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Item No. 9.1.3
Grants Committee
June 12, 2023

TO: Chair and Members of Grants Committee

Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY:

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: June 5, 2023

SUBJECT: **Regional Special Events Grant Report 2023/24**

ORIGIN

Applications received pursuant to Administrative Order Number 2014-021-GOV – *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

Administrative Order Number 2014-021-GOV; *Respecting Regional Special Events Grants*, approved by Halifax Regional Council on May 26, 2015; Amended December 13, 2022.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Approve 14 Event Grants for a total of \$12,550 as identified in Table 1 from the approved 2023/24 Operating Budget – C760 Community/Civic Events;
 - i. 13 Community Celebrations totalling \$7,550
 - ii. 1 Significant Anniversaries totalling \$5,000
2. Approve 39 Established Community Events for a total of \$211,025 as identified in Table 2 from the approved 2023/24 Operating Budget – C760 Community/Civic Events;
3. Approve 15 Event Grants for a total of \$233,000 as identified in Table 3 from the approved 2023/24 Operating Budget – C760 Community/Civic Events funded from the 2023/24 Community and Events Reserve Q621;
 - i. 2 Established Community Events totalling \$33,000
 - ii. 13 Cultural Events & Showcases totalling \$200,000

RECOMMENDATIONS CONTINUE ON PAGE 2

4. Pending final approval of the 2024/25 budget, approve 39 Established Community Events for a total of \$211,025 as identified in Table 2 from the approved 2024/25 Operating Budget – C760 Community/Civic Events;
5. Pending final approval of the 2024/25 budget, approve 15 Event Grants for a total of \$233,000 as identified in Table 3 from the approved 2024/25 Operating Budget – C760 Community/Civic Events funded from the 2024/25 Community and Events Reserve Q621;
 - i. 2 Established Community Events totalling \$33,000
 - ii. 13 Cultural Events & Showcases totalling \$200,000

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Governed by the *Regional Special Events Grants Administrative Order Number 2014-021-GOV*, the Regional Special Events Grants program provides financial support for non-profit organizations that host events which foster positive community development, celebrate heritage, arts and culture, build bridges between diverse populations, enrich quality of life for residents and improve civic pride in the Municipality. This report details awards for the 2023/24 intake period (events occurring between April 1, 2023 and March 31, 2024). There are 4 Regional Special Events grant programs: Community Celebrations, Significant Anniversaries, Established Community Events and Cultural Events & Showcases. Staff recommends the 2023/24 Regional Special Events Grants program award 68 grants to various non-profit organizations throughout the municipality.

BACKGROUND

This report outlines the recommended Regional Special Events Grant Awards for the 2023/24 funding intake. All Regional Special Events Grants recommendations are governed by *Administrative Order 2014-021-GOV Respecting Regional Special Events Grants* (AO). Staff undertakes the grant application and evaluation process as outlined in the AO. This Regional Special Events Grant report is reviewed by the Grants Committee for recommendation to Regional Council.

DISCUSSION

Regional Special Events Grants AO

The AO for Regional Special Events Grants establishes consistent and equitable funding for community and cultural events and includes four funding programs:

1. Community Celebrations – 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.
2. Established Community Events – Provides support for existing community events that are organized primarily for the benefit and enjoyment of residents, are accessible to the public with free or low-cost activities, have been in existence for a minimum of three consecutive years, and have a minimum budget of \$10,000. The maximum grant award in this program is \$25,000. Option to provide up to three years of sustainable funding.
3. Significant Anniversaries – Provides support for community events organized around major quarterly significant anniversaries (25th, 50th, 75th, etc.) that celebrate HRM's heritage and community and have a minimum budget of \$7,500. The maximum grant award in this program is \$10,000.

4. Cultural Events & Showcases – Provides support for arts and culture festivals that program strong cultural content, further the disciplines of literary, media, performing and visual arts, are accessible to the public with free or low-cost activities, have a minimum budget of \$50,000, and further the principles and objectives of the HRM Cultural Plan. The maximum grant award in this program is \$60,000. Option to provide up to three years of sustainable funding.

Three-year sustainable funding

The AO for Regional Special Events Grants provides the ability to award up to three-year funding to organizations under the Established Community Events and Cultural Events & Showcases programs. On May 17, 2022, Regional Council approved funding for these two programs awarding the full allocated budget for the 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 fiscal years. This precludes any public calls for applications until the fall of 2024, at which time the intake will open to fund events happening in the next three-year funding cycle (2025/26, 2026/27, 2027/28).

Events that receive multi-year funding are dependent on the approval of HRM's annual Operating Budget and Reserve capacity. Events are required to submit annual post-event reports for review and approval. Any concerns are noted and will be brought forward to the Grants Committee for discussion. Not all final event reports have been submitted to staff; however, there is ongoing communication and no immediate concerns with any of the organizations. Staff acknowledge that for many of the community events the administrative process is performed by volunteers. Staff will continue to work with groups to improve the timeline of the final reporting process. All final reporting requirements must be received prior to the release of any future grants.

Eligibility

In total, there were 15 applications submitted for review in the 2023/24 grant intake process to fund Community Celebrations and Significant Anniversaries. These event grant programs offer an annual intake. Of the 15 submissions, 14 were deemed eligible and recommended for funding, and one application was deemed ineligible. All event information on the 15 applications can be found in Attachment 1.

Ineligible

One application is not recommended for funding: Live on Agricola. The organization applied in the Community Celebrations program and have been notified of the ineligibility. Live on Agricola is a 13-week concert series and as per the AO, a Community Celebration is awarded to an organization delivering an event that is less than five days in duration; therefore, is ineligible.

Evaluation

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

1. Community Engagement – evaluated based on volunteer involvement, diversity, accessibility, attendance and programming;
2. Community Cultural Development – based on the provision of arts and cultural programming and experiences;
3. Demonstrated Financial Need – evaluated on access to potential sponsorship, as well as the ability to self-fund; and
4. Demonstrated Added Value to the Community – 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 Community Celebrations, Established Community Events and Significant Anniversaries programs have a total budget of \$215,000 funded from the Operating Budget (C760). The Cultural Events & Showcases program has a budget of \$200,000 funded from the Community and Events Reserve (Q621). As noted, Regional Council has allocated funding of \$211,025 in the Established Community Events program leaving \$3,975 to fund Community Celebrations and Significant Anniversaries. Coming out of the pandemic, an

increase in the number of community event applications were received, as well as an unexpected Significant Anniversary application. Staff recognize the importance of hosting events within the community post pandemic for the benefit and enjoyment of residents of the municipality. Therefore, with the increase in applications for the 2023/24 intake staff recommend event grant awards outlined in this report would exceed the operating budget (C760) by \$8,575. The Community and Events Reserve (Q621) has unused grants carried forward from previous years and has capacity to cover the increase staff are recommending for grant awards.

The proposed Regional Special Events funding amounts for the 2023/24 intake are outlined in Table 1 below.

Table 1: 2023/24 Summary of Proposed Funding Recommendations for Community Celebrations and Significant Anniversaries				
Community Celebrations		2022/23 Grant	2023/24 Requested	2023/24 Recommended
1	Agricola Street Holiday Market	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
2	Children's Christmas Event	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300
3	Community Picnic	n/a	\$1,000	\$ 500
4	Eid Celebration	\$ 750	\$1,000	\$ 500
5	Fall Family Day	\$ 300	\$ 250	\$ 250
6	French Outdoor Movie Night	n/a	\$1,000	\$ 500
7	Funny Pages Festival	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$ 500
8	Lake and Shore Days*	n/a	\$1,000	\$1,000
9	Latinfax 2023	n/a	\$1,000	\$ 500
10	Meaghers Grant Day	n/a	\$1,000	\$ 500
11	National Friendship Day	n/a	\$1,000	\$ 500
12	North by Night Market	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
13	Park Days	n/a	\$1,000	\$ 500
Total 2023/24 Community Celebrations		\$4,350	\$11,550	\$7,550
Significant Anniversaries		2022/23 Grant	2023/24 Requested	2023/24 Recommended
1	150th Anniversary of SS Atlantic	n/a	\$10,000	\$ 5,000
Total 2023/24 Significant Anniversary Events			\$10,000	\$ 5,000

*Previously funded Established Community Event. Missed 2022 intake for 3-year sustainable funding.

Funding for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 Established Community Events previously approved by Regional Council funded from C760 Community/Civic Events are outlined in Table 2 below.

Table 2: 2023/24 Summary of Previously Approved Established Community Events					
Established Community Events		2022/23 Requested	2022/23 Grant	2023/24 Grant	2024/25 Grant
			Completed	Current	Future
1	Afrifest	\$ 7,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
2	Animation Festival of Halifax	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
3	Atlantic Jewish Film Festival	\$25,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000
4	Black History Month Cultural Activities	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
5	Bluenose Ability Arts & Film Festival	\$25,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
6	Canada Day in Beaver Bank	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
7	Caribbean Diaspora Multicultural				

Table 2: 2023/24 Summary of Previously Approved Established Community Events					
Established Community Events		2022/23 Requested	2022/23 Grant	2023/24 Grant	2024/25 Grant
			Completed	Current	Future
	Celebration	\$15,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
8	Christkindl Market Festival	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
9	Community Dance	\$ 4,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
10	Community Field Day	\$ 7,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
11	Diwali Carnival – Festival of Lights	\$10,000	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500
12	Downtown Dartmouth Ice Festival	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
13	East Coast Kite Festival	\$15,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
14	Eastern Passage Cow Bay Summer Carnival	\$10,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000
15	Emerging Lens Cultural Film Festival	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
16	Fire & Water Festival	\$10,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
17	Fisherman's Cove Pirate Festival	\$10,000	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500
18	Gottingen Festival	\$10,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
19	Great East Dartmouth Community BBQ	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
20	Halifax County Exhibition	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
21	India Fest	\$ 7,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
22	Keloose Community Celebration	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
23	Light Up Bedford Parade	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,500
24	Mother Goose Festival	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
25	Navratri - Dandiya Garba Nights	\$10,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
26	North Preston Days	\$10,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
27	Northern Lights Lantern Festival	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
28	Open Streets HFX	\$25,000	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
29	Peggy's Cove Area Festival of the Arts	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
30	Re-Jigged Festival	\$ 5,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500
31	Sackville Christmas Tree Lighting	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
32	Sackville Snow Days	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
33	Saltwire Holiday Parade of Lights	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
34	School Farm Day	\$ 525	\$ 525	\$ 525	\$ 525
35	Spryfield Days Festival	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
36	Spryfield Santa Claus Parade	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
37	St. Patrick's Day Parade	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
38	Trunk 7 Music Festival	\$ 4,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500
39	Waverley Gold Rush Days	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
TOTAL Established Community Events		\$350,525	\$211,025	\$211,025	\$211,025

Funding for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 Established Community Events and Cultural Events & Showcases previously approved by Regional Council funded from C760 Community/Civic Events funded from the Community and Events Reserve (Q621) are outlined in Table 3 below.

Table 3: 2023/24 Summary of Previously Approved Established Community Events and Cultural Events & Showcases					
Established Community Events		2022/23 Requested	2022/23 Grant	2023/24 Grant	2024/25 Grant
			Completed	Current	Future
1	Patriot Days	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$20,000
2	Open Streets HFX	\$25,000	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$13,000
Total Established Community Events		\$45,000	\$33,000	\$33,000	\$33,000
Cultural Events & Showcases		2022/23 Requested	2022/23 Grant	2023/24 Grant	2024/25 Grant
			Completed	Current	Future
Tier 1					
1	AfterWords Literary Festival	\$45,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
2	Atlantic Canadian Irish Dance Championships	\$20,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
3	EVERYSEEKER Festival	\$ 7,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000
4	FrancoFest	\$ 8,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
5	Halifax Independent Filmmakers Festival	\$20,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000
6	Mayworks Halifax Festival	\$12,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
7	STAGES Theatre Festival	\$22,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Tier 2					
8	Halifax Fringe Festival	\$22,000	\$19,000	\$19,000	\$19,000
9	Halifax Pride Festival	\$40,000	\$38,000	\$38,000	\$38,000
10	Nocturne: Art at Festival	\$60,000	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$45,000
11	Nova Multifest	\$50,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
12	Prismatic Arts Festival	\$45,000	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$30,000
13	Scotia Festival of Music	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$25,000
Total Cultural Events & Showcases		\$376,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$200,000

COVID-19 Ongoing Approach to Funding

For 2023/24, in-person, live event activity is expected to be held and is encouraged. This year's funding is to provide support to festivals and events as they re-establish live, in-person event delivery for the public's benefit. Therefore, it is recommended that funding be awarded to organizations that deliver events under the following scenarios:

1. 100% of the grant to organizations that deliver live, in-person events;
2. 100% of the grant to organizations that deliver hybrid events in which the main event is delivered to live, in-person audiences but there is an opportunity to attend an online, virtual, or digital component which broadens audience engagement;
3. Should public health restrictions be reintroduced, 50% of the grant to organizations where there is the intent to return to a live event format but due to public health restrictions no in-person live events are permitted, but an online, virtual, or digital event is delivered; and,
4. 0% of the grant to organizations where there is the ability to return to a live, in-person event format, but the preference of the event organization is to remain digital/virtual.

If the impacts of COVID-19 prevent the ability to host in-person, hybrid or virtual events and festivals, no grant award will be released.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The allocated allotment of \$215,000 to fund Community Celebrations, Significant Anniversaries and Established Community Events recommendations can be accommodated in the approved 2023/24 operating budget for Community/Civic Events, account C760-6919. The balance of \$8,575 will be accommodated from the Community and Events Reserve (Q621) unused grants carried forward from previous years. All 2024/25 recommendations are subject to availability of funds and final approval of the 2024/25 operating budget.

All Cultural Events & Showcases recommendations can be accommodated in the approved 2023/24 Operating Budget – C760 Community/Civic Events funded from the 2023/24 Community Events Reserve Q621. All 2024/25 recommendations are subject to availability of funds and final approval of the 2024/25 budget.

Budget Summary: Community and Events Reserve, Q621

Projected Net Available Reserve Balances (as of Q4)	\$ 1,060,503
Contribution 2023/24	\$ 2,017,572
Withdrawals 2023/24	<u>\$ (1,958,000)</u>
Total Projected Net Available Reserve 2023/24	\$ 1,120,075

All Cultural Events & Showcases recommendations are subject to availability of Community & Events Reserve, Q621 funds. These grants are processed through operating account C760 – Community/Civic Events.

Community and Event Reserve, Q621 is used to provide funding to attract and host exceptional large – scale sporting and tourism events that create significant economic impacts, promote Halifax as a multi – experiential event destination and attract tourists to HRM for multiple day visits. Reserve is also to provide funding to community non–profit and public institutions in support of major capital initiatives by facilitating the development of significant community infrastructure in order to realize tangible cultural, sectorial and economic impacts. Funding to the reserve is 40% of Marketing Levy from Hotel Sales, and transfers from operating budget. Withdrawals are for supporting events that support tourism and economic development, cultural / heritage projects, significant community infrastructure and public art. **The recommended allocation of grants does not have a negative impact on the reserve as this allocation is within the 2023/24 approved withdrawals from reserve.**

There are no outstanding funds owing to the municipality by any of the recommended applicants.

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 and applicant timelines are posted on the HRM website. Staff contacted all previously funded Regional Special Events Grants recipients within the past two years advising of the 2023/24 intake opening and deadline date. Communication is ongoing with program clients on the status of events.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No environmental implications were identified.

ALTERNATIVES

1. The Grants Committee may choose to recommend that Regional Council amend the amount of any event grant in accordance with AO 2014-021-GOV within the budget capacity of C760 and Q621.
2. The Grants Committee may choose to recommend that Regional Council accommodate the balance of \$8,575 to fund the staff recommended amounts of Community Celebrations and Significant Anniversaries events through the Parks & Recreation 2023/24 Operating budget.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: 2023-24 Regional Special Events Grant Applicants Event Information

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 Administrator, 902.497.3729

2023/24 Regional Special Events Grants Applicants Event Information

Ineligible Events

Upon review of the applications, one event was deemed ineligible for funding as a potential Community Celebrations event due to the duration exceeding the less than five days criteria set within Administrative Order 2014-021-GOV Respecting Regional Special Events Grants.

1. LIVE ON AGRICOLA

Organization: North End Business Association
Date: 13 week concert series
Location: 2537 Agricola Street, Halifax
Attendance: 3,000
Past Grant: n/a
Budget: \$7,300
Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: Live on Agricola, in partnership with the Open Mic House, will support local performers with live concerts every Friday from July through to September. There will also be festive lighting and games.

COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS

1. AGRICOLA STREET HOLIDAY MARKET

Organization: North End Business Association
Date: November 12, 2023
Location: 2537 Agricola Street, Halifax
Attendance: 4,000
Past Grant: \$1,000
Budget: \$16,500
Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: This one-day event celebrates the change of season and the upcoming holidays in a German-style winter market. The purpose is to attract people to the North End, support and engage the local businesses and to provide a community building experience. In past years, businesses have hosted in store specials, provided hot chocolate and cider, organized family activities along the street and fundraised for local not-for-profits and charities. This event provides local food makers, artisans and crafts people with a holiday street-market venue to sell their goods. The event also showcases and supports local musicians and artists.

2. CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVENT

Organization: Meagher's Grant Volunteer Fire Department
Date: December 9, 2023
Location: 4413 HWY 357, Meaghers Grant
Attendance: 60
Past Grant: \$300
Budget: \$600
Grant Requested: \$300

Program description: The Children's Christmas Event is held at the Meagher's Grant Hall and includes a Bazaar where the children can purchase small gifts for their family members and have them wrapped by the volunteer staff. Light snacks and beverages are also provided for all attendees.

3. COMMUNITY PICNIC

Organization: Middle Musquodoboit Argicultural Society
Date: July 1, 2023
Location: 190 Exhibition Grounds Road, Middle Musquodoboit
Attendance: 1,000
Past Grant: n/a
Budget: \$6,000

Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: A community picnic to celebrate Canada's Birthday. Celebration activities will include a magician, Ground Search and Rescue, free family photos, games, pony rides, entertainment, and food. Several local businesses will be on-site to offer information and services to community members.

4. EID CELEBRATION

Organization: Alnaas Community & Youth Development Association

Date: July 4, 2023

Location: McNabs Island, McNabs

Attendance: 30

Past Grant: \$750

Budget: \$1,200

Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: Eid translates to "festival" or "feast" in Arabic and marks the end of a fast or fasting period in Islam. Alnaas Community & Youth Development Association plan to celebrate Eid for the newcomer and immigrant families to Nova Scotia. During this event, there will be swimming for moms and kids, volleyball game, beach games for kids, balloon animals, and a picnic of cultural foods and sweets.

5. FALL FAMILY DAY

Organization: Meagher's Grant Volunteer Fire Department

Date: October 14, 2023

Location: 4413 HWY 357, Meaghers Grant

Attendance: 60

Past Grant: \$300

Budget: \$500

Grant Requested: \$250

Program description: This Fall Family Event Day will be based on a scavenger hunt to take place in the area of the Meaghers Grant Ball Diamond, followed by a meal at the Meaghers Grant Hall where prizes will be awarded to participants.

6. FRENCH OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

Organization: Alliance Française d'Halifax-Dartmouth

Date: August 19, 2023

Location: École secondaire du Sommet Park, 500 Larry Uteck Blvd., Halifax

Attendance: 120

Past Grant: n/a

Budget: \$4,150

Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: French Outdoor Movie Night will present an outdoor film in French with English subtitles. Presented on (or adjacent to) the École secondaire du Sommet school grounds as it can accommodate a larger number of people than in a theatre.

7. FUNNY PAGES FESTIVAL

Organization: Funny Pages Festival Organization

Date: April 21-22, 2023

Location: Halifax Central Library, 5440 Spring Garden Road, Halifax

Attendance: 600

Past Grant: \$1,000

Budget: \$13,100

Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: Not every kid loves to read but every kid loves to laugh. Humour is an excellent gateway to literacy. Funny Pages Festival anticipates between 700-800 elementary students to participate. Activities will include interactive presentations, writing workshops and creative programming from some of Canada's funniest kids authors, including many from Nova Scotia. Throughout the day, kids will have the opportunity to talk with the authors one-on-one about their writing experiences.

8. LAKE AND SHORE DAYS

Organization: Porters Lake Community Services Association
Date: August 10-13, 2023
Location: Porter's Lake Community Centre, Porters Lake
Attendance: 2,000
Past Grant: \$4,750 (in 2019 as an Established Community Event)
Budget: \$15,200
Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: Lake and Shore Days is a multi-day, summer event for all ages, a mix of child, adult, and family-friendly activities. Activities will include a crib tournament, youth dance, bingo, parade, craft show, washer toss tournament, concert, pancake breakfast, picnic, and fireworks.

9. LATINFAX 2023

Organization: Latispanica Cultural Association
Date: October 2023
Location: TBD
Attendance: 900
Past Grant: n/a
Budget: \$6,750
Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: Latinfax will be held in October to coincide with Latin Heritage Month. Latinfax 2023 will expand from previous years and activities will include, dance performances showcasing Latino traditional dances, dance lessons, music presentation with local Latino artists, Zumba, face painting, and traditional Latino food.

10. MEAGHERS GRANT DAY

Organization: Meagher's Grant Volunteer Fire Department
Date: June 3, 2023
Location: 4413 HWY 357, Meaghers Grant
Attendance: 300
Past Grant: \$500
Budget: \$3,610
Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: Meaghers Grant Day is to celebrate the rich farming and logging history in Meaghers Grant and the communities that surround it. In addition, Meagher's Grant Day will commemorate the schools, businesses and home life that were an integral part of the community. This year there will also be a focus on volunteers past and present. Community groups and volunteer organizations will be invited to participate in the event. This will include HRM Fire and Musquodoboit Valley Ground Search and Rescue. This will be a free event for all participants and include children's activities and a BBQ.

11. NATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY

Organization: The Club Inclusion
Date: July 28, 2023
Location: Club Halifax, 2652 Joseph Howe Drive, Halifax
Attendance: 100
Past Grant: n/a
Budget: \$4,805
Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: National Friendship Day takes place each year to encourage people throughout the world to connect with friends by making a new one, or reconnecting with old ones. This event will be comprised of large group, small group, and 1:1 activity that offer opportunities for people with intellectual or physical disabilities, mental health challenges, trouble with communication and learning, to meet new people, develop connections and make new friends. Activities will include; friendship speed dating, team relay races, field games, dunk tank, music therapy, Zumba, mural painting, photobooth, air hockey, snow cones, cotton candy, pizza, and more.

12. NORTH BY NIGHT MARKET

Organization: North End Business Association
Date: June 9, July 14, August 11 & September 8, 2023
Location: 2037 Gottingen Street, Halifax
Attendance: 6,000
Past Grant: \$1,000
Budget: \$6,200
Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: North By Night Market is a recurring event which takes place on Gottingen Street that celebrates the diverse and eclectic culture of the North End and Gottingen area. The purpose is to attract people to the North End, support and engage local businesses and their goods, and showcases and supports local musicians and artists. This event includes a food and crafters market with vendors selling a range of goods from foods, crafts, jewelry, ethnic foods, food trucks and preserves. North By Night Market also has live music featuring local DJ's and jazz ensembles, as well as visual artists and performances.

13. PARK DAYS

Organization: Mulgrave Park Caring & Learning Centre
Date: August 26, 2023
Location: Mulgrave Park, Halifax
Attendance: 150
Past Grant: n/a
Budget: \$1,600
Grant Requested: \$1,000

Program description: With the help of donations and partnerships with local organizations, The Caring and Learning Centre hosts Park Days which brings residents of Mulgrave Park together to celebrate and enjoy each other. The annual Park Days event includes, a BBQ, outdoor recreation games, music, food vendors, beverages, and more.

SIGNIFICANT ANNIVERSARIES

1. 150th ANNIVERSARY OF SS ATLANTIC

Organization: SS Atlantic Heritage Park Society
Date: April 1, 2023
Location: Terence Bay Community Hall, Terence Bay
Attendance: 145
Past Grant: n/a
Budget: \$10,300
Grant Requested: \$10,000

Program description: To remember the tragedy of the SS Atlantic and those who died and to honour the rescuers, to remind the three communities of what happened and to reflect on the courage, compassion and collaboration of that day in 1873. The SS Atlantic Heritage Park Society will host a commemorative event. Activities include: Recorded storytelling, presentations, bagpipers and music, recognition of survivors descendants present and ending with a local made meal.

ESTABLISHED COMMUNITY EVENTS (C760)

1. AFRIFEST

Organization: Africa Festival of Arts & Culture Society
Date: July 20-23, 2023
Location: Sackville Landing, Lower Water Street, Halifax
Attendance: 3,600
Past Grant: \$3,500
Budget: \$106,500
Current Grant: \$5,000

Program description: AFRIFEST showcases the culture, visual and performing arts of people of African descent. Artists will include diasporas from Nigeria, Ghana, Sudan, Gambia, Zambia, Togo, Congo, Burkina

Faso, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Caribbean and African Nova Scotian Community. Artistic work will include visual arts, drumming, jazz, hip-hop, gospel music, cultural dances, storytelling, food and lots more. The festival provides a creative environment for African Canadian artists to come together to perform; share and showcase their various talents. It also serves as a forum for welcoming and integrating new Canadians into the social and cultural life of Nova Scotia.

2. ANIMATION FESTIVAL OF HALIFAX

Organization: Carbon Arc Cinema Co-op Ltd.
Date: May 11-13, 2023 (in-person) & May 11-21, 2023 (online)
Location: Bus Stop Theatre, Museum of Natural History, Halifax Public Library Central
Attendance: 530
Past Grant: \$1,000
Budget: \$69,500
Current Grant: \$2,500

Program description: The Animation Festival of Halifax celebrates all forms of animation but has a particular focus on Canadian short experimental animation. Animation Festival aims to spark an interest in animation as an art form and as a means of self-expression and empowerment. For three days in May, screenings of animated features and short films of note, present artist's talks, retrospectives, and panel discussions, animation workshops for all ages and levels of experience.

3. ATLANTIC JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Organization: Atlantic Jewish Council
Date: November 16-19, 2023
Location: Cineplex Park Lane Cinema, Pier 21
Attendance: 350
Past Grant: \$3,000
Budget: \$40,982
Current Grant: \$8,000

Program description: The Atlantic Jewish Film Festival is four days of films by international directors focusing on Jewish themes, history, and identity, and extends an open invitation to learn about Jewish cultural and identity. The festival offers an excellent opportunity to educate and for audiences to explore history, culture and view a community seldom depicted on the big screen, while fostering an appreciation for arts and culture.

4. BLACK HISTORY MONTH CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Organization: Africa Festival of Arts & Culture Society
Date: February 7-11, 2023
Location: Various locations within Halifax
Attendance: 3,586
Past Grant: n/a
Budget: \$32,600
Current Grant: \$5,000

Program description: The month of February is Black History Month and Africa Festival of Arts and Culture Society (AFACS) recognizes the need for this vital celebration; therefore developed initiatives that promote and recognize the participation and contributions of African Descent to the development of Canada, Nova Scotia, and Halifax Regional Municipality. AFACS Black History Month activities aim to celebrate inclusion, our cultural heritage, highlighting critical historical events associated with African Descent through activities including; a tour of local schools by African Canadian artists to promote inclusion, cultural diversity, and anti-racism.

5. BLUENOSE ABILITY ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL

Organization: Bluenose Ability Arts & Film Festival
Date: TBD
Location: TBD
Attendance: 1,600
Past Grant: \$2,500

Budget: \$258,000

Current Grant: \$3,000

Program description: The annual week-long festival of events is the largest accessibility-focused festival and support network in HRM, the Bluenose Ability Arts & Film Festival have a unique responsibility and opportunity to highlight artists with disabilities, who traditionally face significant barriers to success in the arts. Programming inspires, enlightens and delights as it increases awareness of the lived experience of people living with disabilities, promoting equity, diversity and inclusion across the community.

6. CANADA DAY IN BEAVER BANK

Organization: Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre

Date: July 1, 2023

Location: 1583 Beaver Bank Road

Attendance: 2,000

Past Grant: \$4,500

Budget: \$12,000

Current Grant: \$5,000

Program description: All events are free and are open to community members to come and celebrate Canada and all our diverse culture. The event encourages all residents to participate, contribute their different diversities to the event, and spread the message of what the country and community means to them. The celebration activities will include: a pancake breakfast, flag raising ceremony, family fair, fireworks and more.

7. CARIBBEAN DIASPORA MULTICULTURAL CELEBRATION

Organization: Jamaican Cultural Association of Nova Scotia

Date: July 30, 2023

Location: Ferry Terminal Park, Dartmouth

Attendance: 2,000

Past Grant: \$1,500

Budget: \$59,000

Current Grant: \$3,000

Program description: This free Festival will be held at Dartmouth Ferry Terminal Park to create awareness and educate the public about Jamaican history and culture. Highlights include a Cultural Show with Caribbean Music, performers, dancers, drummers, singers, spoken word artists, intergenerational games, education booths, food tents, food trucks.

8. CHRISTKINDL MARKET FESTIVAL

Organization: Alderney Landing Association

Date: December 1-3, 2023

Location: Alderney Landing

Attendance: 15,000

Past Grant: \$250

Budget: \$41,000

Current Grant: \$2,000

Program description: Christkindl Market is a traditional German Christmas Market featuring fresh food, artisan gifts, and craft vendors. Celebrations include live music from local bands and choirs, a carousel ride, performances by local theatre groups, a traditional gluhwein bar, Christmas decorations, and appearances by Santa and his elves.

9. COMMUNITY DANCE

Organization: Ward5 Neighbourhood Centre

Date: November 4, 2023

Location: TBD (generally held at Halifax Forum)

Attendance: 400

Past Grant: n/a

Budget: \$8,300

Current Grant: \$2,000

Program description: The North End Community Dance is held annually the Saturday before Remembrance Day for the past 17 years. The dance is a low-cost activity for the community to enjoy in the off season of events and is run solely by volunteers and Ward5 staff. Community members enjoy live music and can meet and socialize in a positive environment.

10. COMMUNITY FIELD DAY

Organization: Preston Area Community Access Society

Date: August 26, 2023

Location: East Preston Recreation Centre

Attendance: 325

Past Grant: n/a

Budget: \$11,150

Current Grant: \$1,500

Program description: The Community Field Day encourages physical activities and healthy living by hosting a family friendly day of physical activity and games. Physical trainers will be on site to promote the importance of physical activity and answer any questions from participants.

11. DIWALI CARNIVAL – FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Organization: Indian Festivals Club of Nova Scotia

Date: October 27 – 29, 2023

Location: Halifax Forum

Attendance: 8,500

Past Grant: \$2,500

Budget: \$95,000

Current Grant: \$4,500

Program description: Diwali Carnival is an event that celebrates the festival of Lights which signifies the importance of light over darkness and good over evil. Diwali Carnival serves as a platform where each culture that celebrates Diwali has the space and opportunity to share their folkloric traditions of celebrating Diwali. It also celebrates the heritage of new immigrants who have picked Halifax to be their new home and gives them a sense of belonging.

12. DOWNTOWN DARTMOUTH ICE FESTIVAL

Organization: Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission

Date: January 26 - 28, 2024

Location: Portland Street, Dartmouth

Attendance: 12,000 (street party), 25,000 over three days

Past Grant: \$7,500

Budget: \$95,000

Current Grant: \$25,000

Program description: The Downtown Dartmouth Ice Festival is a celebration of winter and community. There will be a street party 2-3 days of ice carving, musical entertainment, family activities and community celebrations. The events will be free and designed to provide both residents and visitors to enjoy winter activities in downtown Dartmouth.

13. EAST COAST KITE FESTIVAL

Organization: Atlantic Kite Festivals Society

Date: July 15 – 16, 2023

Location: Garrison Grounds, Citadel Hill

Attendance: 3,800

Past Grant: \$1,000

Budget: \$75,000

Current Grant: \$2,500

Program description: Atlantic Kite Festival Society will host the East Coast Kite Festival to encourage participants to “Fly as High as They Can”, showcasing the kite flying culture from different communities and traditions through education and demonstrations.

14. EASTERN PASSAGE COW BAY SUMMER CARNIVAL

Organization: Eastern Passage Cow Bay Summer Carnival Association
Date: August 8 - 13, 2023
Location: Fisherman's Cove, Horizon Elementary School, Eastern Passage Commons
Attendance: 9,000
Past Grant: \$6,500
Budget: \$25,000
Current Grant: \$7,000

Program description: The Eastern Passage-Cow Bay Summer Carnival attracts both residents and visitors of Halifax. The carnival includes a parade, sand sculpture contest, teddy bear picnic, children's parade, and many more fun-filled family-oriented events. The Eastern Passage Cow Bay Summer Carnival is a non-profit organization whose events are organized by community volunteers and supported by local businesses.

15. EMERGING LENS CULTURAL FILM FESTIVAL

Organization: Charles Taylor Theatre & Media Arts Association
Date: April 19-22, 2023
Location: Various locations in HRM
Attendance: 525
Past Grant: \$2,000
Budget: \$25,500
Current Grant: \$4,000

Program description: The Emerging Lens celebrates unique, original storytelling through film, video and animation. Screenings are offered in various locations in the HRM, such as the north end library and Pier 21. Each screening begins with a cultural performance that speaks to the African Canadian culture, followed by the screening, dialogue between the filmmakers and the audience after the screening and ending with a reception. Each screening will be presented both virtually and in-person. The festival will host a 'pitch a film' session, 'make a film' workshop as well as host a series of Masterclass sessions.

16. FIRE & WATER FESTIVAL

Organization: Alderney Landing Facility Association
Date: September 22-23, 2023
Location: Alderney Landing
Attendance: 10,500
Past Grant: \$3,500
Budget: \$51,000
Current Grant: \$5,000

Program description: Fire & Water Festival is a celebration of the cultural fabric of Nova Scotia. It features musical performances, dance, art installations, demonstrations, and storytelling. This event is free to the general public and specifically highlights Indigenous, Acadian, Celtic, African Nova Scotian, and Indian cultures. There are approximately sixteen artists and five technicians employed by the festival. The event is an economic boost to Downtown Dartmouth businesses by attracting thousands of festival goers over the course of a weekend.

17. FISHERMAN'S COVE PIRATE FESTIVAL

Organization: Fisherman's Cove Development Association
Date: August 18-20, 2023
Location: 4 Government Wharf Road, Eastern Passage
Attendance: 3,000
Past Grant: \$6,500
Budget: \$13,400
Current Grant: \$7,500

Program description: Fisherman's Cove Pirate Festival is a 3-day pirate themed festival featuring live music, children's games, a scavenger hunt, a treasure hunt, food, buskers, firearms demo, bouncy castles and lots of pirates. Families are encouraged to dress up in pirate costumes and children can participate in a parade around the cove.

18. GOTTINGEN FESTIVAL

Organization: North End Business Association

Date: September 9, 2023

Location: 2183 Gottingen Street

Attendance: 3,000

Past Grant: \$2,000

Budget: \$27,000

Current Grant: \$3,000

Program description: This street-wide annual event builds on the celebration of Gottingen Street with multiple sites animated with music, vendors, and activities. It is an opportunity to engage with the local community and celebrate the great diversity and legacy of the neighborhood.

19. GREAT EAST DARTMOUTH COMMUNITY BBQ

Organization: Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Halifax

Date: August 12, 2023

Location: East Dartmouth Community Centre

Attendance: 250

Past Grant: \$1,000

Budget: \$3,200

Current Grant: \$1,000

Program description: East Dartmouth Community BBQ is an event designed to celebrate East Dartmouth residents offering a free BBQ for all attendees, water games, bouncy castles and art crafts for the children and youth. Additionally, various community service groups and partners will provide free information about services in the area that may be beneficial to those attending.

20. HALIFAX COUNTY EXHIBITION

Organization: Middle Musquodoboit Agricultural Society

Date: August 16-19, 2023

Location: 190 Exhibition Grounds Road, Middle Musquodoboit

Attendance: 11,700

Past Grant: \$25,000

Budget: \$116,000

Current Grant: \$25,000

Program description: Middle Musquodoboit Agricultural Society has roots tracing back to 1819. Agriculture Societies in Nova Scotia were established to help farmers improve skills, and exhibitions were hosted for farmers to exhibit their livestock or crops for local completion. The Middle Musquodoboit Agricultural Society perseveres as a landowner and builds and maintains facilities and amenities on that land to achieve its mandate which includes hosting the Halifax County Exhibition. This annual exhibition offers agriculturalists and families throughout the Maritimes the opportunity to exhibit livestock, vegetables, flowers, home crafts, and more in friendly competition.

21. INDIA FEST

Organization: Indo Canadian Community Centre Society

Date: August 12-13, 2023

Location: Halifax Forum

Attendance: 8,000

Past Grant: \$4,000

Budget: \$50,000

Current Grant: \$5,000

Program description: India Fest is a 3-day festival that showcases the cultures of India. Local food vendors sell food from different regions of India and craft vendors exhibit Indian craftsmanship and handicrafts. Throughout the event, there will be a singing, dancing, and acting pieces that showcase the rich culture of India. These cultural performances are done by members of the community.

22. KELOOSE COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Organization: Keloose Association

Date: August 18 - 20, 2023
Location: Lakeview, Fall River and Waverley area establishments
Attendance: 3,300
Past Grant: \$4,500
Budget: \$22,500
Current Grant: \$5,000
Program description: During the third week of August, Keloose events draw people from all around Lakeview, Windsor Junction and Fall River for family fun and entertainment. Keloose features local musical and artistic talents, local businesses and wholesome fun filled activities for all ages. Additionally, Indigenous content is included throughout the celebration, especially considering “Keloose” has Mi’kmaq origins.

23. LIGHT UP BEDFORD PARADE

Organization: Light Up Bedford Parade Society
Date: November 25, 2023
Location: DeWolf Park, Bedford
Attendance: 17,000
Past Grant: \$5,000
Budget: \$16,000
Current Grant: \$5,500
Program description: The Light Up Bedford Parade takes place the third Sunday of November travelling from DeWolf Park along the Bedford Highway and finishes at Bedford Place Mall. It comprises of a series of decorated floats with Santa travelling on the last float. The intent is to kick off the holiday season, bring joy and excitement to the residents of Bedford and surrounding communities, and promote community spirit.

24. MOTHER GOOSE FESTIVAL

Organization: Alderney Landing Facility Association
Date: August 12, 2023
Location: Alderney Landing
Attendance: cancelled in 2022
Past Grant: \$2,000
Budget: \$15,000
Current Grant: \$2,500
Program description: The Mother Goose Festival is an annual free family-friendly event on the Dartmouth Waterfront. It is put on by the Kiwanis Club of Dartmouth and Alderney Landing Community Cultural Centre. The festival provides an economic boost to local artists and performers while providing residents of HRM access to high quality arts and culture. Performers include Da Po Po Theatre, Maritime Marionettes, and multiple costumed roaming performers. Other activities include a petting zoo, miniature train rides, storytelling and games.

25. NAVRATRI - DANDIYA GARBA NIGHTS – FESTIVAL OF DANCE

Organization: Indian Festivals Club of Nova Scotia
Date: October 13 - 15 & October 20 – 22, 2023
Location: BMO Soccer Center
Attendance: 7,500
Past Grant: n/a
Budget: \$64,000
Current Grant: \$2,500
Program description: Navratri Festival, the world’s largest Dance festival celebrated by millions of people for nine consecutive nights in India. Which is the most famous festival in India. Navratri is a festival dedicated to the worship of the Hindu deity Durga.

26. NORTH PRESTON DAYS

Organization: Women With a Vision
Date: July 15-17, 2023
Location: 14 Simmonds Drive
Attendance: 3,500

Past Grant: \$6,000
Budget: \$26,000
Current Grant: \$6,000

Program description: North Preston Days is an annual community event hosting many activities for all to enjoy. The festivities begin with a free breakfast at the North Preston Community Centre, a parade through North Preston, a community BBQ and many family fun activities. North Preston Days is also offering gardening/planting activities to revitalize the community green space, as well as offering North Preston Stories, giving elders of the community an opportunity to share their stories.

27. NORTHERN LIGHTS LANTERN FESTIVAL

Organization: Northern Lights Lantern Festival Society
Date: August 12, 2023
Location: Merv Sullivan Park, Novalea Drive, Halifax
Attendance: 7,000
Past Grant: \$4,000
Budget: \$23,800
Current Grant: \$4,000

Program description: The Northern Lights Lantern Festival is an annual day of fun and creativity for all ages, where old friends run into each other, and new friends are made. The festival is a celebration of the vibrancy and diversity of Halifax's North End. It's a community festival in the truest sense where everyone is welcome. The festival program includes a free community bbq, petting zoo, pony rides, bouncy castles, face painting, live music, children's games and fireworks.

28. OPEN STREETS HFX

Organization: Halifax Community Planning & Design Association
Date: 2 days in September 2023 (within 7 consecutive days)
Location: Halifax and Dartmouth, NS
Attendance: 5,000
Past Grant: \$12,000
Budget: \$45,600
Current Grant: \$25,000

Program description: Open streets are multi-faceted programs that promote the use of public streets for recreation, active transportation and leisure activities. These events provide opportunities to support active transportation. Participants enjoy outdoor activities at each event, as well opportunities to support local businesses and increase opportunities for social collisions and cohesion. At every open street event a wide range of community organizations, local makers, artist and performers are invited to participate.

29. PEGGY'S COVE AREA FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Organization: Peggy's Cove Area Festival of the Arts Society
Date: July 5 to 16, 2023
Location: Various locations
Attendance: 5,000
Past Grant: \$3,500
Budget: \$51,840
Current Grant: \$3,500

Program description: This July, a cluster of 21 creative communities in an area just south of Halifax puts on a celebration of the arts. Activities include: Opening Night: ticketed event featuring live music and art exhibit; Paint Peggy's Cove: a three-day event featuring 43 local and international artists and a children's art tent; Studio Tour: across 40 locations, 70+ artists participate for three days. Also, leading up to the festival, artist engagement events are scheduled: Winter in the Bay (art/writing contest in collaboration with local organizations) and Flags for Food (fundraising project for the Food Bank).

30. RE-JIGGED FESTIVAL

Organization: New Trad Society
Date: October 19 - 22, 2023
Location: Scotiabank Theatre at Neptune

Attendance: 500
Past Grant: \$1,000
Budget: \$38,000
Current Grant: \$1,500

Program description: ReJigged is an independent festival based in HRM that celebrates new directions in music and dance, based in the rich history of the Celtic musical tradition. The event is a multi-disciplinary festival that features music, dance, song, language and visual arts. Programming includes educational workshops in a variety of disciplines and cultural performances that feature musicians, dancers and storytellers.

31. SACKVILLE CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Organization: Sackville Business Association
Date: November 29, 2023
Location: Acadia Park, 650 Sackville Drive
Attendance: 6,500
Past Grant: n/a
Budget: \$10,000
Current Grant: \$1,000

Program description: Every year, Sackville community organizations come together to provide live music and treats, and Santa lights the Christmas Trees.

32. SACKVILLE SNOW DAYS

Organization: Sackville Business Association
Date: February 16 - 19, 2024
Location: Various locations in Sackville
Attendance: 8,000
Past Grant: \$1,000
Budget: \$10,000
Current Grant: \$1,000

Program description: Sackville Snow Days is an annual winter festival that runs during the February long weekend. Led by the Sackville Business Association, countless community groups, organizations, businesses, and volunteers come together to create a weekend filled with winter fun for the whole family.

33. SALTWIRE HOLIDAY PARADE OF LIGHTS

Organization: Holiday Parade of Lights Society
Date: November 18, 2023
Location: Halifax, NS
Attendance: 80,000
Past Grant: \$25,000
Budget: \$75,000
Current Grant: \$25,000

Program description: Annual night-time Santa Claus Parade that features more than 50 corporate and community groups which attracts tens of thousands of spectators in Downtown Halifax. The event is also broadcasted "Live" across the region on EastLink Community Television. The event is free of charge for spectators and a fundraiser for several local charities.

34. SCHOOL FARM DAY

Organization: Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield
Date: June 10, 2023
Location: 62 Rockingstone Road, Spryfield
Attendance: 100
Past Grant: \$525
Budget: \$1,475
Current Grant: \$525

Program description: The annual School Farm Day is an afternoon filled with heritage games, plant seeds and petting baby farm animals. During the event day volunteers educate the attendees on the history

of the Urban Farm program to get involved in at the farm, as well as the heritage of Spryfield.

35. SPRYFIELD DAYS FESTIVAL

Organization: Spryfield District Business Commission

Date: July 15, 2023

Location: Spryfield (various locations)

Attendance: 2,500

Past Grant: \$750

Budget: \$14,000

Current Grant: \$2,500

Program description: The Spryfield Days is an annual festival put on by local volunteers to celebrate the community and provide opportunities for people of all ages and all backgrounds and cultures to come out for a fun day of free activities. From cardboard boat races in a local lake, to bouncy castles and face painting and train rides and a magician, to an evening concert, there is something for everyone.

36. SPRYFIELD SANTA CLAUS PARADE

Organization: Spryfield District Business Commission

Date: November 26, 2023

Location: Herring Cove Road, Spryfield

Attendance: 6,000

Past Grant: \$3,500

Budget: \$10,000

Current Grant: \$3,500

Program description: The Spryfield Santa Claus Parade is an annual free Santa Parade put on by local volunteers for residents of all ages from all over HRM to enjoy. This year marks the 50th consecutive year of the Spryfield Santa Claus Parade, making it the longest running Santa Parade east of Montreal.

37. ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Organization: St. Patrick's Day Parade Society

Date: March 12, 2023

Location: Halifax - Lower Water Street

Attendance: 3,500

Past Grant: \$750

Budget: \$10,000

Current Grant: \$1,000

Program description: The annual Halifax St. Patrick's Day Parade brings together Irish and non-Irish alike to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. The objectives of the parade are to commemorate the life of St. Patrick and to reinforce the long historic links between Ireland and Nova Scotia. Additional activities include an Irish flag raising and proclamation in Grand Parade on the Friday preceding the parade and an after party at Lower Deck immediately following the parade.

38. TRUNK 7 MUSIC FESTIVAL

Organization: Trunk 7 Music Festival Association

Date: July 21-22, 2023

Location: Porters Lake

Attendance: 800

Past Grant: \$3,200

Budget: \$38,150

Current Grant: \$3,500

Program description: Trunk 7 Music Festival provides support, opportunities, and exposure for diverse talent of all ages in rural communities on the Eastern Shore of Nova Scotia. Trunk 7 features fitness adventures, family games, community food vendors and many music genres including children's music, pop, gaelic/celtic, hiphop, folk, aboriginal, rock, country, bluegrass, and blues.

39. WAVERLEY GOLD RUSH DAYS

Organization: Waverley Community Association

Date: September 6-10, 2023
Location: Waverley Village Green, Waverley Fire Hall, Waverley Legion
Attendance: 500
Past Grant: \$4,000
Budget: \$11,750
Current Grant: \$4,000

Program description: Waverley Gold Rush Days is a 5-day event that brings the village of Waverley and surrounding communities together in a way that includes everyone. The events offered throughout the week are a combination of community arts, history, and fun. Some of the special events include Family Fun Day, local dance and arts performances, a community concert and fireworks. This community event brings together local schools, businesses, community organizations, and residents each year to celebrate, and grow the community they live in.

ESTABLISHED COMMUNITY EVENTS (Q621)

1. PATRIOT DAYS

Organization: Sackville Community Development Association
Date: June 30 – July 3, 2023
Location: Various locations in Lower and Middle Sackville
Attendance: 18,000
Past Grant: \$20,000
Budget: \$20,000
Current Grant: \$20,000

Program description: Patriot Days is a weeklong set of events around Canada Day. This includes various sporting and other entertainment events at the Springfield Lake Rec Centre, and in Lower Sackville includes a concert in the park and a fireworks display.

2. OPEN STREETS HFX

Organization: Halifax Community Planning & Design Association
Date: 2 days in September 2023 (within 7 consecutive days)
Location: Halifax and Dartmouth, NS
Attendance: 5,000
Past Grant: \$12,000
Budget: \$45,600
Current Grant: \$25,000

Program description: Open streets are multi-faceted programs that promote the use of public streets for recreation, active transportation and leisure activities. These events provide opportunities to support active transportation. Participants enjoy outdoor activities at each event, as well opportunities to support local businesses and increase opportunities for social collisions and cohesion. At every open street event a wide range of community organizations, local makers, artist and performers are invited to participate.

CULTURAL EVENTS & SHOWCASES

1. AFTERWORDS LITERARY FESTIVAL

Organization: AfterWords Literary Festival Organisation
Date: November 1 – 5, 2023
Location: Venues around Halifax and online
Attendance: 600
Past Grant: \$3,000
Budget: \$88,000
Current Grant: \$5,000

Program description: The AfterWords Literary Festival is a multi-day festival and will showcase approximately thirty authors from Nova Scotia, across Canada and beyond.

2. ATLANTIC CANADIAN IRISH DANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Organization: Atlantic Canadian Irish Dance Championships Society

Date: April 15-16, 2023
Location: Westin Nova Scotian Hotel, Halifax
Attendance: 1,000
Past Grant: n/a
Budget: \$59,794
Current Grant: \$5,000

Program description: Made popular by Riverdance performances in the 1990s, competitive Irish dance has grown in popularity locally and throughout the world. Halifax now boasts three competitive Irish dance schools. The Atlantic Canadian Irish Dance Championship is a 2-day event open to the public to attend that attracts over 200 competitive Irish dancers each day from all over Canada, the United States, and the UK, in a bid to advance their standing and win a title.

3. EVERYSEEKER FESTIVAL (FORMALLY OBEY)

Organization: OBEY Convention Music & Arts Society
Date: June 15 - 18, 2023
Location: Various music venue locations throughout Halifax
Attendance: 3,000
Past Grant: \$6,000
Budget: \$88,000
Current Grant: \$6,000

Program description: EVERYSEEKER Festival presents 20+ events across four days at historic and alternative venues throughout peninsular Halifax, showcasing the very best in contemporary music and sound from local, national and international talents. Programming across genres, identities and mediums, and providing over half of its program free to the public, EVERYSEEKER aims to gather communities and spark excitement across ages, interests and income brackets.

4. FRANCOFEST

Organization: Conseil Communautaire du Grand-Havre
Date: October 21 - 28, 2023
Location: École du Carrefour, The Bus Stop Theatre
Attendance: 7,800
Past Grant: \$4,000
Budget: \$104,000
Current Grant: \$5,000

Program description: Francofest is a local festival organized each year in October in the Halifax Regional Municipality which aims at honoring and celebrating the cultural diversity of the Acadian, Francophone and Francophile groups that make up the HRM; 11,560 Francophones and 53,755 bilinguals. Diverse francophone cultures are showcased through cultural, literacy, artistic and social events.

5. HALIFAX INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL (HIFF)

Organization: Atlantic Filmmakers Cooperative
Date: June 22 - 25, 2023
Location: Halifax Salt Yard, Good Robot Brewing Co
Attendance: 540
Past Grant: \$3,000
Budget: \$55,000
Current Grant: \$3,000

Program description: HIFF provides a unique venue for filmmakers and media artists to share their work in a forum dedicated to the celebration of bold, boundary-pushing independent cinema. Since its inception, HIFF has showcased the Atlantic region's most innovative works alongside the films of acclaimed artists from around the world, bringing them to Halifax to connect directly with audiences and local filmmakers through hosted Q+A's, artist talks and workshops.

6. MAYWORKS HALIFAX FESTIVAL

Organization: Mayworks Halifax Festival Society
Date: April 30 – June 3, 2023

Location: Bus Stop Theatre, Khyber Centre and other venues TBD

Attendance: 835

Past Grant: \$3,000

Budget: \$66,000

Current Grant: \$4,000

Program description: Mayworks is a multidisciplinary arts festival celebrating workers, the labour movement and social justice. The events are open to the public and include theatre, dance, performance art, audio drama, film screenings and heritage walks.

7. STAGES THEATRE FESTIVAL

Organization: Eastern Front Theatre Society

Date: June 6 - 11, 2023

Location: Alderney Landing

Attendance: 1,500

Past Grant: \$3,500

Budget: \$76,000

Current Grant: \$5,000

Program description: The STAGES Theatre Festival takes place at Alderney Landing in Dartmouth. STAGES focuses on showcasing high quality professional theatre and theatre-adjacent productions that value the voices of the underrepresented and provide audiences with engaging new ways to experience theatre. A typical festival day might include arriving early to socialize and engage in the lobby while a short reading, digital offering, or casual chat with the director or designer happens. Multiple performances occur throughout each evening, with a talkback after the last show of the evening.

8. HALIFAX FRINGE FESTIVAL

Organization: Atlantic Fringe Festival Society

Date: August 31 – September 10, 2023

Location: Neptune Theatre's, The Bus Stop Theatre

Attendance: 5,600

Past Grant: \$17,000

Budget: \$176,000

Current Grant: \$19,000

Program description: The Halifax Fringe Festival is an annual performing arts festival presenting an accessible, unjuried and uncensored festival. The Fringe includes theatre, music, circus, dance, comedy, education, and more.

9. HALIFAX PRIDE FESTIVAL

Organization: Halifax Pride Society

Date: July 20-30, 2023

Location: Garrison Grounds, Grand Parade Square and Peace & Friendship Park

Attendance: 100,000

Past Grant: \$34,000

Budget: \$709,000

Current Grant: \$38,000

Program description: The Halifax Pride Festival is an annual 11-day gathering in the Halifax Regional Municipality for the 2SLGBTQ+ community, featuring over 100 community and Pride organized events celebrating the history, culture, and activism of the queer community. The festival's purpose is to create spaces for persons of diverse sexual and gender identities to come together and flourish.

10. NOCTURNE: ART AT NIGHT FESTIVAL

Organization: Nocturne: Art at Night Society

Date: October 12-15, 2023

Location: Various Halifax locations

Attendance: 60,000

Past Grant: \$45,000

Budget: \$200,000

Current Grant: \$45,000

Program description: Nocturne: Art at Night Festival is a free, independent, contemporary art festival in Kijipuktuk (Halifax). Annually, Nocturne brings 60,000+ people to the streets of Halifax and Dartmouth to experience art and celebrate the visual arts scene in Mi'kma'ki (Nova Scotia).

11. NOVA MULTIFEST

Organization: Nova Multifest Society
Date: July 21 – 23, 2023
Location: Alderney Landing, Dartmouth
Attendance: 25,000
Past Grant: \$10,000
Budget: \$263,000
Current Grant: \$10,000

Program description: The Multicultural festival is a celebration of multiculturalism and diversity in Nova Scotia and will offer a variety of free activities for people of all ages and backgrounds living in or visiting Nova Scotia, specifically in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

12. PRISMATIC ARTS FESTIVAL

Organization: Prismatic Arts Society
Date: September 29 – October 8, 2023
Location: Various locations Halifax
Attendance: 13,400
Past Grant: \$30,000
Budget: \$389,000
Current Grant: \$30,000

Program description: The Prismatic Arts Festival is a national, annual, multidisciplinary arts festival that showcases and celebrates the work of Indigenous artists and artists of colour. 2023 programming includes the Nova Scotia debut of Pisuwin by Atlantic Ballet, a full week run of Pawâkan Macbeth - Akpik Theatre's Cree retelling of Shakespeares' Macbeth, Indigenous musical powerhouses Logan Staats and Leonard Sumner, emerging Indigenous/Francophone artist Anyma, and much more. Prismatic will be expanding its industry series, regaining moment from a pre pandemic world, by inviting national presenters, key stakeholders, and artists from across the nation to Halifax, Nova Scotia to participate in workshops, masterclasses, and our TALK conference - enriching opportunities of export for local artists, and to ensure the cities' presence in the arts sector at a national lens.

13. SCOTIA FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

Organization: Scotia Festival of Music / Scotia Chamber Players
Date: May 29 – June 11, 2023
Location: Dalhousie Arts Centre
Attendance: 3,100
Past Grant: \$25,000
Budget: \$520,000
Current Grant: \$25,000

Program description: Scotia Festival of Music 2023 will once again present nightly concerts of chamber music by over 20 internationally acclaimed musicians. The festival will culminate with a gala concert with 65 musicians on stage conducted by Dinuk Wijeratne. The Young Artist program runs side-by-side with the festival and will bring 42 talented young musicians to Halifax for 2 weeks of intensive training and performance experience.