received from, Tides Canada in January, but the agreement received by HRM subsequently is from the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund.

In order to facilitate signing the agreement with the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund, and due to the transfer of payment, I am requesting a letter from Tides Canada as follows:

- Confirming the transition of the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund from Tides Canada to its own entity;
- Directing HRM to contract directly with the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund for the establishment of a Downie Wenjack Legacy Room; and
- Acknowledging that the funds previously paid by HRM to Tides Canada were transferred by Tides Canada to the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund.

We look forward to establishing the new Legacy Room in City Hall, with a tentative opening date planned for June 21, 2018. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me and I would be happy to address your concerns.

Sincerely,

Kellie McIvor

Cultural Asset Manager
Culture and Events, Parks and Recreation
Halifax Regional Municipality

HALIFAX

Halifax Regional Municipality
PO Box 1749, Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada B3J 3A5

halifax.ca



Halifax Regional Municipality

Delivered to Halifax Regional Municipality at mcivork@halifax.ca

May 31, 2018

RE: Legacy Room with the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund, a project of Tides Canada Initiatives

Dear Kellie,

As you are aware, the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund project at Tides Canada Initiatives Society (TCI) has closed effective March 31, 2018 and the activities will be carried on by the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund (DWF), having the registered charity number #78405591RR0001. This letter will confirm both TCI's and Halifax Regional Municipality's agreement with this transfer of activities and the related funding.

Any unspent portion of your donation has been granted from TCI to DWF.

Please let us know if there is any further information or documentation required. If not, please kindly sign below and return this letter via email to Danielle Johnston (Danielle.johnston@tidescanada.org).

Yours truly,

Allison Andrachuk
Director, Shared Platform

Acknowledged and agreed this 29th day of June 2018 that obligations under the Legacy Room agreement have been transferred from TCI to the Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund and the donor requires no further fund, documentation or information from TCI in respect of this donation.

Halifax

Per:

(print name):

Uncommon Solutions.
Common Good.



The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund
Charitable Status: 78405 5915 RR0001
P.O. Box 749 1987 Chiefswood Rd. Unit "C" Suite 101
Ohsweken ON N0A 1M0

To: Halifax Regional Municipality

April 20, 2018

Re: Agreement to the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund (DWF) from April 20, 2018 at Halifax Regional Municipality to April 20, 2023

DWF, a registered charity (779 225 887 RT 0001), wishes to enter into an Agreement with Halifax Regional Municipality. This partnership is your commitment towards Reconciliation by dedicating a space / room as the 'Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund Legacy Room' for Five Years. We are excited by and grateful for this opportunity to work with you and inspire others to act in the name of Reconciliation in this special space. The intent of this document is to outline an Agreement regarding the physical facilities and logistical support and determine the services that the DWF will provide. It also offers your assurance that you will treat the space with the respect it deserves.

The scope of the Agreement with Halifax Regional Municipality covers the following:

- 1) Once confirmed as being a partner in the Legacy Room Project, the DWF commits to providing you:
 - a) a Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Legacy Room plaque to be displayed at the entrance to the room [10 inches height x 15 inches wide]
 - b) A framed Legacy Room print featuring photographs of Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack, The Secret Path Story, Gord's Call to Action and information about where a Legacy Room visitor can learn more about creating their own act towards Reconciliation [choice of either a 2 foot x 4 foot OR 3 foot x 6 foot]
 - c) A Legacy Room welcome and starter package

- 2) Your organization voluntarily commits to:

- a) Doing the work of Reconciliation as an organization
- b) Providing information about the story of the Legacy Room, Chanie Wenjack and Reconciliation to employees and visitors
- c) Providing ongoing training to employees and fostering an equitable workplace
- d) An annual donation for the next five years. In the first year, your organization commits to paying \$5,000. \$3,500 of this amount will be a donation, while the remaining \$1,500 will cover the costs for the materials described in Section 1 above. For the remaining four years, your organization commits to a \$5,000 donation, in which the full amount will be a donation. **DWF acknowledges that the Halifax Regional Municipality has paid the five year commitment of \$25,000 in full January 2018.**

While Halifax Regional Municipality and DWF will cooperate to set up and run a Legacy Room, this Agreement does not create the relationship of employer and employee, or a joint venture between Halifax Regional Municipality and the DWF. Neither party has authority to enter into any legal rights or obligations or incur any liabilities whatsoever on behalf of the other party.

Halifax Regional Municipality must carry sufficient general liability insurance for a Legacy Room as ownership of the space remains with the partner organization.

The contacts for the agreement are as follows:

Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund
 Sarah Midanik
 President & CEO

[Redacted signature area]

Halifax Regional Municipality
NAME Cheryl Copage-Gehue
TITLE Advisor, Indigenous Community
EMAIL Engagement

[Redacted signature area]

If this proposal is acceptable to Halifax Regional Municipality, please have an authorized representative sign below.

Thank you!

Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund

[Redacted signature area]

Sarah Midanik
 President and CEO

Halifax Regional Municipality


[Redacted signature area]

HALIFAX

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

Item No. 14.1.14
Halifax Regional Council
December 12, 2017

TO:  Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: 
Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: November 30, 2017

SUBJECT: The Downie Wenjack Legacy Room Project

ORIGIN

July 18, 2017 Regional Council Motion:

MOVED by Mayor Savage, seconded by Councillor Outhit, that Regional Council request a staff report to:

1. Evaluate the municipality's potential participation in the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room Project, including through an annual \$5,000 contribution for 5 years to the Downie Wenjack Fund; and
2. Evaluate the viability of establishing a Legacy Room within City Hall as a dedicated space for the display of aboriginal art. **MOTION PUT AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, S.N.S. 2008, c. 39, section 79

- (1) The Council may expend money required by the Municipality for
- ...
(av) a grant or contribution to
 - ...
(vii) a registered Canadian charitable organization;

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Approve a one-time contribution in the amount of \$25,000 from Account M311- Grants and Tax Concession to the Tides Canada Foundation to support cross-cultural reconciliation projects funded under the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund;

...RECOMMENDATION CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

2. Establish a Downie Wenjack Legacy Room in the Main Floor Boardroom at City Hall as per the terms of the Downie Wenjack Fund;
3. Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to negotiate and execute an agreement to participate in the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room Project with the Tides Canada Initiatives Society;
4. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer, through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, to conduct engagement and partnership with the Mi'kmaw Community specifically in the development of and in the ceremonial opening of the Room; and
5. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer, through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, to collaborate with Indigenous visual artists, artisans, curators and cultural centers to display Indigenous Art in the proposed Downie Wenjack Room in City Hall.

BACKGROUND

In December 2015, Halifax Regional Council adopted a Statement of Reconciliation that commits the municipality to learning from the lessons of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Subsequently, in October 2017, Regional Council adopted Administrative Order Number 2017-012-GOV, Respecting the Commemoration of Edward Cornwallis and the Recognition and Commemoration of Indigenous History Special Advisory Committee. Administrative Order Number 2017-012-GOV states that the Council of Halifax Regional Municipality acknowledges the importance of working together with indigenous communities to appropriately commemorate and reflect the history of the Municipality.

The 2015 Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report includes 94 Calls to Action, 'In order to redress the legacy of residential schools and advance the process of Canadian reconciliation'. Several Calls to Action encompass a municipal response. Specifically, Call to Action #57, states:

We call upon federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Treaties and Aboriginal rights, Indigenous law, and Aboriginal-Crown relations. This will require skills-based training in intercultural competency, conflict resolution, human rights and anti-racism.

The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund

Chanie 'Charlie' Wenjack was an Anishinaabe boy living at Ogoki Post on the Marten Falls First Nation in Ontario. He was born in 1954 and died in 1966 at the age of twelve. Chanie was a student at the Cecilia Jeffrey Indian Residential School in Kenora, Ontario, where his name was changed to Charlie. He died of hunger and exposure along the railway tracks near Farlane, Ontario, in his attempt to run away from the school and return to his home, nearly 600 km away. Chanie's death compelled officials to conduct the first-ever coroner's inquest into the treatment of Indigenous children at Canada's Residential Schools.

The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund was established in 2016 by the late musician Gord Downie, in memory of Chanie Wenjack. His graphic novel, "The Secret Path", and accompanying album tell the story of Chanie Wenjack through song and text. The Legacy Room project was first conceived by Chief Morley Googoo, Waycobah, and Assembly of First Nations Regional Chief Nova Scotia and Newfoundland.

The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund defines the intent of the Legacy Room as 'any space - be it in a business, school, office, restaurant, hotel... where people who use the room will have the opportunity to learn the story of Chanie Wenjack, the history he represents, and be inspired to act in the name of Reconciliation.'

To date, there are five Downie Wenjack Legacy Rooms in Halifax Regional Municipality that are open, or

in the process of being opened. They are located at the Barrington Steak House and Oyster Bar; Dalhousie Killam Library; Waterfront Development Corporation; Armbrae Academy; and Deloitte Atlantic. There are also Legacy Rooms in Ontario and Manitoba. On July 18, 2017, Regional Council requested a staff report to consider potential municipal participation in the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room Project.

DISCUSSION

The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund

The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund ("the Fund") was established in 2016 to promote reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous persons. The Fund is administered by the Tides Canada Foundation, a registered Canadian charity established in 1990 with offices in Vancouver, Yellowknife and Toronto¹. A fixed percentage (10%) of revenue from the Fund is allocated to overhead costs such as governance, foundation staff, financial and grants management. The Fund does not guarantee that the monies donated will be spent in the donor community but based on three national programming streams:

- educational programming;
- cross-cultural, Indigenous-led reconciliation project funding; and
- supporting the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation in the search for missing children who escaped from residential schools.

The Fund accepts grant applications to support community-based reconciliation projects, typically in the range of \$5,000 to \$10,000, throughout the year. Submissions are reviewed by Tides Canada staff and members of a Steering Committee. In reviewing applications, the Committee looks for projects that: bring together Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities; have the potential to create an on-going, positive impact on Indigenous communities and individuals; and inspire others to "do something".

Although the establishment of a Legacy Room is not a requirement for participation in the Fund and donations can be made directly to the Fund, organizations that wish to commit to hosting a Legacy Room are required to donate a one-time contribution of \$25,000 or payment of \$5,000 per year for five years.

This proposed contribution does not fall within a current funding program established by Council, but Regional Council may consider it at its discretion.

Municipal Legacy Room

To qualify as a Legacy Room participant, HRM is required to enter into an agreement with the Tides Canada Initiatives Society to commit to:

- Doing the work of Reconciliation as an organization;
- Providing information about the story of the Legacy Room, Chanie Wenjack and Reconciliation to staff and visitors;
- Providing ongoing training to employees and fostering an equitable workplace; and
- A one-time payment of \$25,000 or a \$ 5,000 donation per year for 5 years to the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund.

As outlined in the background section of this report, HRM has a number of initiatives currently underway that would meet these commitments, including a new Indigenous Community Engagement Advisor.

Staff interviewed stakeholders of three of the Halifax Legacy Room sites to determine their approach and process in establishing their Legacy Rooms. Each institution and business has established their Legacy Room through different approaches, specifically:

¹ See: <https://tidescanada.org>

- In a business, the room is only accessible by staff and invited meeting guests;
- In a restaurant, the space is accessible through reservation; and
- At the more public accessible spaces, such as the University Library, there are no restrictions to the public.

What was consistent in all cases, is that an engagement and partnership with the Mi'kmaw community was conducted, specifically in the development of and in the ceremonial opening of the Legacy Room.

Conditions of establishing the Legacy Room involves the following:

- Display the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Legacy Room plaque at the entrance to the Room; and;
- Display a framed Legacy Room print featuring photographs of Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack The Secret Path Story, Gord's Call to Action and information about where a Legacy Room visitor can learn more about creating their own act toward ReconciliACTION.

The Main Floor Boardroom is identified as the potential site for a Legacy Room in City Hall. This recently refurbished room is reserved to host external meetings with international groups, residents, organizations and businesses to meet the Mayor, members of Council and executive staff. Staff will ensure the plaque and print are installed at its entrance and the accompanying information is current and is maintained in good order.

In some institutions, the actual name of the room has been changed to the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room, however this is not a requirement of the agreement. Administrative Order 46, Respecting HRM Asset Naming Policies covers the naming of municipal assets, which include, buildings, parks, park features, streets, bridges, commercial vessels and ferries. The naming of rooms within municipal buildings is at the discretion of the asset owner for each specific building. Should Regional Council approve the Main Floor Boardroom as the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room staff will complete the required administrative actions to update all references to the room.

To provide additional information on the Municipal actions towards Reconciliation and the establishment of the Legacy Room and its formal opening it is recommended that the Office of Diversity and Inclusion would be best positioned to engage the Mi'kmaw Community to determine the appropriate process.

Display of Indigenous Art in Legacy Room

Halifax Regional Municipality has a collection of fine art; however, the collection does not contain fine art produced by Indigenous artists.

Currently in City Hall the display of artifacts and artworks is limited to decorative pieces which hang or are exhibited in various spaces including the Mayor's office, Regional Council Chambers, offices and meeting rooms. It is important that any display of Indigenous art be curated in conjunction with and under the guidance of Indigenous artists, curators and makers. Like all gallery displays, visual art is one form and traditional art and crafts and artifacts are also of consideration. Therefore, it is recommended that staff work with the Mi'kmaw arts community who, as subject matter experts, may develop the themes and prepare the exhibit text so that the display is a learning opportunity and elevates the artists who produce the work.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

If approved, the contribution would be funded from the balance remaining in the 2017-18 Community Grants Program budget.

Community Grants Program M311-8004 2017 Budget	\$500,000
Less Approved Awards	(448,658)
Balance	\$41,342
Less Recommended Contribution (1)	<u>(\$25,000)</u>
Balance	\$16,342

The implementation of a rotating Indigenous Art exhibit in the Mayor's office may have financial implications that can be accommodated in the balance of Community Grants Program M311-8004.

RISK CONSIDERATION

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

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement was completed in preparation of this report. Pending Regional Council's approval of the recommendation, staff would engage with local Mi'kmaw partners on the intent, operation and opening of the Legacy Room.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

None identified.

ALTERNATIVES

- Alternative 1: Regional Council could choose not to participate in the Downie Wenjack Legacy Room Project.
- Alternative 2: Regional Council could choose to support The Fund through an annual \$5,000 contribution for 5 years, however a one-time lump sum contribution reduces administrative oversight and demonstrates a commitment to the Fund's objectives.
- Alternative 3: Regional Council could choose to not direct the Chief Administrative Officer, through the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, to conduct engagement and partnership with the Mi'kmaw community in the development of and in the ceremonial opening of the Legacy Room or potential opportunities to collaborate to display Indigenous Art in City Hall.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

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: Elizabeth Taylor, Manager Culture & Events, 902.490.4387
Kellie McIvor, Cultural Asset Manager, 902.490.1955



January 26, 2018

Wyatt White, Advisor, Indigenous Community Engagement
Halifax Regional Municipality
P.O. Box 1749 Stn Central
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5
Canada

Dear Wyatt,

Thank you for the Halifax Regional Municipality's donation to the Downie Wenjack Project at Tides Canada.

We truly value your contribution. Please find enclosed your receipt for acknowledgment purposes.

Your donation for the Downie Wenjack Fund Legacy Room will help bring together Indigenous and non-Indigenous Canadians in a spirit of learning, awareness, and understanding with the hope of reconciling Canada's relationship with Indigenous People.

Tides Canada's mission is to provide uncommon solutions for the common good by helping Canadians secure a healthy environment in ways that promote social equity and economic prosperity. The donation helps us achieve lasting change.

Together, we can build a better Canada defined by sustainable food systems, clean energy, wise land and water stewardship, and caring communities. To learn more, please visit: tidescanada.org

Please feel free to contact us should you have any questions or would like to learn more about our work. Thank you once again for the gift.

Sincerely,



President and CEO

Uncommon Solutions.
Common Good.

Toronto

753 King Street West
Suite 1200

Vancouver

1000 Burrard Street
Suite 1000

Yellowknife

1000 10th Street
Suite 1000

tidescanada.org

Phone: 416-593-1234
Fax: 416-593-1234

Tides Canada Foundation - Eligible amount/Montant admissible: \$25,000.00
Downie Wenjack Project Issue date/Date d'émission: Jan 26, 2018
400-163 Hastings St W Date of Gift/Date du don: Jan 24, 2018
Vancouver, BC V6B 1H5
Tel (604) 647-6611
Fax (604) 647-6612
www.tidescanada.org



Halifax Regional
Municipality
P O Box 1749 Stn Central
Halifax, NS, B3J 3A5
Canada

FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PURPOSES ONLY
À TITRE INFORMATIF SEULEMENT

Thank you for your generous contribution



President and CEO

Location: issued/lieu de la délivrance du reçu: Vancouver, BC Charitable registration number/numéro d'enregistrement d'organisme de bienfaisance: 85391797 F20001
Canada Revenue Agency/Agence du revenu du Canada: <http://www.cra.gc.ca/charites/>

Tides Canada Foundation - Eligible amount/Montant admissible: \$25,000.00
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Canada

FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PURPOSES ONLY
À TITRE INFORMATIF SEULEMENT

Thank you for your generous contribution
Merci de votre générosité



Ross McMillan
President and CEO

Location: issued/lieu de la délivrance du reçu: Vancouver, BC Charitable registration number/numéro d'enregistrement d'organisme de bienfaisance: 85391797 F20001
Canada Revenue Agency/Agence du revenu du Canada: <http://www.cra.gc.ca/charites/>

January 11, 2017



Tides Canada Foundation – Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund
360-215 Spadina Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M5T 2C7

COPY

Re: Halifax Regional Municipality – Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund

Please be advised that at their meeting of December 12, 2017, the Council of the Halifax Municipality approved the establishment of a DWF Legacy Space that will be located in City Hall. Further, Council approved a contribution in the amount of \$25,000 towards the DWF managed by the Tides Canada Foundation. Please find payment in the amount of \$25,000 enclosed. Confirmation of receipt would be appreciated.

HRM's staff contact with respect to the implementation of the DWF Legacy Space program is Wyatt White, Advisor, Indigenous Community Engagement, Office of Diversity and Inclusion. Mr. White's email is whitew@halifax.ca (telephone 902.490.2391) and the applicable program materials may be mailed to Mr. White's attention at the following address: Office of Diversity & Inclusion, Halifax Regional Municipality, PO Box 1749, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 3A5.

We wish the Tides Canada Foundation every success in advancing the goals of Truth and Reconciliation.

Sincerely,

Peta-Jane Temple
Team Lead Grants & Contributions
Finance & Asset Management
Halifax Regional Municipality



Cc: Tracey Jones-Grant, Managing Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion
Wyatt White, Advisor, Indigenous Community Engagement, Office of Diversity & Inclusion
File

HALIFAX

Halifax Regional Municipality
PO Box 1749, Halifax, Nova Scotia
Canada B3J 3A5

halifax.ca

HALIFAX

VENDOR NO 203000000 DOCUMENT NO 15500973
COMPANY

Doc. No	Invoice Date	Invoice No	Description	Invoice Amount	Discount	Net Amount
19617404	2018.01.03	180109	DOWNIE WENJACK FUND	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
Total				25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00

COPY

DETACH OR CUT FROM YOUR ACCOUNT STATEMENT

HALIFAX

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA 33993
www.scotiabank.com/halifaxservices 1-888-888-1234
www.banqueecote.com/serviceauxentreprises

11-2222
333

375767
DATE: 2018 01 10
YYYY MM DD

PAY TO THE ORDER OF TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND CAD and 00/100

\$ *****25,000.00*

[Signature]
Branch Manager
Date: 2018-01-10

[Signature]
Branch Manager
Date: 2018-01-10

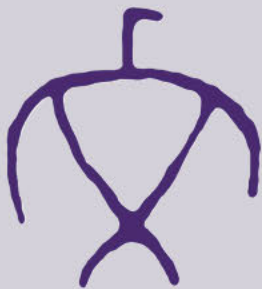
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LEGACY SPACES INVESTMENT LEVELS & BENEFITS

The Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund invites all organizations to take reconciliACTION by committing to the [Legacy Spaces](#) program and establishing a safe space for employees and guests to explore Indigenous history and cultures.

In order to ensure that this program is widely accessible, the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund offers different investment levels with unique opportunities and benefits. They are named after animals chosen by the Wenjack family to reflect Chanie's journey here on earth and his connection to nature. Some were a source of food for the family, others were symbolic visitors, and each one embodies the air, the land, and the water. By creating a Legacy Space, you are part of our collective journey toward reconciliation and we look forward to helping guide you on this journey.



Migizi
(mih-gih-zee) Eagle































Mooz
(moaz) Moose



Amik
(ah-mik) Beaver

Benefits & Recognition

BENEFIT/RECOGNITION	MIGIZI \$20,000/year	MOOZ \$10,000/year	AMIK \$5,000/year
Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Legacy Space plaque to be displayed at the entrance of the designated space	10" x 15" or 12" x 18" or 16" x 24"	10" x 15" or 12" x 18"	10" x 15"
Framed Legacy Space print featuring photographs of Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack, the Secret Path story, Gord's call to action, and additional information	2' x 4' frame or 3' x 6' frame or 10' 5' wall wrap	2' x 4' frame or 3' x 6' frame	2' x 4' frame or 3' x 6' frame
Resource kit with everything the Partner will require to participate in the program, with additional resources supplied each year			
DWF representation at the launch event for the space, and support with a media plan and outreach	DWF CEO, staff & Artist Ambassador or Board Member Social media, blog post, media outreach	DWF CEO & Staff Social media & blog post	DWF Staff (CEO where possible) Social media post
Recognition on Legacy Spaces webpage and in the ReconciliACTION Guide	Logo	Logo	Logo where possible
Access to Cultural Competency Training, web-based training series, and DWF presentation		Web-series & DWF presentation	DWF presentation
Option to complete an Indigenous ReconciliACTION Plan with access to resources, consultation on the plan during development, and a review of the final plan		Access to resources and review of the final plan	Access to resources
Pin on the Legacy Spaces online map with name and photo of the space, as well as details on annual reconciliACTION(s)			
Recognition on social media channels using pre-approved content	2 posts / year	2 posts / year	2 posts / year
Annual Legacy Spaces partnership report	Customized		
Invitations to DWF events throughout the year, both public and exclusive to our partners			
Access to DWF's newsletters			
Dedicated account manager			
Access to DWF-hosted booth with materials and option to have DWF representatives speak at event/activity			
Access to Lunch & Learn with DWF representatives for all employees (virtual or in-person, COVID-19-permitting)			
Complimentary DWF merchandise and access to merchandise at a discounted rate – 30% discount when ordering 100+ items			

Multi-Space Pay Scale

In recognition of companies and organizations that are interested in opening more than one Legacy Space, there are various options to provide full access to the program at a reduced cost. DWF welcomes the opportunity to provide a customized proposal with additional options. Please contact us to set up a meeting at legacyspaces@downiewenjack.ca.

NO. OF SPACES	MIGIZI	MOOZ	AMIK
First Space	\$ 20,000 / year	\$ 10,000 / year	\$ 5,000 / year
Second Space	\$ 15,000 / year	\$ 7,500 / year	\$ 5,000 / year
Third Space & Beyond	\$ 10,000 / year	\$ 5,000 / year	\$ 5,000 / year

Indigenous Cultural Competency Training

DWF is thrilled to be able to offer a new component of the Legacy Space program – Indigenous Cultural Competency Training.

The Indigenous Cultural Competency Training (ICCT) offered by DWF aims to provide professionals with the necessary support to improve the skills, knowledge, attitudes, and values necessary to move reconciliation forward. The ICCT includes multiple courses, each of which is developed within a cultural competency framework that focuses on moving organizations towards being culturally proficient and promoting cultural humility when engaging with Indigenous employees, colleagues, customers/clients, communities, and others. The training is structured to promote cultural safety in the learning environment to ensure that all participants feel welcome and respected while being able to express their views.



downiewenjack.ca
legacyspaces@downiewenjack.ca