

RECOMMENDATION

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

- 1) approve twelve (12) Operating Grants, three (3) Project Grants, and one (1) Special Project grant as detailed in Attachment 1 and 2 of this report at a combined cost of \$125,966 subject to budget confirmation in 2019-20 from Operating Account M310-8004; and
- 2) refer the Urban Farm Museum Society of Spryfield and the Sheet Harbour & Area Heritage Society to the 2019-2020 Community Grants Program and the 2020-2021 Interim Community Museums Grant Program.

BACKGROUND

On November 13, 2018, Regional Council approved ten (10) multi-year operating grants for a combined total of \$95,000. These awards are for a 3-year term, ending March 31, 2021. Subject to Council's approval, these awards are to be renewed in 2019. Those organizations accepted into the program in 2018 are listed in **Attachment 1** of this report.

DISCUSSION

New Applications: As of the application deadline of January 31, 2019, eight (8) on-time applications were received. The distribution of applications and the combined value of requests is listed below in Table 1.

Table 1. Distribution of New Applications and Recommended Awards by Sub-Category: Fiscal Year 2019				
Sub-Category	Applications	Value of Requests	Awards Proposed	Value of Proposed Awards
Operating (2-Year) ¹	3	\$49,267	2	\$12,000
Operating (Non-Recurring)	0	0	0	\$0
Project Grant	4	\$16,216	3	\$11,966
Special Project Grant	1	\$19,892.50	1	\$7,000
TOTAL	8	\$85,375.55	5	\$30,966

Notes to Table 1.

1. Administrative Order 2014-010-ADM concludes in fiscal year 2020, therefore the maximum duration of a multi-year operating grant is two (2) years.

A narrative description of the review team's recommendations is included as **Attachment 2** of this report.

ANSM Service Contract: In the development of HRM's interim *Community Museums Grant Program* it was acknowledged that the inclusion of an incentive to encourage museum standards of practice (Tier I "accredited" museums) would exert pressure on the *Museum Evaluation Program* administered on behalf of the provincial government by the Association of Nova Scotia Museums ("ANSM"). To assist with orientation workshops and evaluations, including re-evaluations, for community museums located within HRM the municipality has entered into a 3-year service contract with ANSM. Its objective is to (a) help expedite evaluation capacity for community museums in the HRM region, and (b) to secure evidence-based

data from ANSM that will be used in HRM's evaluation of the interim grant program. See: **Attachment 3** of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Subject to budget confirmation in 2019-2020:

Interim Community Museums Grant Program Budget M310-8004	\$220,000
Less Approved 3-Year Operating Grants: 2018-2020 (10)	(\$95,000)
Less Recommended 2-Year Operating Grants: 2019-2020 (2)	(\$12,000)
Less Recommended Project Grants: 2019 (3)	(\$11,966)
Less Recommended Special Project Grant (1)	<u>(\$ 7,000)</u>
Balance	\$94,034

It is anticipated that additional organizations will apply to the 2020-21 program (deadline January 31, 2020) for an operating grant. These requests are in addition to applications for project grants from organizations in receipt of a multi-year operating grant. Several organizations have indicated an interest in participation but need time to prepare an application that meets the program's eligibility criteria¹.

If the program's budget remains unchanged in 2019-20, a balance of \$94,034 represents the program's capacity to accept additional community museums who meet the program's eligibility criteria in 2020. Of this amount, approximately \$20,000 to \$30,000 could be allocated to project-specific grants. No increase in the program's budget allocation is anticipated over the 3-year term of this *interim* grant program.

RISK CONSIDERATION

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

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

December 1, 2018 – Call for Submissions advertised and materials posted on HRM web site.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES

1. The Grants Committee could recommend that Regional Council decline approval of a specific grant or amend the value of an award. If the Grants Committee amends a staff recommendation, the rationale and any financial implications are provided in the Committee's report attached to this staff report and forwarded to Regional Council for a decision.
2. The Grants Committee could refer an application to staff for further review.

¹ For example, the Waverley Heritage Society and the Urban Farm Museum of Spryfield.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 3-Year Operating Grants: Approved Fiscal Year 2018-2019.
- Attachment 2 Recommended Operating and Project Grants: Fiscal Year 2019-20.
- Attachment 3 Association of Nova Scotia Museums Service Contract: Overview.

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.

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