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Item No. 9.1.1
Grants Committee
April 23, 2025

TO: Chair and Members of Grants Committee

FROM: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: February 20, 2025

SUBJECT: **Community Museum Grants Program: Recommended Awards 2025**

ORIGIN

January 31, 2025 – Application deadline for HRM's annual Community Museums Grants Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Community Museums Grants Program provides opportunities for eligible community museums as defined in [Administrative Order 2018-010-ADM Respecting Grants to Community Museums](#) to apply for (1) an Operating Grant or (ii) a Project Grant. Operating grants are awarded on a three (3) year recurring basis. At the end of the three-year term museums in receipt of an operating must re-apply in accordance with the criteria set out in the Administrative Order. In 2025 fourteen (14) museums are eligible to apply to renew their Operating Grant.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Approve fourteen (14) annual Operating Grants for fiscal years 2025/25, 2026/27, and 2027/28, subject to annual budget approval, at a combined cost of \$157,890 from Operating Account M310-8004; and
2. Approve eight (8) one-time Project Grants as described in the Discussion section of this report at a combined cost of \$55,920 from Operating Account M310-8004.

BACKGROUND

The Community Museums Grants Program was established on an interim basis in 2018 in response to a request for funding assistance from several local museums, some of whom did not receive operating assistance under the provincial Community Museums Assistance Program ("CMAP") and instead rely heavily upon volunteers and self-generated revenue. The term "community museum" is defined in Administrative Order 2018-010-ADM ("policy") to distinguish these museums from provincial, federal, or institutional museums, art galleries, interpretation centres, or stand-alone archives.

DISCUSSION

In accordance with subsection 21A (2) (1) of program policy, organizations in receipt of a multi-year Operating Grant must apply for renewal of the grant and provide updated information regarding nonprofit or charitable status, property ownership/leasing, and a financial statement. Based on the information provided, the fourteen (14) organizations requesting renewal of their 3-year Operating Grant are all eligible for consideration. Nine (9) application were also submitted for Project Grants. A brief profile of each organization accepted into the Community Museums Grants Program is included in **Attachment 1** of this report.

Recommended Operating Grants: Fiscal 2025 to 2027

Since its inception in 2018, program participants have received two increases in the value of Operating Grant. The first increase was in 2020 when grant recipients received an additional \$1,000 based on self-reports regarding seasonal employment grants. Some respondents noted a reliance on these wage subsidies during the peak visitor season, a desire to extend the duration of seasonal employment grants, or to use municipal funds to “top up” the hourly wage to meet minimum wage rates. The second increase was in 2023 when a service contract with the Association of Nova Scotia Museums expired and the saving to the program’s budget was distributed among participants on a proportional basis.

In fiscal 2025, staff recommend an increase of \$1,000 in the value of Operating Grant to help museums address a change Nova Scotia’s minimum wage legislation due to come into effect April 1, 2025. The minimum wage will increase in two phases (April and October) from \$15.20/hr to \$16.50/hr. An additional 10% increase is recommended for six (6) museums that do not receive operating funds under the Provincial Community Museums Assistance Program (“CMAP”). In combination, these adjustments represent a net increase of \$17,916 in Operating Grants as shown below in Table 1. Although this increase will reduce funds available for Project Grants, the inclusion of nonprofit organizations in HRM’s Heritage Incentives Grant Program could reduce pressure on the Community Museums Grant Program related to Capital Grant requests for restoration of registered heritage buildings and sites¹.

Table 1. Proposed Increase in Operating Grant

	2024	Revised
Tier I		
Africville Heritage Trust	\$9,885	\$10,885
Army Museum Halifax Citadel	\$14,279	\$15,279
Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum Society	\$9,885	\$10,885
Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society	\$17,547	\$18,574
Fultz Corner Restoration Society	\$6,590	\$10,885
Hooked Rug Museum of North America Society	\$8,787	\$10,665
Lake Charlotte Area Heritage Society	\$23,066	\$24,066
Musquodoboit Harbour Heritage Society	\$8,787	\$9,787
Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame	\$7,689	\$8,689
S.S Atlantic Heritage Park Society	\$3,295	\$10,661
Tier II		
Fort Sackville Foundation	\$6,590	\$8,249
L’Acadie de Chezzetcook Association	\$5,492	\$7,041
Waverley Heritage Society	\$6,000	\$7,600
Tier III		
Sheet Harbour and Area Heritage Society	\$3,295	\$4,624
Total	\$139,974	\$157,890

¹ Heritage property owned and operated by nonprofit organizations in the Community Museums Program include the Africville Heritage Trust, Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society, Fultz Corner Restoration Society, L’Acadie de Chezzetcook, and Lake Charlotte Area Heritage Society.

Additional municipal funding and provincial Community Museums Assistance Program grants are included in **Attachment 2** of this report.

Recommended Project Grants: Fiscal 2025

As of the January 31, 2025 deadline, a total of nine (9) on-time Project Grant applications were received for a combined value of \$134,364.55 in requests. Applications for Project Grants are evaluated in accordance with subsection 25 (2) of the Administrative Order which considers the incremental impact of municipal funding and public access. Project grants are available in three sub-categories each with its own criteria and maximum funding threshold. The following project descriptions and recommendations are presented by sub-category.

Project Grant – Regular (up to \$5,000)

Purpose. To support initiatives that enhance one or a combination of the following: educational programming, public access, organizational capacity building, an awareness and appreciation of museums and community heritage, the museum, its collection, programs or services.

1. Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum Society - Goffs

The Society applied for a Capital Grant in the amount of \$24,845 to fully fund the purchase of multiple small items that included assorted audiovisual equipment, office equipment, security cameras, and enhancements to interpretive displays. The submission does not qualify as a Capital Grant as per subsection 10 (c) of policy. Therefore, the staff review selected specific items for consideration under the Project Grant criteria which enhance interpretation of the museum's collection. Funding is recommended for the purchase of materials and printing of four display signs (\$2,926) and an aircraft engine model (\$1,544) for a combined total of \$4,470. The applicant will be referred to staff for assistance in any future grant application.

A Project Grant in the amount of \$4,470 is recommended to fully fund small interpretive signage and the purchase of an aviation model to enhance the museum's permanent displays.

2. Fort Sackville Foundation - Bedford

A Project Grant in the amount of \$5,000 is requested to purchase digital scanning services to conserve and expand access to photographic materials (\$2,460), the purchase archival quality storage containers (\$1,500), and computer database software (\$1,640) at a combined cost of \$5,500. The Foundation propose to contribute \$500 but as a registered charity are eligible to apply to Revenue Canada Agency for a partial HST rebate. As of the writing of this report, the Foundation's report for a similar project that received a grant of \$5,000 in 2024 had not been received. Hence, a holdback on further funding is recommended. The applicant will be referred to staff for assistance in any future grant application.

A Project Grant in the amount of \$4,000 is recommended towards the costs for professional digital scanning and the purchase of database software to enhance collection management. Holdback funding pending receipt of the Foundation's final report for a grant received in fiscal 2024.

3. Musquodoboit Harbour Heritage Society – Musquodoboit Harbour

The Society requests a Capital Grant in the amount of \$21,369.25 to fully fund materials and labour to paint of a portion of the Railway Station building and five rail cars that are parked outdoors on the museum grounds considered part of the museum's artefact collection. Although the rail cars are a visible attraction and represent ~95% of the cost, the application did not include a conservator's report and the contractor's quote noted that there is no guarantee how long the paint will last because there is a significant difference between how a train is "factory painted" versus the method to be used by the vendor which includes exterior power washing, scraping and rust removal, spray and roller paint application, and stenciling. Full funding is recommended for the touch-up painting to the building. The applicant will be advised that a Project Grant

towards professional fees to develop technical specifications for a suitable “coating system” to address asset preservation would be eligible for consideration (typically this would be an engineering company with applicable expertise and experience) and would strengthen any application for municipal or non-municipal funding.

A Project Grant in the amount of \$1,000 is recommended to fully fund minor paint repairs to the former CN Railway Station (c.1918), a registered heritage building.

Capital Grant (up to \$25,000)

Purpose. To support the acquisition, maintenance or capital improvements to fixed assets owned by the organization including land, buildings, vehicles or equipment; the acquisition of an artefact of social, cultural or historical significance for the museum’s collection; the commission or purchase of an original work of art for the museum’s permanent collection; or the design and construction of an exhibition or display. Preference may be given to permanent installations.

4. Army Museum Halifax Citadel - Halifax

A Capital Grant in the amount of \$25,000 is requested towards the creation of a new Canadian Army exhibit estimated to cost \$47,329. An interactive display map will show Canadian Army operations after WWII including location and mission description. Federal funding in the amount of \$15,000 and the applicant’s contribution of \$7,329 are confirmed. Partial funding is recommended based on the Community Museums Grants Program budget capacity and previous grants towards permanent exhibits at this location². A holdback is recommended pending the applicant’s demonstrated ability to complete the project with partial municipal funding.

A Capital Grant in the amount of \$10,000 is recommended towards the development of a new Canadian Army interactive exhibit. Holdback pending confirmation of an ability to proceed with the project proposed in fiscal 2025.

5. Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society – Cole Harbour

A Capital Grant in the amount of \$8,000 is requested to address water drainage issues that compromise the Giles House before investing in any dehumidification or climate control measures to prevent mold and protect storage. The project includes excavation to address installation of a back-flow valve and the addition of weeping tile for added drainage, and masonry work at a total cost of \$9,545 HST included. The Society will contribute \$522.50 and have deducted their partial HST rebate. Funding is recommended towards protection of a municipally registered heritage building.

A Capital Grant in the amount of \$8,000 is recommended towards a water mitigation project to protect the Giles House (c.1780) a registered heritage building.

6. Hooked Rug Museum of North America Society - Queensland

The Society has requested a Capital Grant in the amount of \$12,750 to fully fund the purchase and installation of a point-of-sale system. The equipment and software are capable of processing in-person and online transactions including print or electronic receipts, to log transactions and monitor inventory, buying trends, and collect marketing data. The Society does not receive provincial museum funding and operations rely on earned revenues, fundraising, and HRM’s municipal Operating Grant and annual tax relief. The data collected by the system will realize customer service efficiencies and collect data on museum visitation that will assist in the development of a targeted Friends of the Museum marketing campaign. The project cost includes professional fees to securely transfer data from the existing manual sales process to the new

² The Army Museum has received two Capital Grants in relation to new/expanded permanent exhibits: (1) \$8,591 in 2022 for the First Canadian Army exhibit, and (2) \$23,000 in 2023 for the Trail of the Canadian Army 1939-1945 WWII exhibit. If approved, a grant of \$10,000 will bring the combined total to \$41,591.

system. The project will have a positive incremental impact on the day-to-day operations of the museum given its reliance on volunteers and earned revenues.

A Capital Grant in the amount of \$12,750 is recommended to fully fund the purchase and installation of an electronic point-of-sale system.

7. Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame - Halifax

A capital Grant in the amount of \$18,000 is requested towards the creation of a new permanent exhibit on ice hockey history, including contributors, teams, leagues, and notable players. The exhibit will feature a large touch-screen history timeline and custom-built showcase for artefacts. The total cost is \$39,049.98 of which federal funding of \$3,822 and the applicant's contribution of \$17,227.98 are confirmed. Partial funding is recommended based on the Community Museums Grants Program budget capacity and previous grants towards permanent exhibits³. A holdback is recommended pending the applicant's demonstrated ability to complete the project with partial municipal funding.

A Capital Grant in the amount of \$10,000 is recommended towards the development of a new ice hockey history exhibit. Holdback pending confirmation of an ability to proceed with the project proposed in fiscal 2025.

Special Project Grant (up to \$20,000)

Purpose. To support a non-recurring exceptional or unique opportunity to attract provincial or national attention, a project that significantly increases the organization's revenue or profile, or the commemoration of a place, person, or historical event. Includes a grant of up to \$10,000 towards hosting a quarterly anniversary event ineligible for consideration under the HRM Regional Special Events Grants Program.

8. Lake Charlotte Heritage Society – Lake Charlotte

The Society is celebrating its 25th Anniversary and have applied for a Special Project Grant in the amount of \$9,400 toward a Homecoming event in May 2025 (total cost \$14,850). The project has three elements:

- professional fees to produce a video recognizing volunteers and staff who contributed to the establishment of the Memory Lane Heritage Village (\$6,500),
- event refreshments (\$3,000), and
- expanded costume storage and supplies (\$5,700).

Given uncertainty with respect to the timing of a municipal grant, the completion of a video may be speculative. Therefore, the review recommends partial funding that prioritizes the legacy element which expands the Society's costume collection. The current storage area for costumes and accessories is too small for the existing inventory and does not have any changing area. Expansion and upgrades to storage and the addition of twenty-five (25) new 1940's-style outfits created by volunteers based on photographs in the Eastern Shore Archives collection will enhance the interpretive capacity of this immersive heritage site.

A Special Project Grant in the amount of \$5,700 is recommended to fully fund upgrades to the costume storage amenities (\$3,250) at the Memory Lane Heritage Village and the production of twenty-five outfits (\$2,450) to enhance the visitor experience.

³ The Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame has received two (2) Capital Grants in relation to new permanent exhibits: (1) \$20,000 in 2023 for Diversity in Nova Scotia Sport: Cultural Mosaic, and (2) \$20,000 in 2024 for a Sports Hall of Fame Inductees exhibit area in 2024. If approved, a grant of \$10,000 in 2025 will bring the combined total to \$50,000 towards fit-up of the newly renovated space. In February 2025, the society requested a contribution to the Hall of fame's capital campaign to the Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee. The Committee approved the following motion at their February 13th meeting: *THAT Community Planning and Economic Development Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to provide a staff report to evaluate and provide options in response to the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame Capital Campaign request in the amount of \$300,000.*

Grants Applications Not Recommended for Funding: Fiscal 2025

Project Grant (>\$5,000)

9. Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society – Cole Harbour

A project Grant in the amount of \$5,000 is requested towards professional fees to update the Society's website platform costing \$5,750. Preference has been given to the Society's Capital Grant request to remediate water seepage issues that negatively impact a registered heritage property.

10. Lake Charlotte Heritage Society – Lake Charlotte

A Project Grant in the amount of \$5,000 is requested towards a survey and arboreal inventory which is part of a larger, phased project to create an Atlantic Coast Arboretum Catchment Area⁴ and guide future tree-planting and interpretation of species on the Memory Lane Heritage Village site. This phase of the project has a total cost of \$46,000 to hire researchers of which \$26,500 is confirmed. Although the project would enhance the Society's annual Nova Scotia Forest Festival through the future addition of pathways and natural history interpretation in relation to the local forest industry, preference has been given to the Society's request for an anniversary project which has a more immediate impact on site interpretation. The applicant will be referred to staff for assistance in any future grant application regarding this project.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Community Museums Grant Program Budget M310-8004	\$220,000
Less Recommended Operating Grants (14)	(\$157,890)
Less Recommended Project Grants (8)	<u>(\$55,920)</u>
Balance	\$6,190

RISK CONSIDERATION

Low. The primary risks with cash grants are representational (accuracy and completeness of information), financial misappropriation or loss, and reputational risk to the Municipality.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

A Call for Submissions was issued through local print media and program materials were posted on the designated web pages within the halifax.ca web site. The stated deadline for applications was January 31, 2025.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No environmental implications were identified.

⁴ An arboretum is a collection of trees, shrubs, and herbaceous plants that are cultivated for scientific and educational purposes, including local cultural history.

ALTERNATIVES

The Grants Committee could make a different recommendation to Regional Council with respect to a particular grant application, recommend that Regional Council amend the value of a particular grant, or refer an application to staff for further review.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

- *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter*, S.N.S 2008, c.39

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 2018-010-ADM Respecting Grants to Community Museums.*

9. Operating Grants may provide up to a three (3) year funding commitment, subject to annual budgetary approval by Regional Council.

(2) Council may, by resolution, extend the term of the grant program for additional fiscal years.

- *Administrative Order 2019-007-ADM Respecting Grants Reporting.*

ATTACHMENTS

1. Community Museum Grant Program Participants (2025)
 2. Other Community Museum Assistance
-

Report Prepared by: Peter Greechan, Community Developer, Grants & Contributions;
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Community Museum Grants Program Participants (2025)

Tier 1

1.Africville Heritage Trust Society - Africville Museum – Halifax (National Historic Site/UNESCO Place of History and Memory)

Oral history suggests that families of African descent settled on the shores of the Bedford Basin as early as the 1700's but the American War of 1812 proved to be a catalyst that resulted in the establishment of the community of Africville. Over the ensuing years rail and industrialization encroached as did the establishment of stigmatized public amenities. Finally, in the 1960's property was expropriated and demolished to accommodate 'urban renewal' and construction of the McKay Bridge leading to the displacement of approximately 400 people. In 2010, the Municipality issued a formal apology and as part of the settlement agreement conveyed 2.5 acres of land and funding for the creation and operation of a church/interpretive centre. The Africville Heritage Trust was incorporated as a registered non-profit society and a Canadian charity to manage the Africville Memorial Project. The Board of Directors includes members of the Africville Genealogy Society who are former community residents or their descendants.

2.Army Museum Halifax Citadel – Army Museum - Halifax (National Historic Site)

Incorporated in 1953, the Army Museum Halifax Citadel is a registered nonprofit society and a Canadian charity. Under a license agreement with Parks Canada the museum is housed in the Cavalier Building within the Halifax Citadel which formed part of the Halifax defensive network built by the British Garrison in the 19th Century and was used by the Canadian Army from 1906 to 1953. This high-profile venue attracts an estimated 200,000 visitors annually thus elevating visitation to the museum.

3.Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum Society – Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum - Goffs

The Society was formed 1977 to preserve Atlantic Canada's aviation history. Located on provincial property adjacent to the Halifax Stanfield International Airport the museum opened to the public in 1985. The collection includes examples of non-motorized aircraft (balloons, gliders), civilian and military aircraft, memorabilia and interpretive displays.

4.Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society - Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum - Cole Harbour (Registered Heritage Property)

Incorporated in 1978, the society is a registered non-profit and a Canadian charity that own and operate a living museum on 2.5 acres of land located in a busy commercial area that was once mainly agricultural, notably dairy and seasonal produce for markets in Halifax. The museum's collection of buildings and outbuildings are the only remaining structural evidence of the community's agricultural origins. In addition to a collection of 19th to mid-20th century artifacts, the site hosts an archive of documents, images and genealogical records relating to the history of Cole Harbour, small livestock, floral and vegetable gardens, and a collection of twelve (12) buildings including six representing farm homesteading and associated trades.

5.Fultz Corner Restoration Society - Fultz House Museum – Lower Sackville (Registered Heritage Property)

The Bennett Daniel Fultz House (c.1860-63) is located at the intersection the historic Cobequid and Old Sackville Roads. The area was first settled by descendants of German immigrants in the late 1700's and a concentration of successive generations of Fultz family members led to the reference to "Fultz Corner". In 1979, faced with demolition of the original Fultz family home local community groups formed a nonprofit society which enabled conveyance of the property from the provincial government. The Society has since incorporated as a Canadian charity to preserve and present the history of Sackville, Lucasville,

Beaver Bank, Kinsac and surrounding areas. The Society subsequently acquired the archival collection of the former Sackville Heritage Society representing approximately 8,000 documents, 3,000 photographs, and genealogical material. Larger artifacts re-located to the site include the W.J Grace cooperage and A.J Smeltzer's blacksmith forge.

6.Hooked Rug Museum of North America Society – Hooked Rug Museum of North America – Queensland

Rug hooking is believed to have been introduced to North American communities along the Eastern Seaboard including New England states, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and Labrador. At its inception, the craft was considered a “country craft” for its association with lower-income households who could not afford to purchase woven carpets. Instead, floor coverings (“rugs” or “mats”) were made using inexpensive burlap sackings and fabric scraps. The story of this craft's evolution and its contemporary expression is represented through permanent and temporary exhibitions, workshops, and produce sales.

7.Lake Charlotte Area Heritage Society - Memory Lane Heritage Village – Lake Charlotte (Registered Heritage Property)

Incorporated in 1995, the society is a registered non-profit and Canadian charity that own and operate a 4-acre living museum that portrays rural life in the area's small coastal villages. The society formed to prevent demolition of the Hosking General Store, a family-owned business located in Oyster Pond that had operated continuously since the late 1800's. The building and its contents were re-located to land conveyed to the society by local resident Ford Webber whose extensive personal collection of artifacts and records represent the foundation of what is now an extensive archival collection. The Society's mandate is to research, document, communicate and celebrate the social heritage of coastal communities of the Eastern shore, from Lawrencetown to Ecum Secum, between 1940 and 1950. The site includes nineteen buildings, some of which are equipped with soundscape audio and authentic artifacts to create an immersive experience. These buildings are historically significant to the local community in terms of settlement and the character of domestic life and work shaped by the natural terrain. The Society also operate the Eastern Shore Archives, a collection of documents and photographs representing the settlement and character of domestic life and work shaped by the natural terrain of the area.

8.Musquodoboit Harbour Heritage Society – Musquodoboit Harbour Railway Museum – Musquodoboit Harbour (Registered Heritage Property)

The history of Musquodoboit Harbour village is closely tied to construction of the Dartmouth Eastern Railway in 1912-16 that transported passengers and freight between Windsor Junction, Dartmouth, along the Eastern Shore to Musquodoboit Harbour then inland to Musquodoboit Valley. In 1918, a railway station was constructed with staff quarters and a passenger waiting room. The station also served as the village's communications centre with the delivery of mail and access to telegraph services before the arrival of telephone or satellite transmission. In 1980, closure of the rail line led the Musquodoboit Harbour and District Board of Trade to rally support to protect the building from demolition. Residents formed a non-profit society in 1982 which enabled Canadian National Railway (“CNR”) to convey ownership of the building to the group. The Society's mandate is to “collect, preserve, and exhibit artifacts which can be used to accurately interpret the rail history of Nova Scotia and the Musquodoboit railway system” with a focus on the Dartmouth to Upper Musquodoboit rail line. The modest collection includes posters, tickets, maps, photographs, a small library, 740 linear feet of track and five (5) large-scale artifacts (original train cars and freight wagons) on outdoor display.

9.Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame Society - Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame – Halifax

Established in 1964 as the Nova Scotia Sport Heritage Centre and incorporated as a non-profit society in 1983, the initial collection of sport memorabilia and inductees was housed in the Industrial Building of the

Halifax Forum. In 2004, the society changed its name to the Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame. The Society is a registered Canadian charity. In addition to a Hall of Fame recognizing notable athletes, teams, sport builders and media, a collection of digital text and image files artefacts, memorabilia, trophies, and interpretative displays and exhibitions preserve the history of sport in Nova Scotia.

10.S.S Atlantic Heritage Park Society - S.S Atlantic Heritage Interpretation Park – Terence Bay

Incorporated in 2001, the Society's mandate is to preserve and present the story of the S.S Atlantic shipwreck and the rescue effort undertaken by residents to save or recover passengers and crew members. approximately 550 people died of whom 277 were interred in the St. Paul's Anglican Church burial ground and 150 at the Our Lady Star of the Sea Church both located in Terence Bay. St. Paul's Anglican Church supports the Society's commemorative efforts through a lease agreement over portions of their 14- acre property within which is located the original burial ground in which many of the victims of the disaster are buried. In 1998, area residents rallied to restore the mass grave which had been severely damaged by coastal erosion. Volunteers made immediate repairs to the seawall and burial site which led to an interest in developing a lasting commemoration. Volunteers provide stewardship in the upkeep of the burial site and commemorative monuments, have constructed a boardwalk along the shoreline leading to Tennant Point lighthouse and a small interpretive building which houses the Society's collection of artifacts from the shipwreck and rescue efforts within the context of marine and village life and culture in Terence Bay and Lower Prospect at the time of the *S.S Atlantic* disaster.

Tier II

11.Fort Sackville Foundation – Scott Manor House – Bedford (Registered Heritage Property)

Incorporated in 1988, the Society is a registered nonprofit and Canadian charity that lease the HRM-owned registered heritage property known as Scott Manor House (c. 1770). The colonial-style residence was constructed by Lt. Col. Joseph Scott a member of the British military who pursued local business interests in the area and later served as a member of the Nova Scotia Government. The property is located adjacent to what remains of Fort Sackville a military outpost constructed (c.1749) as part of the Halifax Garrison defenses. The Foundation's mandate is to provide stewardship of the historic property and preserve and present the history and cultural heritage of the area, including some items on loan from the HRM Archives that relate to the former town of Bedford.

12.L'Acadie de Chezzetcook Association - Acadia House Museum – West Chezzetcook (Registered Heritage Property)

Originally incorporated in 1996 as the West Chezzetcook Grand Desert Community Interest Association, the non-profit society's mandate was primarily community economic development, including the development of the Blueberry Run Trail. In 2014, the Association changed its name to reflect a focus on Acadian culture with the goal of attracting visitors to the area. The site includes five buildings: a former residence (c.1850) furnished with artifacts depicting a typical 1930's Acadian family home, a former dwelling (c.1820's) renovated for use as a seasonal commercial restaurant/café, a small wooden tool shed, a barn-style community hall, and a Welcome Centre purpose built in 2014 that houses a genealogy room, static displays on local history, and a gift shop. An extensive program of seasonal events celebrating Acadian culture.

13.Waverley Heritage Society – Waverley Heritage Museum - Waverley (Registered Heritage Property)

Incorporated in 1979, Society is a registered nonprofit organization that have secured ownership of the former private collection of historian Annie Blois Smith which is housed in the former St. John the Baptist Anglican Church (c.1861) a registered heritage property owned by the Waverley Community Association. Under a lease agreement with the Association volunteers collect and present the history of the Waverley area including early Mi'kmaq settlements and the discovery of gold which led to an extensive mining industry that was a catalyst for expanded social and economic development.

Tier III

14. Sheet Harbour and Area Heritage Society – MacPhee House Museum – Sheet Harbour (Registered Heritage Property)

Incorporated in 2008, the Society is a registered nonprofit organization whose mandate is to collect, preserve, and display the history of Sheet Harbour and surrounding area. Located under a sublease agreement in MacPhee House, a Classic Revival style residence (c.1875) owned by the Municipality, the Society maintains a collection of artefacts and displays depicting local settlement which was originally associated with logging and fishing.

Additional Assistance to Community Museums

The following information is provided with respect to recurring operating assistance to community museums and excludes non-recurring municipal grants. Examples of the latter could include, for example, a project-specific cash grant under the District Capital Fund or a non-recurring grant under the Regional Special Events Grants Program.

Proposed Operating Grant (2025)

The fourteen (14) community museums in receipt of an Operating Grant under the Community Museums Grants Program are listed below alphabetically by "Tier". The tier denotes the organization's core annual operating expenses as defined in Administrative Order 2018-010-ADM.

The dollar value shown in column 2 "HRM (2025)" shows the proposed increase to municipal Operating Grant. If approved, this funding level will be for three (3) consecutive years, ending March 31, 2028, subject to annual budget capacity.

	HRM (2024)	HRM (2025)	CMA/NS
Tier I			
Africville Heritage Trust	\$9,885	\$10,885	\$80,000
Army Museum Halifax Citadel	\$14,279	\$15,279	\$46,914
Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum Society	\$9,885	\$10,885	\$30,338
Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society	\$17,574	\$18,574	\$43,279
Fultz Corner Restoration Society	\$9,885	\$10,885	\$9,945
Hooked Rug Museum of North America Society	\$8,787	\$10,665	\$0
Lake Charlotte Area Heritage Society	\$23,066	\$24,066	\$73,145
Musquodoboit Harbour Heritage Society	\$8,787	\$9,787	\$9,678
Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame	\$7,689	\$8,689	\$55,000
S.S Atlantic Heritage Park Society	\$8,787	\$10,665	\$0
Tier II			
Fort Sackville Foundation	\$6,590	\$8,249	\$0
L'Acadie de Chezzetcook Association	\$5,492	\$7,041	\$0
Waverley Heritage Society	\$6,000	\$7,600	\$0
Tier III			
Sheet Harbour and Area Heritage Society	\$3,295	\$4,624	\$0
TOTAL	\$139,974	\$157,890	\$349,039

Note: Due to significant variance in the value of CMA/NS grants and the exclusion/non-participation of some community museums located within HRM, the Community Museums Grants Program does not use provincial funding as a benchmark for municipal grants except in relation to the 80% government funding threshold for a municipal Operating Grant.

Project Grants (2018 to 2024) – Transition to a Designated Community Museums Program

Although the Community Museums Grants Program was launched in the Fall of 2018 on an interim basis pending the completion of a Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan. As shown below in Table 1 applications initially focused on Operating Grants from established groups while some organizations did not apply due to varying stages of readiness (collection ownership, leasing, accreditation) and instead continued to apply to the Community Grants Program. This distinction is shown with awards issued under the Community Grants Program indicated in **bold type** and Community Museums Grants Program indicated by **shading**.

Tabel 1. Non-Recurring Capital and Project Grants: Fiscal 2018 to 2024¹
Community Grants Program and Community Museums Program

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Tier I								
Africville Heritage Trust		\$11,850						\$11,850
Army Museum Halifax Citadel					\$8,591	\$23,000		\$31,591
Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum							\$3,937	\$3,937
Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society		\$5,000 \$4,000	\$20,000	\$11,000	\$5,000	\$4,563	\$19,000	\$68,563 ²
Fultz Corner Restoration Society		\$4,000				\$25,000		\$29,000
Hooked Rug Museum of North America		\$9,000		\$25,000	\$3,000			\$37,000
Lake Charlotte Aera Heritage Society	\$5,000 \$8,000	\$7,000	\$5,000	\$20,000	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$30,000	\$85,000
Musquodoboit Harbour Heritage Society					\$16,082.50			\$16,082.50
Nova Scotia Sport Hall of Fame				\$2,500		\$20,000	\$20,000	\$42,500
S.S Atlantic Heritage Park Society	\$8,000							\$8,000
Tier II								
Fort Sackville Foundation	\$3,000	\$8,966			\$6,250		\$5,000	\$23,216
L'Acadie de Chezzetcook Association			\$5,200					\$5,200
Waverley Heritage Society		\$4,800		\$4,000				\$8,800
Tier III								
Sheet Harbour and Area Heritage Society		\$2,000						\$2,000
TOTAL	\$24,000	\$56,616	\$30,200	\$62,500	\$43,923.50	\$77,563	\$77,937	

Notes to Table 1.

1. Only awards shown. Applications declined or ineligible for funding are not listed. If awarded more than one grant under the Community Museums Grants Program in a fiscal year the \$-value stated represents the combined value.
Excludes any other municipal funding such as the District Activity/Capital Fund or Regional Special Events Grants Program.
2. The combined total of awards to the Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society excludes the \$25,000 Capital Grant awarded under the Community Grants Program in 2023. The grant was towards the roof replacement the Cole Harbour Meeting House (c.1830), a former church and registered heritage property owned by the Society located at 1436 Cole Harbour Road, Dartmouth, and not part of the Cole Harbour Heritage Farm Museum site.

Project Grants – Proposed Consolidation of Heritage Property Grants

To address potential overlap or duplication between the Community Museums Grants Program and the Community Grants Program the museum program policy was amended in 2021 with the addition of a Project Grants funding category. The aim was to create a single-point-of-entry and create administrative efficiencies for both HRM and applicants. The Community Grants Program now serves only those organizations ineligible for funding under the Community Museums Grant Program such as, but not limited to, historical or genealogical societies and history projects undertaken by various nonprofit organizations that do not operate as a museum.

HRM's Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan was approved by Regional Council in 2024¹. One of the report's recommendations is to consolidate funding for the conservation of registered heritage property under the Heritage Incentives Grants Program. Subject to Council's approval, the program will be expanded to include nonprofit and charitable organizations which is expected to reduce budget pressure on both the Community Grants Program and the Community Museums Grants Program.

• Municipal Property Tax Relief (2024)

In 2024 ten (10) organizations included in the Community Museums Grant Program were assessed as taxable² and discretionary tax relief was awarded to a combined total of sixteen (17) properties

	Tax Grant
Atlantic Canada Aviation Museum	\$39,147
Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society (2)	\$5,225
Fort Sackville Foundation (2)	\$26,719
Fultz Corner Restoration Society (5)	\$14,324
Hooked Rug Museum of North America	\$9,054
L'Acadie de Chezzetcook Association (2)	\$3,085
Lake Charlotte Area Heritage Society	\$11,715
Musquodoboit Harbour Heritage Society	\$1,145
S.S Atlantic Heritage Park Society	\$3,770
Sheet Harbour Area Historical Society	\$3,062
Total	\$117,246

¹ Report to the January 9, 2024, meeting of Regional Council, Sharing Our Stories: HRM's Culture and Heritage Priorities Plan, dated December 14, 2023. Appendix A Action 4.9 [Item 15.3.1i].

² Community museums not listed may be exempt property tax by legislation, ineligible for tax relief due to a commercial lease, or occupy federal or provincial property for which tax is paid by the owner in the form of "grant in lieu of tax".

- **Indirect Municipal Operating Assistance - Less than Market Value Lease (2023)**

In addition to a less than market value rental rate, some municipal lease or license agreements include specific operating expenses that might otherwise be the responsibility of a tenant.

	Opportunity Cost	Operating Costs	Total/HRM
Fort Sackville Foundation	\$28,776	\$30,000	\$58,776
Sheet Harbour Area Historical Society	\$5,110	\$5,150	\$10,260 ¹
Total	\$33,886	\$35,150	\$69,036²

Notes

1. The value of tax grant shown is 50% of the total tax based on the museum's partial occupancy of the premises.
2. Any opportunity costs associated with the Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame occupancy of a portion of the HRM Scotiabank Centre has not been quantified as of the date of this report.