



**GRANTS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
March 27, 2024**

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Cathy Deagle Gammon, Chair  
Councillor Lisa Blackburn  
Councillor Lindell Smith  
Councillor Becky Kent  
Alex Handyside  
Pamela Crowell  
Ayo Aladejebi

REGRETS: Joseph Allen, Vice Chair  
Stefan Ludin  
Leona Milne

STAFF: Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead Grants Tax & Special Project  
Elizabeth Macdonald, Legislative Assistant  
Olawumi Odeyinka-Apantaku, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m., and the Committee adjourned at 11:46 a.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 15, 2024**

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Ayo Aladejebi

**THAT the minutes of January 15, 2024 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Pamela Crowell

**THAT the agenda be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

**6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**7.1 Correspondence - None**

**7.2 Petitions – None**

**7.3 Presentation – None**

**8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

**9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

**9.1 STAFF**

**9.1.1 Revised Proposed 2024 Meeting Schedule**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff memorandum dated March 27, 2024

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

**THAT the Grant Committee approve the revised proposed 2024 Grants Committee meeting schedule as outlined in the staff memorandum.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**9.1.2 Community Museums Grants Program: Recommended Awards 2024**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff report dated February 28, 2024

Peta-Jane temple, Team Lead Grants Tax & Special Project responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOVED by Councillor Kent, seconded by Ayo Aladejebi

**THAT the Grant Committee recommend that Regional Council:**

1. **Adopt the amendment to Administrative Order 2018-010-ADM, Respecting Grants to Community Museums, as set out in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated February 28, 2024; and**
2. **Approve seven (7) Project Grants (\$77,937) and one (1) new Operating Grant (\$6,000) as detailed in the Discussion section of the staff report dated February 28, 2024 at a combined increase in cost of \$83,937 in fiscal year 2024/25 from Operating Account M310-8004.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **9.1.3 Administrative Order 2024-002-ADM Respecting the HRM Anti-Black Racism Grants Program**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff report dated March 1, 2024

Russel Brooks, Anti-Black Racism Coordinator spoke to the report. Brooks and Peta-Jane Temple, Team Lead Grants Tax & Special project, responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

MOVED by Ayo Aladejebi, seconded Councillor Blackburn

**THAT the Grant Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council adopt Administrative Order 2024-002-ADM, the *Anti-Black Racism Grants Administrative Order*, as set out in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated March 1, 2024.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **9.1.4 Administrative Order 2024-001-ADM Respecting Tax Relief to Registered Nonprofit and Registered Canadian Charitable Organizations**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff report dated February 19, 2024
- Staff presentation dated March 27, 2024

Peta Jane Temple, Team Lead Grants Tax & Special Project and Carolyn Penny, Senior Financial Consultant gave a presentation.

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Ayo Aladejebi

**THAT the Grant Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:**

1. **Adopt Administrative Order 2024-001-ADM, the *Tax Relief Administrative Order*, including repealing the *Tax Relief for Non-Profit Organizations Administrative Order*, as set out in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated February 19, 2024, effective April 1, 2024;**

2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to direct staff to implement the Communications Plan described in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated February 19, 2024;
3. Request the Nova Scotia Government amend subsections 89 (1) and (4) of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* to protect the identification of a residential property serving victims of abuse in receipt of a municipal tax exemption by excluding such properties from the legislated requirement that properties in receipt of tax relief be specifically named in policy; and
4. Adopt the amendments to Administrative Order 18, the *Revenue Collections Policy Administrative Order*, as set out in Attachment 5 of the staff report dated February 19, 2024.

Temple and Penny responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding the feedback received from programme participants, qualifying factors for registered nonprofit versus registered Canadian charitable organizations, levies for Halifax Regional Fire & Emergency, plans for future evaluations of the programme and alternatives outlined in the staff report.

The Committee noted that section 1 of the alternatives outlined in the staff report addressed gaps identified by programme participants.

MOVED by Councillor Smith, seconded by Councillor Blackburn

**THAT the motion be amended to amend Administrative Order 2024-001-ADM with the addition of the following:**

***3(j)(iv) Subject to clause 3j(v), for an Affordable Housing Rental Accommodations Organization, 50%,***

***(v) for an Affordable Housing Rental Accommodations Organization in receipt of a reduction in the assessed market value under the Nova Scotia Capped Assessment Program, 25%,***

as well as a renumbering of the subsequent clauses.

**MOTION TO AMEND PUT AND PASSED.**

The motion as amended now read:

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Ayo Aladejebi

**THAT the Grant Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council:**

1. Adopt Administrative Order 2024-001-ADM, the *Tax Relief Administrative Order*, including repealing the *Tax Relief for Non-Profit Organizations Administrative Order*, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated February 19, 2024, as amended, effective April 1, 2024;
2. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to direct staff to implement the Communications Plan described in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated February 19, 2024;
3. Request the Nova Scotia Government amend subsections 89 (1) and (4) of the *Halifax Regional Municipality Charter* to protect the identification of a residential property serving victims of abuse in receipt of a municipal tax exemption by excluding such properties

from the legislated requirement that properties in receipt of tax relief be specifically named in policy; and

4. **Adopt the amendments to Administrative Order 18, the *Revenue Collections Policy Administrative Order*, as set out in Attachment 5 of the staff report dated February 19, 2024.**

**MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND PASSED.**

**10. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

**11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 24, 2024**

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

Olawumi Odeyinka-Apantaku  
Legislative Assistant