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Item No. 15.4.6
Halifax Regional Council
June 4, 2024

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY: _____
Deputy Mayor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Chair, Grants Committee

DATE: May 27, 2024

SUBJECT: **HRM Community Grants Program: Fiscal 2024 – Recommended Awards**

ORIGIN

May 27, 2024 meeting of Grants Committee, Item 9.1.6.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Legislative Authority is outlined in the attached staff report dated May 1, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

The Grants Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council approve fifty-three (53) awards as detailed in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated May 1, 2024 for a combined total of \$470,808 from Operating Account M311-8004 Community Grants.

BACKGROUND

The Grants Committee received a staff recommendation report dated May 1, 2024 to consider the 53 recommended awards from the 79 eligible submissions received for the 2024 Community Grants Program.

For further information refer to the attached staff report dated May 1, 2024

DISCUSSION

The Grants Committee considered the staff report dated May 1, 2024 and approved the recommendation to Halifax Regional Council as outlined in this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial implications are outlined in the attached staff report dated May 1, 2024.

RISK CONSIDERATION

Risk consideration is outlined in the attached staff report dated May 1, 2024.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Grants Committee is comprised of 6 citizen members and 4 Councillors. Meetings are live webcast on Halifax.ca. The agenda, reports, video, and minutes of the Committee are posted on Halifax.ca.

For further information on Community Engagement refer to the attached staff report dated May 1, 2024.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Environmental implications are outlined in the staff report dated May 1, 2024.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternatives are outlined in the attached staff report dated May 1, 2024.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Staff recommendation report dated May 1, 2024.

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: Olawumi Odeyinka-Apantaku, Legislative Assistant, Municipal Clerk's Office 902.717.6035

Item No.

Grants Committee
May 27, 2024

TO: Chair and Members of Grants Committee

SUBMITTED BY: -Original Signed-
Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: May 1, 2024

SUBJECT: **HRM Community Grants Program: Fiscal 2024 – Recommended Awards**

ORIGIN

The Community Grants Program is an annual program of project-specific cash grants for eligible non-profit and charitable organizations located within the geographic boundary of HRM. The 2024 program opened for applications in January and the submission deadline was April 1st, 2024.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

- ***HRM Charter, S.N.S 2008, c.39***

Section 7A The purposes of the Municipality are to (a) provide good government; (b) provide services, facilities and other things that, in the opinion of the Council, are necessary or desirable for all or part of the Municipality; and (c) s. 11. develop and maintain safe and viable communities.

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 2022-005-ADM Respecting the Community Grants Program***

Section 3. The aim of the Community Grants Program is to support the volunteer participation of residents of the Halifax Regional Municipality in local nonprofit and charitable organizations that develop or deliver a project, program, service, or amenity to the benefit of members of the public and that aligns with elements of the Municipality's 5-Year Strategic Priorities Plan.

RECOMMENDATION ON PAGE 2

Section 27. The following criteria shall be used by staff to evaluate applications for consideration by the Grants Committee for recommendation to Council:

- (a) The way in which a project addresses a program funding priority;
- (b) The applicant's demonstrated financial capacity and the incremental impact of a municipal grant;
- (c) The applicant's reliance on volunteers and self-generated revenues – preference may be given to organizations not in receipt of recurring municipal, provincial, or federal government funding; and
- (d) The type and scope of public benefit in terms of one or more of the following: accessibility, diversity, affordability, or inclusivity.

Section 28. Preference may be given to:

- (a) applicants' ineligible for consideration under another municipal program;
- (b) geographic or interest-based communities with limited access to public amenities; or
- (c) amenities open to the public at no or low cost.

- ***HRM Grants Committee Terms of Reference.***

The duties of the HRM Grants Committee are to:

...

4.1. Advise Regional Council on all matters related to the allocation of grants, as defined by Regional Council.

- ***Administrative Order 2019-007-ADM Respecting Public Disclosure of Municipal Grants.***

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve fifty-three (53) awards as detailed in Attachment 2 of this report for a combined total of \$470,808 from Operating Account M311-8004 Community Grants.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2024 Community Grants Program received a total of 97 applications of which 18 are ineligible for consideration. From the 79 eligible submissions a total of 53 awards are recommended at a combined total cost of \$470,808. The distribution of applications and awards by funding category is summarized below in Table 1.

Table 1. Program Applications, Distribution, and Proposed Awards by Funding Category: Fiscal 2024.				
Funding Category	Applications	Combined Value of Requests	Proposed Awards	Combined Value of Proposed Awards
Affordable Housing	5	\$44,945	3	\$14,795
Community Arts	13	\$131,272	7	\$50,350
Community Histories	6	\$ 60,392	3	\$9,450
Diversity & Inclusion	18	\$198,622	7	\$81,400
Emergency Assistance & Public Safety	8	\$118,781	7	\$73,520
Environment & Climate Change	10	\$83,923	6	\$39,900
Leisure	18	\$186,524	11	\$85,275
Recreation	19	\$234,486	9	\$116,118
Total	97	\$1,058,945	53	\$470,808
Total Budget				\$500,000
Balance				\$29,192

Note to Table 1

1. Some applications are reassigned to another funding category based on the type of project. Therefore, the number of awards under each category can vary from the number of initial applications per category. For example, several applications under Recreation were reassigned to the Leisure category.

BACKGROUND

HRM's Community Grants Program provides project-specific funding across eight (8) categories to eligible registered non-profit organizations and charities located within the geographic boundary of the Halifax Regional Municipality. There are two categories of award: (1) a Project Grant up to \$5,000 or (2) a Capital Grant up to \$25,000. An organization can apply for only one grant in any given year but may elect to make successive application. Multi-year awards are not issued under the Community Grants Program; awards are project-specific (not operating grants).

DISCUSSION

The 2024 Community Grants Program received a total of 97 applications on or post-marked April 1st, 2024, for a combined total of \$1,058,945.09 in requests. Of these submissions 18 are ineligible for consideration leaving 79 eligible applications. The number of applications received is lower than last year's 117 and may be attributed to fewer capital grant requests for registered heritage properties (Community Histories) and an exceptional increase in funding from all levels of government for Affordable Housing.

To date, the program has one "key performance indicator" to gauge how well the program's intended outcomes are being met. This indicator looks at the distribution of applications and awards to organizations with prior year gross revenues below a specific dollar value, notably Tier 1 applicants with revenues below \$50,000. These groups tend to be volunteer led with limited, if any, recurring government operating funding.

By virtue of the program’s evaluation criteria these “smaller” organizations are well represented, notably in Community Arts and Leisure as shown below in Table 2.

Table 2. Distribution of Proposed Awards by Tier: Fiscal 2024						
Funding Category	Tier 1 (<\$50,000)		Tier 2 (\$50,001-\$250,000)		Tier 3 (>\$250,000)	
	Proposed Value of Grants	# of Grants	Proposed Value of Grants	# of Grants	Proposed Value of Grants	# of Grants
Affordable Housing	\$0	0	\$11,000	2	\$3,795	1
Community Arts	\$15,350	5	\$10,000	1	\$25,000	1
Community Histories	\$9,450	3	\$0	0	\$0	0
Diversity & Inclusion	\$3,200	2	\$48,200	3	\$30,000	2
Emergency Assistance & Public Safety	\$26,820	2	\$4,200	1	\$42,500	4
Environment & Climate Change	\$26,500	4	\$0	0	\$13,400	2
Leisure	\$31,188	5	\$19,700	3	\$34,387	3
Recreation	\$18,818	3	\$50,000	2	\$47,300	4
Total: 53 Awards	\$131,326	24	\$143,100	12	\$196,382	17

In 2024, Tier 1 applicants represent 45% this year’s proposed awards and 28% of the total dollar value of grants as shown below in Table 3. The lower combined dollar value may be attributed to fewer property owners and therefore fewer higher value capital grant requests.

Table 3. In Fiscal 2024 Tier 1 Organizations Represent 45% of Proposed Awards				
	Combined \$-Value of Grants	% of Combined Cost of Grants	# of Grants by Tier	% of Proposed Grants
Tier 1	\$ 131,326	28%	24	45%
Tier 2	\$ 143,100	30%	12	23%
Tier 3	\$ 196,382	42%	17	32%
Total	\$ 470,808	100%	53	100%

Additional key performance measures will be developed in consultation with the Grants Committee. The measures used for monitoring should be cost-effective to collect on an annual basis and easy for readers to understand.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Community Grants Program 2023 Budget M311-8004	\$500,000
Less Proposed Awards (53)	<u>(\$470,808)</u>
Balance	\$29,192

RISK CONSIDERATION

The primary risks associated with cash grants are representational (accuracy of information), financial misappropriation or loss, and reputational risk to the Municipality. The following measures are aimed at reducing the risk of default:

- Proposed grant recipients are screened for debt to the Municipality;
- eligibility for further funding is suspended if an applicant has not submitted a final report by March 31 or reporting is incomplete for a grant issued in a prior year;
- any carry-forward of a grant to the following fiscal year to complete a project is limited to one (1) year and the organization's eligibility for further funding under the Community Grants Program is suspended; and
- perceived risk may be indicated by the descriptor "developmental grant" in cases where the applicant organization has no demonstrated record of program or service delivery, or financial resources are modest.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Information regarding program eligibility, application timelines, applicant scoring, and previous awards are posted on the municipality's web site. Printed materials are also available through HRM Customer Service Centres and the Corporate Call Centre.

Legislation mandates that municipalities notify the public of all grants; this obligation is fulfilled in accordance with HRM's Administrative Order 2019-007-ADM Respecting Public Disclosure of Municipal Grants.

Formal reports are posted to the Municipality's web site under the respective committee or Regional Council meeting agenda.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No environmental implications were identified.

ALTERNATIVES

The Grants Committee could recommendation Regional Council decline a grant, amend the value of award or the terms and conditions of funding, or refer an application to staff for further review.

A referral allows for reconsideration in relation to any balance remaining in the 2024 Community Grants Program budget. Given that all applications have been evaluated using the information provided by an applicant and any additional due diligence on the part of a reviewers, referrals are strengthened if a rationale is provided.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Overview of Review Methodology

Attachment 2 - Recommended Awards: 2024 Community Grants Program

(i) Award Recommendations

(ii) Table 1. Award Recommendations in Relation to Prior Year Awards (2020-2023)

Attachment 3 - Not Recommended for Funding: 2024 Community Grants Program

Attachment 4 - Applications Ineligible for Consideration: 2024 Community Grants Program

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: Peta Jane Temple, Team Lead Grants & Contributions, Finance & Asset Management
902.490.5469; Peter Greechan, Community Developer, Grants & Contributions,
902.497.0479.

Overview of Review Methodology

As stated in Administrative Order 2022-005-ADM, the purpose of the *Community Grants Program* is to support the volunteer participation of residents of HRM in local nonprofit and charitable organizations that develop or deliver a project, program, or service to benefit members of the public and align with elements of HRM's 5-Year Strategic Priorities Plan.

The *Community Grants Program* comprises eight (8) funding categories each with its own funding priorities and provides two types of cash grant: (1) a Project Grant of up to \$5,000 and (2) a Capital Grant of up to \$25,000. The latter accommodates real property expenditures (i) the purchase of real estate, (ii) capital improvements to land or a building owned by the applicant, or (iii) the purchase of equipment costing over \$5,000 per item. An organization¹ is eligible for only one grant in any fiscal year. Joint applications between two or more organizations are permitted but the value of any award does not exceed the maximum funding threshold. Due to the difference in maximum funding threshold for Project Grants as compared to Capital Grants the combined value of awards will vary year-to-year and by funding category.

Presentation of Information

The staff recommendations with respect to awards, declined, or ineligible applications uses a "narrative" description in preference to simply a list by name and dollar value to heighten decision-making transparency. Hence, all applications are listed the Attachments to the staff report to the Grants Committee.

The information in support of proposed awards includes the following:

- applicants who are a registered Canadian charity;
- a brief description of the organization's purpose and type of program or service;
- groups that rely entirely on volunteers (with or without seasonal employment grants);
- how the operations of the organization are sustained (self-funded vs government operating assistance) including tax exemption by legislation or discretionary municipal tax relief;
- any other sources of funding, both confirmed or unconfirmed, as a gauge of project readiness; and a rationale in support of funding.

Identification of Applicants by "Tier"

The term "Tier" refers to an organization's gross revenues in the prior fiscal year as presented in the financial statement provided with the grant application. This is a gauge of the applicant's year-end cash position, including assets and liabilities:

- Tier 1 below \$50,000
- Tier 2 below \$250,000
- Tier 3 above \$250,000

Evaluation Criteria and Process

Submissions are reviewed in stages as described below:

¹ This restriction also applies to multiple applications using the same registration number (for example, local branches of the same organization).

- (1) Ineligible applications are identified and are not scored.
- (2) Eligible applications are evaluated within each funding category using standardized weighting of scores. Potential awards are then moderated in relation to applicants within the same funding category, in relation to the program's budget, prior grants to the same organization or project, and/or federal, provincial, or municipal government funding.
- (3) If sufficient capacity remains within the program's overall budget the value of a grant may be adjusted, or consideration given to applications that initially scored lower.

Evaluation Scoring		
Criteria	Description	Weight
Sector Priority	Does the project directly address a funding priority for this category?	/5
Financial Needs	Demonstrated inability to self-fund. Limited Access to government or other funding.	/5
Public Benefit	Accessible, Affordable, inclusive.	/5
Volunteer Support	Support volunteers in the development and/or delivery of a program or service serving residents'	/5
Total		/20

The evaluation score does not correspond to the value of any award recommended, meaning that a higher score does not translate into a higher cash grant.

If a reviewer declares a conflict of interest² the file is reviewed by a colleague.

Reviewers are expected to verify the information provided in the submission.

Smaller organizations may not have the cash-flow or access to market financing to commence a project prior to the receipt of a grant. Therefore, few grants are awarded on a reimbursement basis, but a grant may be held-back pending confirmation of an ability to proceed (for example, financing from other sources, permit approvals) and an assurance that the project can be completed in a timely manner.

Program Guidebook

Prospective applicants are assisted in understanding the program's eligibility criteria in a guidebook. Assistance is also available through a designated email address and by telephone.

² Within this context a potential conflict of interest includes any membership in or past association with an applicant organization, personal, a familial or working relationship with the Board of Directors or staff, or any direct or indirect financial interest.

RECOMMENDED AWARDS 2024

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Tier 2

1.Halifax Women’s Housing Co-operative Limited – Halifax – Capital Grant/Building Repair

The cooperative provides affordable housing to its members through ownership and operation of three (3) residential properties in Halifax. Operations are sustained by housing charges, municipal tax relief, a provincial assessment cap, and non-recurring grants. A grant of \$6,150 is requested to fully fund the replacement of interior basement steps and the purchase and installation of a fire door. Quote included. ***A grant in the amount of \$6,000 is recommended towards interior repairs to meet building code requirements.***

2.Public Good Society of Dartmouth – Dartmouth – Project Grant/Marketing

The Society is a registered Canadian charity that connects community organizations serving individuals and families with special needs. Referrals include food security, housing, and mental health services. Operations are sustained by government grants and donations. A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund updates to the Society’s existing web site which includes information on housing access and retention in collaboration with the Metro Non-Profit Housing Association. As a registered charity the Society is eligible to apply to Revenue Canada for a partial HST rebate. HRM’s award excludes “grant administration”. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended towards web site updates to increase awareness of local housing support programs.***

Tier 3

3.Marquerite Centre Society of Nova Scotia – Lakeside – Project Grant/Building Assessment

The Society is a registered Canadian charity that provides supportive housing for women in recovery. Operations are sustained by funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Health, client fees, donations, grants, and HRM tax relief. A grant of \$3,795 is requested to fully fund professional fees for a building condition assessment. The report will assist in future re-capitalization planning and budgeting. ***A grant in the amount of \$3,795 is recommended towards professional fees to assess the condition of the Marguerite Centre facility.***

COMMUNITY ARTS

Tier 1

4.Coastal Voices Men’s Choir Association – Eastern Shore – Project Grant/Equipment (Music)

Formed in 2011 to promote male choral singing the Association draws its members primarily from the Eastern Shore area and performs in local community venues. The society comprises volunteers and is self-sustained through membership dues, ticket sales, donations, and non-recurring project grants. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards the purchase of a portable keyboard piano (\$1,500) and music scores (\$3,600). The society’s contribution of \$600 is confirmed. The value of grant requested is due to a significant increase in membership which has increased the cost of purchasing music scores. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended towards the purchase of sheet music and a portable keyboard.***

5.Halifax Gay Men’s Choir Society – Halifax – Project Grant/Equipment (Music)

Incorporated in 2019, the Society presents choral music performed by members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. The organization is entirely volunteer and self-sustaining through concert revenues supplemented by membership dues, donations, and fundraising. Membership is not auditioned, dues are modest to promote participation, and participation has increased significantly to approximately 80 active members. Bursaries and subsidies towards the purchase of performance attire are available to enhance inclusion. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards the purchase of portable risers. The choir’s contribution of \$10,000 is confirmed (total cost \$19,781.16) and private donations will be sought for the balance - the equipment is sectional and could be purchased in phases as funds permit. The Society rents a self-storage unit for equipment and props, and the risers will be loaned or rented to other nonprofit groups upon request. The choir has a record of collaboration with, for example, Pride Week, the Newcomer Choir of Canada, and Nova Voce Male Choral Society. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended towards the purchase of tiered risers for the Halifax Gay Men’s Choir.***

6.Eastern Shore Players – Lake Charlotte – Project Grant/Equipment (Theatre)

Established in 2015, the society is a volunteer-led non-professional theatre group based at the *Memory Lane Heritage Village* in Lake Charlotte and sustained primarily by ticket sales, membership dues (\$10), and project-specific grants. A grant of \$1,750 is requested towards professional fees to engage Wanda Graham, a playwright, actor, and director, to assist in the development of a new play entitled *A Cranberry Caper* to be performed October 31 to November 3rd, 2024. ***A grant in the amount of \$1,750 is recommended towards professional fees to support the Eastern Shore Players in script development and presentation.***

7.Latspanica Cultural Association – Regional – Project Grant/Equipment (Music)

Established in 2012, the Association promotes Latin American culture through events, cooking classes, and recreational activities. The group is entirely volunteer and sustained by an annual fundraising gala, event revenues, and non-recurring grants. A grant of \$4,000 is requested towards the purchase of portable audio equipment, space rental, and catering and supplies. Some of these expenses are recurring ineligible expenses (food, event-related rentals/portable radios). Therefore, funding is recommended towards the purchase of portable sound equipment costing \$3,940. ***A grant in the amount of \$3,000 is recommended towards the purchase of portable audio equipment for the Latispanica Cultural Association.***

8.Lawrencetown Sew-Society Guild – Lawrencetown – Project Grant/Equipment (Crafts)

The Society is sustained by volunteers, membership dues, and fundraising through an annual *Quilt Show and Sale*. Members meet for monthly group sewing sessions and participants also create quilts to donate or sell to raise money for charity. Membership has significantly increased post-Covid and the return of in-person activities such that membership has been capped to manage access to equipment and materials. The number of unsolicited requests for quilt donations has also increased. A grant of \$600 is requested towards the purchase of a semi-automatic fabric cutting machine costing \$1,200+HST. The society’s contribution of \$600 is confirmed. Quilting and sewing have traditionally been regarded as an adjunct to women’s domestic role: the preservation of these skills and their application in support of charitable causes is supported through modest municipal funding. ***A grant in the amount of \$600 is recommended towards the purchase of a fabric cutting system.***

Tier 2

9. Musquodoboit Valley Bicentennial Theatre and Cultural Centre – Middle Musquodoboit - Equipment (Music/Theatre)

Incorporated in 1983, the society operates a municipally owned registered heritage property serving small villages in the Musquodoboit Valley area. The property is exempt from property tax. Operations are sustained by HRM supplemented by non-recurring project grants and rental income from meetings, small events, concerts, and theatre performances. A capital grant of \$25,000 requested towards the purchase of a new lighting system (lighting console and lighting fixtures) at a total cost of \$30,000 HST included. The society's contribution of \$5,000 is confirmed. While acknowledging the society's desire to maintain a "professional caliber" theatre, the property is owned by HRM, not assessed for property tax, and receives annual operating assistance from HRM Parks & Recreation. Funding in an amount lower than requested is recommended based on the degree of municipal assistance received by the society, including prior awards under the *Community Grants Program*. The society will be referred to staff for assistance regarding potential non-municipal funding sources. ***A grant in the amount of \$10,000 is recommended towards the purchase of portable lighting equipment for the Bicentennial Theatre.***

Tier 3

10. Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts – Halifax – Capital Project/Environmental Remediation (Music/Dance)

Incorporated in 1921 under an Act of the Nova Scotia Legislature and a registered Canadian charity, the Conservatory provides introductory and pre-professional instructional programs in music and dance. Revenues are largely self-generated through program fees, donations, and rentals. The Conservatory own and operate the former Chebucto Road School, a registered heritage building constructed in 1910. Under their Act of incorporation, the property is assessed as exempt property tax. In 2014, a building assessment conducted by Pinchin Leblanc Environmental noted that the building's plaster walls contain asbestos fibers and lead paint exists on walls and metal ceiling tiles. A grant of \$25,000 is requested to fund lead paint and asbestos removal, air quality testing, and interior re-painting at a total estimated cost of \$25,095.87. The Conservatory proposes a contribution of \$95.87. Funding is recommended based on the need for specialized abatement services. As a registered charity the Conservatory would be eligible to apply for a partial HST rebate. ***A grant in the amount of \$25,000 is recommended for professional abatement services to remove lead paint and asbestos from interior walls and ceilings of the Conservatory of Performing Arts building.***

COMMUNITY HISTORIES

Tier 1

11. Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia – Provincial – Project Grant/Community-Based Research

Established in 1982 the Association is a registered Canadian charity whose membership has grown to over 700. Programming is largely sustained by volunteers and includes research and community education, a reference library, workshops, and public lectures. Revenues are primarily self-generated through membership dues, donations, and fundraising. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards a cemetery gravestone mapping project estimated to cost \$7,000. The project includes topographical mapping, photography, a review of historical records of settlement patterns, important events, and significant architectural features. Partial funding is recommended to exclude honoraria in accordance with subsection 25(b) of policy and unspecified "other expenses". ***A grant in the amount of \$3,550 is recommended***

towards community-based research regarding early settlement in Prospect, Meagher's Grant, Elderbank, and Spry Bay.

12.Icelandic Memorial Society of Nova Scotia – Long Lake (Markland Settlement) – Project Grant/Interpretation

Founded in 1998 the Society's purpose is to raise public awareness of early settlement of Markland Settlement by Icelandic families c.1875 to 1882. Located between the villages of Caribou Gold Mines and Moose River Gold Mines the settlement was home to an estimated 32 families who built log cabins and farmed the land. The Society is entirely volunteer and provides stewardship to the site which is owned by the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources. Activities include trail maintenance, a replica log cabin, interpretative markers, and directional signage. A grant of \$928.03 is requested to fully fund the fabrication of five (5) temporary signs. As a registered Canadian charity, the Society is eligible to apply to Revenue Canada for a partial HST rebate. ***A grant in the amount of \$900 is recommended for small, temporary interpretive signs for a local Icelandic settlement site.***

Tier 3

13.Canadian Naval Memorial Trust – Halifax – Project Grant/Marketing

The Trust is a registered Canadian charity that provides stewardship of HMCS Sackville, Canada's oldest warship, a Naval Memorial, and a National Historic Site. The Trust funds interpretation and presentation of this aspect of marine/military history through fundraising (donations and management of endowment funds) and public education. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards professional fees for upgrades to the charity's web site at a total cost of \$10,350 to include analytics and e-commerce functions in support of a campaign to preserve HMCS Sackville. The Trust's contribution of \$5,350 is confirmed. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended towards web site upgrades to the Canadian Memorial Trust web site.***

Note: A Project Grant does not infer any additional financial commitment on the part of HRM with respect to a future fundraising campaign.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Tier 1

14.Adaptive Paddling Solutions Society – Terence Bay – Project Grant/Accessibility Audit

Incorporated in 2022, the Society promotes adaptive paddling for seniors and persons with a disability. To date all revenues have been grants. A grant of \$5,000 is requested to conduct an accessibility survey of six unidentified locations in HRM. Most of the project expenses are ineligible under Section 25 of policy (eg. travel and office supplies) and the relationship of this group with a local kayak business may not be fully arms-length. Notwithstanding these issues, the identification of accessible locations in HRM could assist organizations develop and/or deliver adaptive programming. ***A developmental grant in the amount of \$700 is recommended towards the purchase of a laptop computer to support a database of accessible paddling locations in HRM.***

15.Somali Association in Nova Scotia – Provincial – Project Grant/Equipment

Established in 2019, the Association comprises volunteers who assist Somali immigrants and refugees settle in Nova Scotia. Activities for children and youth primarily focus on tutoring, sports, and social events. Adult services include referral to government programs and services in collaboration with the Newcomers Society of Nova Scotia which incorporated as a nonprofit society in 2023. Revenues are modest comprising donations from members and project-specific grants from the Nova Scotia Health Authority. A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund the purchase of a laptop computer and printer (\$1,500), web site

development, domain registration and hosting fee, and “maintenance” costs for a year. Recurring web hosting fees are an ineligible operating cost and have been deducted from the proposed value of award. **A grant in the amount of \$2,500 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of a computer and printer (\$1,500) and partial funding towards web site content development (\$1,000) to assist immigrant and refugee settlement.**

16. Indo-Canadian Community Centre Society – Halifax – Capital Grant/Building Renovation

Incorporated in 1996, the Society is a registered Canadian charity that promotes cultural heritage and social inclusion. In 2017, the organization purchased a mixed-use property to develop a small community hall. To date, revenues from rental income from leasing two apartments and commercial space to small businesses have been directed towards paying the mortgage. HRM provides tax relief. A grant of \$25,000 is requested towards renovating the un-used basement as a temporary meeting space. From the one quote provided the estimated total cost is \$99,656 + HST¹ but could be reduced to contract labour only (\$40,000) if the Society provides materials and possibly some volunteer labour (for example, garbage removal or interior painting). As a registered Canadian charity, the Society can also apply to Revenue Canada for a partial HST rebate. The Society's contribution of \$4,000 is confirmed and they propose additional fundraising. Even if the awarded a grant of \$25,000 there remains a shortfall in the range of \$59,000 to \$74,000. Notwithstanding these issues, partial funding is recommended because tax relief was awarded to the Society based on the property's use as a community hall. The current use does not comply with the intent of HRM's tax assistance and could be revoked. As proposed funds will be held pending confirmation of an ability to proceed. **A grant in the amount of \$25,000 is recommended to support the establishment of an Indo-Canadian Community Centre. Funding will be held back pending confirmation of an ability to commence construction in fiscal 2024. The applicant will be referred to staff for assistance with any future funding request and municipal tax relief eligibility.**

Tier 2

17. Estabrooks Community Hall Association – Lewis Lake – Capital Grant/Building Accessibility

The Association incorporated in 2011 for the purpose of acquiring the former municipal Fire Station #59 which was conveyed to the group in 2017 for use as a community hall. The Association is entirely volunteer and relies on facility rentals to sustain operations. HRM provides annual tax relief. A grant of \$25,000 is requested for two projects: (1) removal of concrete entry steps and installation of a wooden wheelchair ramp and (2) replacement of the existing three bay doors with a single metal door, removal of the electrical track system and infill framing with vinyl siding to reduce heating costs and improve safety. The total estimated cost of both projects is \$34,146.75 HST included. The Association's contribution of \$9,146.75 is confirmed. Full funding for the wheelchair ramp is recommended to align funding with enhanced accessibility. The door replacement project does not align with this funding category's priorities and could be considered under a future application to the Environment & Climate Change category but would be strengthened by an energy audit and any applicable energy rebates. The Association could also consider applying to the provincial *Community Access Ability Program*² for a grant towards accessibility upgrades. **A grant in the amount of \$18,200 is recommended to fully fund the replacement of concrete steps with a wheelchair ramp to enhance access to the Estabrooks Community Hall.**

18. Sail Able Nova Scotia – Halifax – Project Grant/Accessibility Equipment

¹ The cost of building permits and HST were not included in the quote provided with the application.

² The *Community Access Ability Program* is administered by the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism, and Heritage. Grants may be awarded for up to two-thirds of costs to a maximum of \$50,000.

The society provides low-cost accessible sailing programs subsidized through donations and non-recurring grants and operates out of the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron in Halifax. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards the purchase of adaptive equipment and six personal floatation vests (\$5,750). The adaptive equipment includes specialized seating and transfer slings which enable participants to steer a boat and adjust the sails independently while accompanied by a companion sailor. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended for the purchase of small equipment for an adaptive sailing program.***

Tier 3

19. Akoma Holdings Incorporated – Westphal – Capital Grant/Building Upgrade

Established in 2013, Akoma Holdings provides stewardship of the former Home for Colored Children assets to support social and economic opportunities for African Nova Scotia residents. Operations rely on rental income, grants, garden fees, and donations. HRM provides partial tax relief. A grant of \$25,000 is requested towards the purchase and installation of snow guards on the metal roof to address problems with snow and ice falls. The total cost is \$40,132.70 HST included of which Akoma has committed \$15,132.70. To maintain the initial roof warranty the work must be done by the same contractor, therefore only one quote was provided. ***A grant in the amount of \$25,000 is recommended towards the purchase and installation of snow/ice guards on the roof of Kinney Place, a facility serving the African Nova Scotian community.***

Note: This application was reassigned from Emergency Assistance & Public Safety to the Diversity & Inclusion category. The alignment with risk prevention is questionable given the timing of the initial roof installation.

20. Sack A Wa Canoe Club – Lower Sackville – Project Grant/Accessibility Upgrade

The Club provides recreational and competitive paddling programs and is largely sustained by registration fees, bar/canteen sales, and facility rentals supplemented by government grants. HRM provides annual tax relief. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards a paving project that includes: (1) expansion and paving of the existing parking lot, (2) construction and paving of a new parking area with the addition of a new driveway, and (3) grading and asphalt to replace an existing gravel pathway to the lower level of the clubhouse which is wheelchair accessible including washrooms. The total estimated cost is \$33,000 and the Club's contribution is \$6,000 from an insurance claim related to flood damage in 2023. The project relies on a \$22,000 from the provincial *Access Ability Program* which is unconfirmed. Paving parking lots is not a *Community Grants Program* funding priority, and the project could be phased. Partial funding is recommended towards replacement of the gravel pathway for wheelchair users. Funds will be held back pending confirmation of an ability to proceed. As recommended, no portion of HRM's grant shall be used for expansion, grading or paving of the parking lot. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended towards the replacement of a gravel pathway to the Sack A Wa Canoe Club building's lower entry. No portion of HRM funding shall be used to expand, grade, or resurface the parking lot.***

Note: This application was re-assigned from the Recreation category to Diversity & Inclusion to align an award recommendation with enhanced accessibility.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE & PUBLIC SAFETY

Tier 1

21. Marine Communities Food Bank Society – Head of Chezzetcook – Capital Grant/Building Construction

In the mid-1990's residents established a small food bank through the purchase of a portable structure which was placed on land owned by the Chezzetcook Volunteer Fire Department. Operations relied upon

donated food and cash. In 2000 the group incorporated as a nonprofit society and are members of the Feed Nova Scotia network. The food bank now serves an area encompassing Chezzetcook, Porter's Lake, Conrod Settlement, Seaforth, Three Fathom Harbour, and Gaetz Brook. The portable is no longer fully functional and a grant of \$25,000 is requested towards construction of a permanent building that will meet the accreditation standards developed by Feed Nova Scotia/Food Banks Canada, including the addition of accessibility features. The estimated total cost is \$50,000. Quotes provided. The Society's commitment of \$8,500 is confirmed. ***A grant of \$25,000 is recommended towards construction of a replacement building for the Marine Communities Food Bank.***

Note: After the application was submitted the Society received a significant donation commitment and have confirmed their ability to undertake the project. Therefore, no hold back is recommended.

22. Westend Community Food Bank Association – Halifax – Project Grant/Equipment

Incorporated as a nonprofit society in 2019 the Association received charitable status in 2022 and is a member of Feed Nova Scotia. Operations are sustained by donations and occupancy of property owned by the Metropolitan Regional Housing Authority. A grant of \$1,820 is requested to fully fund the purchase of a laptop computer and peripherals to improve efficiency in submitting weekly client database information to Feed Nova Scotia. ***A project grant of \$1,820 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of a laptop computer and peripherals for the West End Community Food Bank.***

Tier 2

23. Saint Mathews United Church of Canada - Halifax – Project Grant/Equipment

Saint Mathews United Church of Canada is a registered Canadian charity sustained by congregational giving and donations. As a place of worship, the Church is exempt from property tax under the Assessment Act. In addition to services for their congregation, the Church's volunteers offer a variety of outreach programs to support vulnerable residents including temporary overnight shelter, a free breakfast program and take-out lunch. A grant of \$4,217.23 is requested to fully fund the purchase of three (3) refrigerators to support the weekly breakfast program. The Church is a member of Feed Nova Scotia. As a registered charity the Church is eligible to apply for a partial HST rebate. ***A grant of \$4,200 is recommended for the purchase of refrigerators to support an established weekly feeding program.***

Tier 3

24. Community Care Network Society – Halifax – Capital Grant/Equipment

The Society is a registered charity that provides an array of services to lower income individuals and families including a food and furnishings. Revenues from donations and fundraising through thrift stores sales and targeted campaigns are strong, supplemented by funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services and HRM tax relief. A grant of \$25,000 is requested towards the purchase of a delivery truck costing \$63,054. The vehicle is used to deliver food and furniture to clients and pick up donations. The Society's contribution will be \$10,000 from the sale of the current vehicle and fundraising in the amount of \$28,054. As a registered charity the Society can apply to Revenue Canada for a partial HST rebate. Because the applicant's contribution of \$38,054 is unconfirmed a holdback is recommended. ***A grant in the amount of \$25,000 is recommended towards the purchase of a delivery truck to support the operations of the Parker Street Food and Furniture Bank. Holdback funding pending confirmation of an ability to proceed in fiscal 2024.***

25. Parish of Christ Church – Dartmouth – Capital Grant/Facility Upgrade

Christ Church is a registered Canadian charity sustained by congregational offerings, donations, and project grants. As a place of worship, the Church is exempt from property tax under the Assessment Act. In addition to congregational services the Church offers a variety of outreach programs to vulnerable residents that include hosting a winter shelter for the homeless, a food bank and community pantry. The Church is a

member of Feed Nova Scotia. A capital grant of \$9,693 is requested to fully fund the purchase and installation of a water fountain. Although access to free drinking water is of benefit to the public, access cannot be targeted to exclusively homeless persons. Letters in support of the application provided by the Dartmouth Business Improvement District and event organizations could be leveraged for financial contributions or a collaborative fundraising campaign. As a registered charity the Church can apply to Revenue Canada for a partial HST rebate. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended towards the purchase and installation of a drinking fountain. Holdback pending confirmation of an ability to proceed in fiscal 2024.***

26.Royal Canadian Legion: Eastern Marine Branch #161 – Gaetz Brook – Project Grant/Building Repair

The Legion is incorporated under an Act of the Parliament of Canada and is exempt from property tax under the Assessment Act. The operations of the Gaetz Brook branch are sustained by gaming, bank machine fees, bar revenues, and membership dues. A grant of \$3,051.26 is requested to fully fund the purchase and installation of a replacement fire exit for the second floor. As a registered charity the Legion can apply to Revenue Canada for a partial HST rebate and/or the designated provincial *Legion Capital Fund*. Fire safety and code compliance are funding priorities under the *Community Grants Program*. ***A grant of \$3,000 is recommended towards the purchase and installation of a replacement fire escape for the Gaetz Brook Legion Hall – an HRM Comfort Centre.***

27.Saint Leonard’s Society of Nova Scotia – Halifax – Capital Grant/Building Renovation

The Society is a registered Canadian charity that provides overnight shelter, transitional housing, and support services to men. Operations are sustained by funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services, Corrections Canada, rentals, and fundraising. A grant of \$25,000 is requested to fully fund the temporary removal of furnishings (\$5,500+HST) removal of the wooden sub-floor and wood flooring and replace with vinyl flooring (\$17,878+HST) on the second floor of the Sir Sandford Fleming House. Although an interior upgrade is a lower funding priority, the temporary accommodations and support services provided at this location serve the homeless. Partial funding is recommended for the floor replacement (excludes temporary furniture removal). The financial information provided indicates an ability to cost share and as a registered charity the Society is eligible to apply to Revenue Canada for a partial HST rebate. ***A capital grant in the amount of \$9,500 is recommended towards replacement flooring for Sir Sandford Fleming men’s shelter. Holdback pending confirmation of project completion in fiscal 2024.***

Note: This application was reassigned from Diversity & Inclusion to Emergency Assistance & Public Safety. The building’s second floor is only accessible by stairs, the two bathrooms are not accessible, and there is no specialized, adaptive element to the project.

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

Tier 1

28.Birdland Community Garden Society – Rockingham – Project Grant/Community Garden

Incorporated in 2021, the Society’s volunteers operate a community garden on HRM land under an agreement with HRM Parks & Recreation. The garden is used by residents to grow produce and funded through donations and an annual plant sale. A grant of \$2,154.02 is requested to fully fund the purchase of materials for the construction of additional garden beds, seed library “supplies”, and a 10% contingency. Full funding is recommended for the construction of additional gardens beds; contingency funds are excluded, and the purchase of unspecified supplies could be self-funded or phased as funds permit. ***A***

grant in the amount of \$1,300 is recommended to fund the construction of raised garden beds and soil for the Birdland Community Garden.

29.Saint James Hall Renovations Committee – Head of Jeddore – Capital Grant/Building Upgrade (Energy Efficiency)

Incorporated in 1996, the society own and operate a church hall affiliated with the St. James Anglican Church which abuts the subject property. Volunteers raise funds through facility rentals, fundraising events, and non-recurring grants to pay utilities and minor upkeep. The hall is assessed tax exempt. A grant of \$25,000 is requested to fully fund an electrical upgrade, oil tank removal, the purchase and installation of two heat pumps, permits, HST, and a \$3,700 contingency. Partial funding is recommended to fully fund the electrical upgrade (\$8,000+HST and permit) based on the lowest quote. The hall serves a rural area with limited access to public facilities. The applicant will be provided feedback with respect to financial reporting and energy rebate programs. ***A grant of \$18,500 is recommended towards an energy retrofit of the St James Hall.***

Note: This application was reassigned from the Leisure to Environment & Climate Change category because funding is for an energy efficiency project.

30.Take Action Society – Dartmouth – Project Grant – Project Grant/Community Garden

Incorporated in 2010, the Society operate a community garden and greenhouse through grants and fundraising. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards the purchase of materials for minor repairs The Society will contribute the balance of \$1,119.54. In addition to recreational gardening, produce from the garden is bagged and delivered to lower income residents at no cost to recipient households. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended towards the purchase of materials for garden repairs to support the From Dirt to Doorstep food delivery program.***

31.Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield – Spryfield – Project Grant/Community Garden

Founded in 1966, the Society's purpose is to restore a portion of the former *Kidston Farm* to preserve its historical connection to Spryfield and food production. In 2004, the Society established a family garden. A recent land donation enabled expansion of programming to include a forest school and walking trail. Activities are inclusive of age and abilities and gardening materials have been translated to encourage the participation of immigrant residents. A grant of \$1,769.30 is requested to fully fund the purchase of materials to repair/replace overgrown pathways, minor repairs to garden beds, and the purchase of six (6) picnic tables. As a registered charity the Society is eligible to apply to Revenue Canada for a partial rebate on HST. ***A grant of \$1,700 is recommended for the purchase of materials for minor repairs to the Urban Farm interpretive site.***

Note: This application was re-assigned from Emergency Assistance & Public Safety to Environment & Climate Change to align the project with the appropriate funding category.

Tier 2

32.Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Greater Halifax – Regional – Project Grant/Marketing

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a registered Canadian charity whose mandate is to provide volunteer-led mentorship to children and youth. In addition to funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services the charity raises funds through special events and fundraising, donations, and grants. A significant source of earned revenue is the collection of used clothing and household items which are then sold to thrift retailer for re-sale. A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund to modernize the charity's existing web site with the capacity to launch digital marketing campaigns with the goal of increasing the diversion of used textiles. Funding for web page format redesign is recommended based on a recurring benefit, but the purchase of one-time social media advertising to support a fundraising campaign is not recommended.

A project grant of \$900 is recommended to fully fund professional fees to upgrade the Big Brothers Big Sisters web site.

Tier 3

33.Shambhala Canada Society – Upper Tantallon – Capital Grant/Building Upgrade (Energy Efficiency)

Shambhala Canada Society is a religious organization and a registered Canadian charity whose operations are funded through program fees, donations, rental income, and grants from affiliates (Shambhala USA). The Society own a two-storey building located in Upper Tantallon that is used for religious purposes, rentals, and outreach programs. As a place of worship, the subject property is exempt property tax under the Assessment Act. The St. Margaret's Bay Food Bank Society, a registered Canadian charity, occupy the lower floor to operate a food bank and thrift store. The food bank serves a largely rural area encompassing Hubley, St. Margaret's Bay, and Tantallon and employs a full-time staff member and five part-time employees. The food bank relies on donations, thrift store sales, and occupancy of the premises at no cost. The food bank is a member of Feed Nova Scotia.

A capital grant of \$25,000 is requested towards the purchase and installation of three (3) heat pumps, new baseboard heaters, oil tank removal, and minor interior patching/painting at a total estimated cost \$31,396.15. As of the date of application \$6,396.15 (20%) in project funding was confirmed and the value of any *Nova Scotia Commercial Product Rebate* application is unknown. The *Community Grants Program* does not fund energy efficiency projects for places of worship. Therefore, because the premises are not used exclusively by the St. Margert's Bay Food Bank Society staff recommend partial funding based on proportional occupancy. As a registered charity the owner can apply to Revenue Canada for a partial rebate on HST. ***A grant in the amount of \$12,500 is recommended in support of the St. Margaret's Bay Food Bank operations. Holdback pending confirmation of an ability to proceed in fiscal 2024.***

Note: This application was reassigned from Emergency Assistance & Public Safety to Environment & Climate Change because this is an energy efficiency project and only indirectly benefits the food bank occupancy; the primary benefit is to the building owner in terms of improvement to a capital asset and related savings in energy costs.

LEISURE

Tier 1

34.Grand Lake Oakfield Community Society – Grand Lake – Capital Grant/Building Upgrade

The Society is a volunteer-based organization that own and operate a community hall that hosts the local volunteer fire department (HRM Station #43) and a ballfield that also hosts an outdoor rink in the off-season. The hall is tax exempt by virtue of its use for a fire station and the ballfield receives municipal tax relief. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards the replacement of two sets of metal double-doors which are malfunctioning. The total cost is \$8,257.24 and application has also been made to the *Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency* for full funding. A conditional grant is recommended to avoid overlap or duplication of public funding. ***A grant in the amount of up to a maximum of \$5,000 is recommended towards the purchase and installation of two sets of replacement entry doors to the Grand Lake Oakfield Community Hall. Funding under the Community Grants Program is conditional pending confirmation of any federal funding and/or the equivalent from other sources.***

35.Harbour Lites New Horizons Seniors Club – Musquodoboit Harbour – Project Grant/Building Repair

The society is a registered Canadian charity serving seniors. The Club is entirely volunteer and self-funded. HRM provides annual tax relief. A grant of \$7,121.95 is requested to fully fund two separate projects: (1) re-shingling a portion of the facility roof at a cost of \$4,887.50 and (2) the purchase of a defibrillator costing \$2,234.45. Full funding is recommended for only the roof repair. The purchase of a defibrillator does not meet the criteria for a Capital Grant. ***A grant of \$4,888 is recommended to fully fund re-shingling a portion of the Harbour Lites Seniors Centre roof.***

36.Kiwanis Club of Cole Harbour Westphal – Dartmouth – Project Grant/Equipment

The Club formed in 1979 and is part of an international network of service clubs with a focus on child development. In addition to raising funds for community causes members own a public park located on Morris Lake which is maintained through volunteer fundraising, project grants, and municipal tax relief. The park has a sand beach with floating docks for swimming, fishing, and canoeing. The grounds include walking trails and a picnic area. A grant of \$3,800 is requested to fully fund the purchase of materials and a small portable generator to complete work in areas of the park that are not close to an electrical outlet such as small bridges and a wharf. As a registered charity the Club could apply to Revenue Canada for a partial rebate on HST. ***A grant in the amount of \$3,800 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of a small portable generator and materials for repairs to the park property owned and operated by the Kiwanis Club of Cole Harbour Westphal.***

Note: This application was reassigned from the Recreation category to Leisure because most park activities are unstructured.

37.Porters Lake Community Service Association – Porters Lake – Project Grant/Equipment

Incorporated in 1975, this long-standing community organization operated a small former school as a community hall before construction of the HRM Lake & Shore Community Centre in 2021. HRM subsequently donated the former school property to the Association and provide tax relief. Volunteers operate the facility and generate revenues through hall rentals, bingo, and small community events. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards the purchase of assorted small equipment items including tables, highchairs, benches, a pizza warming oven, washroom change tables, and replacement LED lights for bingo at a combined cost of \$8,285. Funding is recommended for furnishings only and excludes a pizza oven and LED lights. ***A grant in the amount of \$4,900 is recommended towards furnishings for the Porters Lake community hall.***

38.Royal Canadian Legion: Valley Branch #147 – Upper Musquodoboit – Capital Grant/Building Repair

The Royal Canadian Legion is incorporated under an Act of the Parliament of Canada and the Upper Musquodoboit Branch is also provincially registered as a nonprofit society. The Legion's operations are supported by fundraising, bar sales, donations, and project grants. A grant of \$18,691.98 is requested towards replacement of the existing deck and railing to the rear of the Legion Hall (\$22,691.98). The Legion's contribution of \$4,000 is confirmed. This same project was one of two projects submitted for funding to last year's program. In 2023, funding in the amount of \$7,990 was awarded to fully fund a replacement ramp in accordance with the program's support of accessibility initiatives.

Partial funding is recommended based on recurring applications to the *Community Grants Program*³ and in accordance with subsection 27(b) of policy preference may be given to organizations not in receipt of recurring municipal, provincial, or federal government funding. The applicant also has access to designated funding under the *Legion Capital Assistance Program*⁴ and as a registered charity can make application to

³ Facility-related awards: \$10,000 (2022) and \$7,990 (2023).

⁴ The program is administered by the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism, and Heritage. Funding of up to 50% to a maximum of \$10,000 is available but the review process prioritizes

Revenue Canada for a partial HST rebate. ***A grant in the amount of \$12,500 is recommended towards a replacement deck for the Upper Musquodoboit Legion Hall. Holdback payment pending confirmation of an ability to proceed with the project in fiscal 2024.***

Note: This application was re-assigned from Diversity & Inclusion to the Leisure category because the deck is not required for accessibility and does not include any specific adaptive features. Further, a deck is not required for recognition as an HRM Comfort Centre.

39.Sambro Area Community Association – Sambro – Project Grant/Land Survey

Incorporated in 2013 the Association raises funds to host or support community events in the Sambro area which includes East and West Pennant, Sambro Creek, Williamswood, Portuguese Cove, and Harrietsfield. In 2023 the society made progress towards their goal of constructing a small community hall with the donation of 5 acres of land by the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards professional fees for a land survey costing \$6,000. An archaeological survey of the site in relation to Mi'kmaw history in the community will also need to be completed. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended towards professional fees to survey land to be developed for a community hall in Sambro.***

Note: This application was re-assigned from the Recreation category to Leisure to reflect the largely unstructured, social activities, of a community hall.

40.Wallace Lucas Community Centre – Lucasville – Project Grant/Equipment

Established in 1980, the society operate the Wallace Lucas Community Centre under a Facility Operating Agreement with HRM. The property is not assessed taxable. The society is entirely volunteer and organize social and recreational activities to recognize and celebrate Lucasville's African Nova Scotian heritage. The Community Centre and the Lucasville United Baptist Church are considered "community hubs" - central gathering spaces that meet specific needs of neighbourhood residents. A grant of \$6,000 is requested to fully fund the purchase of a commercial-grade portable barbeque and accessories. Quotes provided. The value of recommended grant is based on the lowest quote. Funding is conditional upon safe storage of propane tanks outside the building. ***A grant in the amount of \$6,000 is recommended to fully fund the purchase of a commercial barbeque for the Wallace Lucas community hall. This award is conditional – propane tanks shall not be stored within the hall.***

Tier 3

41.Deanery Project Co-operative Limited – Lower Ship Harbour – Capital Grant/Facility Upgrade

The cooperative is primarily an environmental experiential learning centre located on 25 acres that has walking trails, a garden, the main building provides dormitory accommodations and a dining hall and a smaller outbuilding is used for woodworking, instructional classes, and storage. Revenues are largely self-generated through program fees and grants. A grant of \$15,000 is requested towards a kitchen renovation project to replace counter tops, install shelving and cabinetry, minor plumbing/faucet repairs, and the purchase and installation of a new commercial dishwasher (\$16,514 HST included⁵). Quote provided. The cooperative's contribution of \$2,814 is confirmed. Kitchen cabinetry is a lower funding priority but the need to meet food safety requirements is reflected in the recommendation to fully fund the purchase and

applicants who have not received funding over the previous five years – past recipients may be considered subject to budget capacity, but the program is heavily over-subscribed.

⁵ "Project management and administration 15%" in the amount of \$2,000 and a Canada Summer Jobs grant of \$1,000 are excluded from this total (the *Community Grants Program* does not fund salaries and wages).

installation of a commercial dishwasher. **A grant in the amount of \$8,800 is recommended to support food services at rural environmental camp facility.**

42.Old School Gathering Place Co-operative Limited – Musquodoboit Harbour – Capital Grant/Building Upgrade

The cooperative own and operate a former school donated by HRM for use as a community hall. Programming is diverse and includes leisure and health activities, employment readiness, a community garden/food pantry, an art gallery, and hall rentals. Operations rely on federal and provincial government grants. HRM provides partial tax relief. A grant of \$20,752.75 is requested towards the application of drywall to cover the lathe and plaster ceiling in the multi-purpose room. Costs include removal and installation of lighting fixtures, drywall installation, and painting. The applicant's contribution is equivalent to the HST rebate from Revenue Canada. Funding for electrical and drywall installation is recommended; interior painting is of lower priority under the *Community Grants Program* and the applicant could seek assistance from non-municipal sources or contribute funds from retained earnings. **A grant in the amount of \$17,250 is recommended towards upgrading the Old School Community Gathering Place.**

43.St. Margaret's Sailing Club – Glen Haven – Capital Grant/Building Repair

The Club provides instructional classes and competitive sailing, a marina and associated services, and events hosting. The Club is largely self-funded through Instructional program fees, membership dues, and marina fees. Government assistance is provided through seasonal federal and provincial employment grants, event grants, and municipal tax relief. A grant of \$24,297 is requested to fully fund (1) power washing and painting of the clubhouse exterior, (2) power washing and painting of the training centre exterior, and (3) a replacement window. Most of these costs are preventive maintenance and of lower priority⁶ in relation to the funding category priorities and could be phased as funds permit. **A grant in the amount of \$6,000 is recommended to fully fund the purchase and installation of a replacement eyebrow window and trim for the St. Margaret's Sailing Club.**

Note: The applicant identified two funding categories and was assigned to the Leisure category because the nature of the project is not directly related to a sport program.

44.Wellington Fletcher's Lake Station House – Wellington – Capital Grant/Building Repair

The society own and operate a former volunteer fire station a portion of which is to be leased to HRM Fire & Emergency Services. The annex is now used as a community hall which supports its operations through bar sales and rentals. Because an active fire station operates at this location the property has been assessed exempt property tax under the Assessment Act. A grant of \$23,575 is requested to fully fund (1) replacement of a wooden retaining wall to the rear of the premises with a concrete block retaining wall with drainage tile (\$18,950+HST). Partial funding is recommended based on recurring applications to the *Community Grants Program*⁷ and paving parking lots is not a funding priority. In accordance with subsection 26 (b) of policy the evaluation of applications shall take into consideration the applicant's reliance on volunteers and self-generated revenues and preference may be given to organizations not in receipt of recurring municipal, provincial, or federal government funding⁸. The proposed award excludes parking lot

⁶ Exceptions have been made for registered heritage properties.

⁷ Facility-related awards: \$5,000 (2018), \$5,000 (2019), \$10,000 (2020), \$10,000 (2022).

⁸ The Wellington Fletcher's Lake Station House is tax exempt by virtue of a lease agreement (pending) with HRM Fire & Emergency Services. Under the current informal agreement HRM pays for the heat and lights for the facility. HRM Fleet, Property and Environment will address the lease agreement and HRM Legal, Risk & Insurance are working on an agreement with respect to insurance.

paving. **A grant in the amount of \$12,000 is recommended towards the replacement of the Wellington Fletchers Lake Station House retaining wall.**

RECREATION

Tier 1

45. Head of St. Margaret's Bay/Boutilier's Point Recreation Association – St. Margaret's Bay and Boutilier's Point – Capital Grant/Facility Upgrade

Incorporated in 1970 the society operate an HRM facility under a Facility Management Agreement and own a parcel of land in Boutilier's Point that has been used for an outdoor rink since 1957. The Association receives some revenues from community centre rentals which subsidize the seasonal operation of their outdoor rink. HRM provides partial tax relief for the rink property. A capital grant of \$10,000 is requested towards remedying site drainage issues and improve the rink's ice retention with a gravel surface at an estimated cost of \$30,000. The goal is to eventually add an asphalt or concrete base layer to the rink so that it can be used in the summer season for ball hockey etcetera. At the time of application \$3,000 from the *HRM District Capital Fund* was confirmed and application had been made to the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage: *Rink Revitalization Fund*. Due to the reliance on the Association's fundraising for the remaining \$12,000 to \$17,000 a holdback on funds is recommended. **A grant in the amount of \$10,000 is recommended towards drainage remediation for the Boutilier's Point outdoor rink. Holdback payment pending confirmation of an ability to proceed with the project in fiscal 2024.**

46. LWF Hardball Association – Fall River – Capital Grant/Equipment

The Association organizes baseball teams, league competition, and manages several baseball fields. The primary source of revenue is from team/player registration fees. In 2014 the Fall River Minor Football Association entered into a land lease agreement with a private property owner for the development of a football field which was subsequently amended to include the LWF Hardball Association (operating as the "LWF Minor Baseball Association"⁹) and a revised term which expires in 2049. The two sports groups have executed a mutual agreement for shared use of the land which was developed in 2023 with a two new baseball fields and a football/multi-sport field, fencing, and storage containers. A grant of \$7,000 is requested towards the purchase of a 4-wheel ATV which will be stored on-site and used to maintain the fields and transport equipment and materials costing \$12,845.55. The Association's contribution of \$5,845.55 is confirmed. **A grant in the amount of \$7,000 is recommended towards the purchase of an ATV vehicle for baseball and football field maintenance.**

47. Sheet Harbour Marina Association – Sheet Harbour – Project Grant/Building Upgrade

Incorporated in 2021, the Association was established to develop and operate a marina in Sheet Harbour. To date, revenues have been derived from the Sheet Harbour Chamber of Commerce, project-specific government grants, and modest fundraising. In 2022, the Association acquired title to three parcels of land secured by a private loan and are in the process of applying to the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources to lease an abutting water lot. HRM provides tax relief on one parcel of land which has a small former commercial building. A grant of \$5,500 is requested for two projects: (1) replacement of two mooring buoys (\$3,300.86) and (2) professional fees to upgrade electrical wiring to the building to be used in relation to a proposed marina (\$2,500) The Association has committed \$500. Neither project qualifies as a capital project - each cost less than \$5,000. Therefore, the maximum grant is \$5,000 and the review selected

⁹ The Association was listed as the LWF Minor Baseball Association in the 2023 *Community Grants Program* report, Attachment 2. The Association received \$6,600 to purchase a shipping container for on-site equipment storage for the new field venue.

electrical work as a priority, including applicable permits and HST, to support hosting community events and fundraising for this start-up endeavor. A contribution towards buoys is to support current operations. **A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended to fully fund electrical upgrades to the Sheet Harbour Marina building and partial funding towards replacement mooring buoys.**

48.Spryfield Minor Softball Association – Spryfield – Project Grant/Equipment

The Association offers introductory programs and competition for children 4 – 9 years of age and youth. Instruction and games are organized by volunteers and largely self-funded through registration fees and team sponsorship. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards the purchase of equipment storage boxes and safety bases which are over-sized and two-color that help reduce collisions between players. HRM Parks & Recreation have approved the use of storage boxes on municipal fields. **A grant in the amount of \$3,818 is recommended towards the purchase of small storage and safety equipment for minor softball programming in the Spryfield area.**

Tier 2

49.Orenda Canoe Club – Lake Echo – Capital Grant/Building Construction

The Club provides recreational and competitive paddling programs for all ages. Revenues are primarily summer program registration fees. Government support includes federal and provincial employment grants, a municipal less than market value land lease, and municipal tax relief. The clubhouse has been expanded with funding from the federal *Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program* (“ICIP”), but the project cannot be completed due to a funding shortfall. To date, confirmed funds include \$50,000 from the federal government, \$11,000 in the *HRM District Capital Fund*¹⁰, and \$5,000 from the Club for a combined total of \$66,000. The estimated cost to complete the installation of new ductwork to the second floor of the building is \$80,500 (HST included) leaving a difference of \$14,500. A grant of \$25,000 is requested towards completion of this project to make the facility fully operational. **A grant in the amount of \$25,000 is recommended towards completion of a heating and ventilation system for the Orenda Canoe Club.**

Tier 3

50.Armdale Yacht Club – Halifax – Capital Grant/Equipment

Incorporated in 1937 under an Act of the Nova Scotia Legislature the Club occupy property leased from the Department of National Defense at less than market value and HRM provides tax relief. The Club is largely self-sustaining through marina fees and associated hauling and storage fees, membership dues, and instructional course in sailing and navigation. In 2020 the Club initiated a free introductory program called *Broader Reach* targeting under-represented communities that faced barriers to participation in partnership with the YMCA Centre for Immigrants, Boys & Girls Club of Greater Halifax, Phoenix Youth, and the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Society. A grant of \$22,892.50 is requested towards the purchase of an inflatable boat costing \$37,892.50 to be used by instructors and safety supervision. **A grant in the amount of \$22,800 is recommended towards the purchase of an inflatable coach/safety boat to support a sailing outreach program for youth from marginalized communities.**

51.Cheema Aquatic Club – Waverley – Capital Grant/Facility Upgrade

The Club provides recreational and competitive paddling and kayaking programs for its members augmented by summer camps and instructional programs for non-members. Government support includes a less than market value land lease from the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources & Renewables and HRM provides tax relief. Operations are sustained by membership fees and after school programming, special events, and project-specific grants. A grant of \$25,000 is requested to fully fund the construction of

¹⁰ Funding from the *HRM District Capital Fund* was not identified in the initial application but subsequently confirmed by email. The value of grant recommended reflects this municipal funding.

a larger replacement deck for the Club's boat house. The estimated cost of construction is \$41,659.24 but the Club has received an in-kind donation for a replacement concrete slab and piles plus hardware valued at \$7,475 and a discount on construction labour costs valued at \$9,184.24. Application has not been made to any non-municipal source. The deck is used primarily for spectators, instructional staff, and lunch breaks for program participants. Although the application states that the deck will be fully accessible, the inclusion of specific adaptive features are not self-evident from the quotes provided. Partial funding is recommended. ***A grant in the amount of \$12,500 is recommended towards the construction of a replacement viewing deck for the Cheema boathouse.***

52.Metro East Inferno Female Hockey Association – Dartmouth – Project Grant/Equipment

The Association incorporated in 2020 and is responsible for minor ice hockey for females under 19 years of age within a geographic area of HRM that encompasses minor hockey associations in Dartmouth, Cole Harbour, Eastern Passage, and the Eastern Shore. Operations are sustained by registration fees. A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund the purchase goaltending equipment which may be cost prohibitive for individuals and families. The equipment will be loaned to participants. ***A grant in the amount of \$5,000 is recommended to purchase goaltending equipment to establish an equipment loan program for minor women's ice hockey teams.***

53.St. George's Tennis Club - Dartmouth – Capital Grant/Site Upgrade

The Club was incorporated under an Act of the Nova Scotia Legislature in 1904 to promote the sport of tennis. Programming includes recreational and competitive tennis, instructional classes, and tournament hosting. Revenues are primarily membership dues and program fees, project-specific grants. HRM provides tax relief. A grant of \$25,000 is requested towards engineering fees and the installation of a replacement water line at an estimated cost of \$116,950. The existing water line is not of sufficient gauge to maintain water pressure which causes disruption to washroom facilities and clay court watering. The Club contribution of \$20,500 is confirmed and application has been made to the HRM District Capital Fund (\$5,500) and the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage: Recreation Facilities Development Program (\$65,950). This project relies on unconfirmed provincial funding representing ~56% of estimated costs, therefore a holdback on payment is recommended. ***A grant in the amount of \$25,000 is recommended towards the installation of a new water line to restore and maintain sufficient service to the St. George's Tennis Club. Holdback pending confirmation of an ability to proceed in fiscal 2024.***

Prior Funding

At the request of Council, a list of proposed grant recipients is presented to identify any prior year funding. The intent was to address any perception of repeat funding to a minority of applicants – “Are the same groups receiving recurring funding?” Following an analysis of 10 years of data it was determined that limits should not be applied to either (i) the number of awards or (ii) the combined value of funding over a defined period to accommodate large capital projects that may need to be phased for practical or financial reasons, or capital projects that exceed the capacity of organizations with modest earned revenues.

Readers are cautioned that the value of an individual grant and any successive award(s) will vary significantly due to the difference in funding threshold between a Project Grant (>\$5,000) and a Capital Grant (>\$25,000). Further, the value of a grant is not indicative of HRM's contribution as a percentage of total project costs.

Table 1. Prior Year Funding (2021 to 2023) to Proposed Grant Recipients in Fiscal Year 2024.

Name	2021	2022	2023	2024 (Proposed)	Other
Akoma Holdings	\$20,000			\$25,000	Tax Relief
Armdale Yacht Club				\$22,000	Tax Relief
Big Brothers Big Sisters				\$900	
Birdland Community Garden Society				\$1,300	HRM land
Canadian Naval Memorial Trust				\$5,000	
Cheema Aquatic Club	\$25,000			\$12,500	Tax Relief
Coastal Voice Men's Choir	\$4,500		\$5,000	\$3,000	
Deanery Project Cooperative Limited	\$5,000		\$2,300	\$8,800	Tax Relief
Eastern Shore Players			\$5,000	\$1,750	
Estabrooks Community Hall Society	\$7,000			\$16,000	Tax Relief
Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia				\$5,000	
Grand Lake Oakfield Centre Society				\$5,000	Tax Relief Ball Field
Halifax Gay Men's Chorus Society				\$5,000	
Halifax Women's Housing Cooperative		\$25,000		\$6,000	Tax Relief
Harbour Lites New Horizons Senior Club			\$11,874	\$4,888	Tax Relief
Head of St. Margaret's Bay Boutilier's Point Recreation Society				\$10,000	Tax Relief
Icelandic Memorial Society of Nova Scotia		\$2,500		\$5,000	
Indo-Canadian Community Centre Society				\$25,000	Tax Relief
Kiwanis Club of Cole Harbour Westphal		\$4,000	\$4,800	\$3,800	Tax Relief
Latispanica Cultural Association				\$3,400	
Lawrencetown Sew-City Guild	\$1,000	\$500	\$600	\$600	
LWF Hardball Association	\$8,480	\$7,500	\$6,500	\$7,000	
Marguerite Centre Society of Nova Scotia				\$3,000	Tax Relief
Marine Communities Food Bank Society				\$25,000	Tax Exempt
Maritime Conservatory of Performing Arts		\$5,000		\$17,500	Tax Exempt
Musquodoboit Valley Bicentennial Theatre & Cultural Centre		\$21,500	\$5,000	\$10,000	Tax Exempt
Old School Community Gathering Place	\$5,000		\$25,000	\$17,135	Tax Relief
Orenda Canoe Club				\$25,000	Tax Relief
Parish of Christ Church				\$5,000	Tax Exempt
Porters Lake Community Services Association		\$15,000		\$900	Tax Relief
Public Good Society of Dartmouth	\$20,000			\$4,750	
Royal Canadian Legion Marine Branch 161	\$2,230			\$3,000	Tax Exempt
Royal Canadian Legion Valley Branch 147		\$10,000	\$7,990	\$9,300	Tax Exempt
Sack-A-Wa Canoe Club		\$3,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	Tax Relief
Sail Able Nova Scotia				\$5,000	
Sambro Area Community Association				\$5,000	

Westend Community Food Bank Association	\$4,669			\$1,820	
Shambhala Canada Society				\$12,500	Tax Exempt
Sheet Harbour Marina Association			\$2,000	\$2,500	Tax Relief
Somali Association in Nova Scotia				\$2,500	
Spryfield Minor Softball Association				\$3,818	
St. George's Tennis Club				\$25,000	Tax Relief
St. James Hall Renovations Committee				\$18,500	Tax Exempt
St. Leonard's Society of NS				\$9,500	Tax Relief
St. Margaret Sailing Club	\$12,500			\$6,000	Tax Relief
St. Mathews United Church				\$4,000	Tax Exempt
Take Action Society				\$5,000	HRM land/garden
Urban Farm Museum Society				\$1,700	Tax Relief
Wallace Lucas Community Centre				\$6,000	Tax Exempt
Wellington Fletcher's Lake Station House		\$10,000		\$12,000	Tax Exempt (HRFE)
Westend Food Bank Society	\$4,669			\$1,820	

Notes to Table 1.

If approved, awards to the following 25 organizations are considered 'new' – meaning that the organization has not applied to or has not received funding under the *Community Grants Program* within the last three years (2021 to 2023):

Armdale Yacht Club
Big Brother Big Sisters of Greater Halifax
Birdland Community Garden Society
Canadian Naval Memorial Trust
Genealogical Association of Nova Scotia
Grand Lake Oakfield Centre Society
Halifax Gay Men's Chorus Society
Head of St. Margaret's Bay Boutilier's Point Recreation Society
Indo-Canadian Community Centre Society
Latispanica Cultural Association
Marguerite Centre Society of Nova Scotia
Marine Communities Food Bank Society
Orenda Canoe Club
Parish of Christ Church
Sail Able Nova Scotia
Shambhala Canada Society
Somali Association in Nova Scotia
Spryfield Minor Softball Association
St. George's Tennis Club
St. James Hall Renovations Committee
St. Leonard's Society of NS
St. Mathews United Church
Take Action Society
Urban Farm Museum Society
Wallace Lucas Community Centre

Not Recommended for Funding: 2024 Community Grants Program

Note to readers: where financial information was not included, or unavailable, and the applicant cannot be assigned by tier they are listed first within each category, in alphabetical order.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Tier 1

54.Housing Innovation Co-operative Limited – Regional

Incorporated on March 24, 2023, the cooperative is in a developmental phase and the only revenue to date is a research grant from the Nova Scotia Department of Housing & Municipal Affairs: Housing Growth Fund. A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards a research project related to how accessory dwelling units might enhance access to affordable housing in rural areas. The total project budget is \$65,000 of which only \$10,000 (15%) in provincial funding is confirmed. Funds from HRM would be used to develop a web site to educate the public on accessory dwelling units. Without “content development” costing \$50,000 it is unclear what the web site would provide beyond information currently available to the public on both provincial government and municipal web sites.

COMMUNITY ARTS

Tier 1

55.Dartmouth Performing Arts Society – Dartmouth

A capital grant of \$25,000 is requested to fully fund the purchase of sound system for the Woodlawn High School auditorium at a total cost of \$24,453.13. While recognizing the Society aspires to enter into an agreement with the Halifax Regional Centre for Education to establish and operate the school auditorium as a professional performing arts theatre, this project is school-based and does not align with the *Community Grants Program* funding priorities. Policy subsection 25 (h) deems academic or school-based projects ineligible for consideration.

Tier 3

56.Bedford Baptist Church – Bedford

A capital grant of \$25,000 is requested towards the temporary removal and restoration of the organ from the Church sanctuary which is inoperable due to water damage and faulty installation (\$58,076.15). The Church’s contribution of \$33,000 is confirmed. Funding is not recommended based on the largely institutional use of the musical instrument. This same request was previously declined.

57.Nova Scotia Talent Trust - Provincial

A project grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund free workshops and performances to celebrate the Trust’s 80th Anniversary and create awareness of their scholarship programs for pre-professional artists. Typically, anniversary events are considered on a quarterly basis (25th, 50th, 75th or 100th) and the application lacked confirmation of the dates and location of activities to be hosted in HRM. The project appears to be conceptual/unconfirmed as of the date of application.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Tier 1

58.Halifax Tool Library Society - Halifax

A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards instructional workshops targeting individuals from marginalized communities for participants to construct their own toolbox. The total cost is \$5,500. Although an equipment lending program is of benefit to residents and local groups, this project's expenses are vaguely described, dates and accessible locations unconfirmed, and workshop costs could be partly offset by modest fees. Further, subsection 25(b) of policy does not fund items for personal ownership which in this case are the materials to construct an item for each participant. The Society will be referred to staff for assistance with any future grant application.

59.Wise Group Non-Profit Association - Halifax

The Association incorporated as a nonprofit society in 2016 and have submitted a grant request for \$5,000 in partnership with Healthy Muslim Families Incorporated which registered in Nova Scotia as an Extra-Provincial Corporation Provincial (Manitoba) on March 27, 2024. The grant is towards the purchase of six (6) laptop computers, printer, projector, and software to teach digital literacy, income tax workshops, and employment readiness classes. The project is to be delivered by Healthy Muslim Families (instruction and office location) who would be ineligible to apply for a grant because they do not meet the eligibility requirement under subsection 14 (b) of policy that requires that an applicant be incorporated for a minimum of one (1) year prior to the program application deadline. The applicant will be referred to the 2025 program; if a formal joint application is submitted each party must provide a financial statement to comply with Section 22 of policy.

Tier 2

60.Junior Achievement of Nova Scotia - Provincial

The purpose of Junior Achievement is to provide business education to students through classes and experiential learning. Operations rely on funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, the Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education, sponsorship, and donations. A grant of \$10,127 is requested to fully fund professional services to upgrade three (3) web sites. The purpose of the organization and its programming do not align with the focus of the *Community Grants Program*. Namely, subsections 25 (h) and (j) of policy regarding academic or school-based projects or economic development.

Tier 3

61.Camp Courage First Responders Society – HRM/New Brunswick/Alberta

A grant of \$22,425 is requested to purchase footwear and "custom-fit" pants and shirts to enhance participants' safety, comfort, and presentation standards. The *Community Grants Program* does not fund items for personal ownership as per subsection 25 (b) of policy. The applicant will be referred to staff for feedback on the presentation of financial information, project budget, and assistance with any future application.

62.Home of the Guardian Angel - Halifax

A grant of \$4,470 is requested to fully fund the purchase of assorted small items¹ used in the volunteer *Doula Program*. The purchase of health-related items is not a strong alignment with the focus of the *Community Grants Program*. The applicant will be provided feedback and encouraged to seek funding from health agencies or foundations. For example, *Wellness Fund* grants administered by provincial Community Health Boards support community-based projects including a *Diversity and Capacity Building Fund* and a *Community and Cultural Identities Fund*.

63.MusGo Rider Co-operative Limited – Porter’s Lake

A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards consulting fees for a feasibility study regarding the development of supportive housing for persons with an intellectual disability (\$10,000). Although the cooperative’s mandate is the provision of wheelchair accessible transportation the provision of housing² falls outside their current scope of operations. The selection process, qualifications and experience criteria for consulting services was not described, and as of the date of application the balance of funding in the amount of \$5,000 was unconfirmed.

COMMUNITY HISTORIES

Tier 1

64.L’Acadie de Chezzetcook – West Chezzetcook

A grant of \$5,143.45 is requested to purchase and install assorted banners and road signage. Community museums are eligible to apply for operating, capital, and project grants under the designated *HRM Community Museums Grants Program*; the 2024 application deadline was January 31, 2024. In accordance with subsection 28 (a) of policy, preference may be given to applicants’ ineligible for consideration under another municipal grant program.

Tier 3

65.Dartmouth Non-Profit Housing Society – Dartmouth

A grant of \$25,000 is requested towards exterior wood shingle replacement, the purchase and installation of new guttering and leaf guards on the registered heritage building that serves as the Society’s administrative office and leased office space for two nonprofit tenants. The estimated total cost is \$102,077.70 and any other sources of funding are not confirmed. There is no stated financial commitment from the applicant or indication that application has or will be made to a non-municipal source. The ability to proceed is unconfirmed.

¹ TENS machines, supportive wraps, cooling cloths, and pregnancy teaching aids.

² Small Options Homes are licensed and funded by the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services. Financing towards the purchase or construction of housing would typically be primarily provided through the Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

Tier 2

66.Back to the Sea Society – Dartmouth

A grant of \$5,000 requested towards artist fees (\$5,435) to produce a magnetic wall mural within the HRM-owned building leased to the Society. HRM approval not included. The applicant will be referred to HRM Corporate Real Estate division for approval/risk mitigation (copyright, acknowledgements, reproduction etc). Subject to approval the Society could apply to the *2025 Community Grants Program*.

Tier 3

67.Alliance Francaise Halifax – Halifax

A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards consultant fees (\$10,000) to design a pollinator garden on private property leased by the Society. The applicant is not the property owner. The financial information provided suggests an ability to self-fund.

LEISURE

Tier 1

68.Waverley Community Association – Waverley

A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards the purchase and delivery of a 20ft steel shipping container to store equipment for events and outdoor programming to be placed on the Association's property. The Association hosts meetings and organizes community events. Operations are sustained by a community area rate and municipal tax relief. The property is a registered heritage property that hosts the Waverley Heritage Museum which is operated under a lease agreement by the Waverley Heritage Society. The review of this application confirmed that the use of a shipping container is permitted under current zoning but there are requirements for an accessory building which if not met would require an application for a variance for the setback requirements. There are also concerns with respect to any conspicuous placement that could detract from the heritage designation. While acknowledging that the property owner may proceed in obtaining approvals from HRM funding is not recommended for placement at this location. In the alternative, if approvals are not forthcoming, the Association could consider a custom-built storage shed with dimensions and visual features better suited to this highly visible community landmark heritage property.

Tier 2

69.South End Baptist Church – Dartmouth

A grant of \$1,000 is requested towards the purchase of three (3) used sewing machines, servicing five (5) machines, and the purchase of assorted materials (thread and fabric). The Church's contribution of \$50 is confirmed. In 2023, a one-time grant of \$500 was awarded towards servicing five (5) machines which equated to 50% of the cost for ten machines. Partial funding was recommended to encourage fundraising efforts. This request is to service the balance of machines. Funding to purchase materials is not recommended because most are consumables (Section 25 of policy) and the purchase of additional machines is not recommended in the absence of any fundraising.

Tier 3

70.Independent Living Nova Scotia – Provincial

A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fully fund a monthly cooking class for clients. The purchase of food (\$3,700) is not an eligible grant expenditure, and the location of the venue rental at a cost of \$1,300 is not

identified. It is unclear how the project “enhances public access” and differs from an existing, monthly *Community Cooking and Connections* program run by the society where funds are provided by Independent Living Nova Scotia for participants to “...make a meal together – both online and in person – and also participate in a peer support activity together after supper”³.

71.Sackville Business Association – Sackville

A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards two outdoor *Family Movie Night* events in Acadia Park. The Association has committed \$1,000. The \$6,000 cost is for an “outdoor movie contractor”. The *Community Grants Program* does not fund events and a similar event application to the Community Arts funding category was declined last year. Application could have been made under the designated *Business Improvement District Fund*, Administrative Order 2019-006-ADM, subsection 7 (d), which includes grants to support “public events hosting”.

72.Purcell's Cove Social Club - Halifax

A grant of \$25,000 is requested towards the replacement of floating docks costing an estimated \$61,999. With no confirmed contribution from the club and no non-municipal funding application(s) there is no assurance that the project can proceed in 2024. The applicant will be referred to staff for assistance with any future funding request.

RECREATION

Tier 1

73.Girl Guides of Canada – Nova Scotia Council – Nova Scotia

A grant of \$4,000 is requested towards the purchase and installation of a storage shed. The total cost is \$6,050. The balance of funding and location are unconfirmed, and the applicant does not own property. The applicant will be referred to staff for assistance with any future funding request.

74.Musquodoboit Trailways Association – Musquodoboit Harbour

A grant of \$4,851.85 is requested to fully fund the purchase of a shipping container and foundation for equipment storage. The intended location is an HRM-owned facility, and the approval of HRM Parks & Recreation is required which may require confirmation with respect to zoning, permits, a lease or license agreement, insurance, and limitations on the storage of flammable or toxic materials. The applicant will be referred to HRM Parks & Recreation.

Tier 2

75.Black Wellness Cooperative of Nova Scotia Limited – Nova Scotia

A grant of \$11,992.50 is requested to fully fund the purchase of (1) a sport system testing kit and (2) a circus aerial tripod rig. Only one item qualifies as a capital grant – the circus tripod costing \$7,185.78 that will also be used by a private company which operates a location in HRM. The focus on elite athlete testing and training is not aligned with the funding priorities of the *Community Grants Program*.

³ Source: <https://ilns.ca>

76.Dartmouth Pigdogs Rugby Football Club – Dartmouth

A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards a youth introductory instructional program. The project budget includes facility rental, and unspecified marketing and equipment costs. The Club will be provided feedback and referred to staff for assistance with any future application to the *Community Grants Program*.

77.Parish of St. Peter’s Church – Halifax

A grant of \$25,000 is requested towards a replacement roof for the Church Hall estimated to cost \$152,780.63 (HST included) based on the highest quote. As a place of worship, the Church is exempt property tax under the Assessment Act. The applicant has \$110,000 funding confirmed and could select a lower priced quote and phase completion as funds permit. The project is not a strong alignment with the Recreation category’s funding priorities; non-congregational use is primarily rentals. This facility is also located in an urban community with public, institutional, and nonprofit amenities offering free or low-cost access for meetings and programming. As a registered charity the owner could apply to Revenue Canada for a partial HST rebate.

Tier 3

78.Nova Scotia Sea School Society – Nova Scotia

A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards unspecified “equipment and materials” costing \$10,000 and the remaining \$30,000 program costs are wages and ineligible for consideration [Policy subsection 25 (a)].

Applications Ineligible for Consideration: 2024 Community Grants Program

Note to Readers: where financial information was not included, or unavailable, and the applicant cannot be assigned by tier they are listed first within each category, in alphabetical order.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Tier 3

79.Society for the Rehabilitation of Alcoholics – Halifax

\$25,000 is requested to fund a fire suppression system in a facility not owned by the Society. [Policy subsection 6 (3)]. The Society could reapply to a future call for applications if they acquire ownership of a new property.

COMMUNITY ARTS

80.Kvitka Ukrainian Community Association - Halifax

\$639.42 is requested to purchase small gardening equipment. The Association registered as nonprofit society in January 2024 and does not meet the requirement of being incorporated for a minimum of one (1) year prior to the deadline for applications [Policy subsection 14 (b)].

Tier 2

81.Genuine Progress Index Atlantic Society – Glen Haven

\$4,929 is requested to fund stain glass and pottery workshops. The Society did not submit a final report by the March 31st, 2022, deadline, for a 2021 grant in the amount of \$5,000 towards a community history project [Policy Section 44].

Tier 3

82.Shambhala School Society – Halifax

\$4,900 requested towards a project to engage students in arts and crafts. The *Community Grants Program* does not fund school-based projects [Policy subsection 25 (h)].

COMMUNITY HISTORIES

Tier 2

83.St. Gabriel Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church – Hammonds Plains

A grant of \$19,320 is requested towards removal of an existing furnace and oil tank, installation of a heat pump, new duct work, electrical work, and associated materials. These interior capital improvements to a place of worship are not considered eligible [Policy subsection 25 (n)] but as a registered heritage property the owner could apply to a future program in support of restoration of the building exterior subject to Heritage

Planner approval. The Church will be provided with feedback and how to apply for heritage approval prior to any funding submission.

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

84. Best Buddies Canada – Ontario

A grant of \$10,000 is requested towards the expansion of a national “Best Buddies” program in three unidentified schools in Halifax. The *Community Grants Program* does not fund school-based projects [Policy subsection 25 (h)]. The application was incomplete; a financial statement was not included with the application [Policy Section 17].

Tier 1

85. Canadian BLUE Wellness Association – Lower Sackville

A grant of \$5,000 is requested to fund mindfulness workshops to enhance the wellness and health of African Nova Scotia women. The Association registered as nonprofit society June 28, 2023, and does not meet the requirement of being incorporated for a minimum of one (1) year prior to the deadline for applications [Policy subsection 14 (1) (b)]. The Society will be referred to the *HRM Anti-Black Racism Grants Program*. Although this new municipal grant program also has a one-year registration requirement, the Association’s mandate may be better aligned and eligible to apply once they meet the criteria¹.

Tier 2

86. Prudentia Institute – Nova Scotia (Wolfville)

A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards expanding an academic program for high school students to develop information literacy, research, writing and presentation skills. The *Student Research Lab* is an immersive and experiential co-op placement for which high school students can earn a credit. Subsection 25(h) of policy deems academic or school-based projects or educational programming ineligible.

Tier 3

87. Tetra Society of North America – British Columbia

A grant of \$9,500 is requested towards the provision of adaptive devices that are given to persons with a disability. The *Community Grants Program* does not provide funding for items for personal ownership - the project expenses identified in the application are ineligible for consideration under Section 25 of policy.

¹ As proposed the *Anti-Black Racism Grants Program* may have two application intakes per year.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE & PUBLIC SAFETY

Tier 2

88.Middle Musquodoboit Agricultural Society – Middle Musquodoboit

A grant of \$25,000 is requested towards construction of a new main show ring. The Society is in default of the program's reporting requirement for a \$5,000 grant awarded in 2023 [Policy, Section 44].

Tier 3

89.Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre – Dartmouth

A grant of \$25,000 is requested to fully fund the purchase and installation of a large walk-in cooler (stated total cost \$25,000)². The property is owned by the Nova Scotia Department of Housing and Municipal Affairs and operated by the Metropolitan Regional Housing Authority but only the Residential portion of the premises is assessed taxable³. The project is a capital improvement to a leased facility and ineligible for consideration. Written feedback will be provided and the applicant referred to staff for assistance with any future grant application.

ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

90.Maynard Lake Conservation Society - Dartmouth

A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards (1) professional fees (scuba divers) to remove underwater debris and (2) water testing at Maynard Lake. The Society does not meet the requirement of being incorporated for a minimum of one (1) year prior to the deadline for applications [Policy, subsection 14 (1) (b)]. The application was incomplete – a financial statement was not included. The applicant will be referred to the *Lake Watchers Program* administered by HRM's Environment & Climate Change division.

Tier 1

91.Sheet Harbour Chamber of Commerce – Sheet Harbour

A grant of \$15,000 is requested to fully fund repair of the West River and Museum Boardwalk, install safety guardrails, signs, and lighting. The land is owned by the Province of Nova Scotia and is ineligible for consideration [Policy, Section 6].

² The lowest quote was \$20,572 without HST. Additional costs stated at \$1,000 for colling racks and \$2,000 for delivery/installation. As a registered charity the Association can apply to Revenue Canada for a partial HST rebate.

³ In 2024 the Commercial Exempt portion is valued at \$434,900. From the information provided by the applicant the Association does not have a lease agreement with the owner.

LEISURE

Tier 1

92.Russian Society of the Maritimes – Halifax

A grant of \$2,200 is requested to fund a year-end “graduation” event for students of the society’s language and cultural programming. Events are ineligible for consideration. [Policy, subsection 25 (f)] and the application was also incomplete – no financial statement was included with the application [Policy Section 17].

RECREATION

Tier 1

93.Sackville Minor Baseball League Association – Lower Sackville

A grant of \$10,000 is requested towards replacing the roof of the Riverline Community Centre. The subject property is located in Dutch Settlement and owned and operated by the Riverline Community Centre Association. The applicant is not the property owner and therefore ineligible for consideration [Policy, Section 25 (c)].

94.West Dover Community Association – West Dover

A grant of \$5,000 is requested towards landscaping land that is to be gifted to the Association for recreational/community use. The applicant is not the property owner and ineligible for consideration [Policy, subsection 25 (c)]. Application could be made to the *2025 Community Grants Program* once the Association has registered title.

Tier 3

95.Arthur Kidston Memorial Camp Society – Mooseland

A grant of \$7,660 is requested to fully fund the purchase of a dishwasher. As of the application deadline the Society is in default of the reporting requirement for a grant in the amount of \$3,690 issued in 2022 [Policy Section 44] The deadline for the final report was March 31, 2023.

96.East Preston Day Care Society – East Preston

A grant of \$18,248.13 is requested to fully fund (1) grading and landscaping of an outdoor play area and (2) the purchase and installation of a musical percussion feature. The subject property is a childcare facility and ineligible for consideration under the *Community Grants Program* [Policy subsection 25 (h)]. The Society will be referred to the *HRM Anti-Black Racism Grants Program*.