



**GRANTS COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
MINUTES  
January 20, 2026**

PRESENT: Councillor Jean St-Amand, Chair  
Councillor Virginia Hinch  
Councillor Nancy Hartling  
Lara White  
Stephanie Sachsse

REGRETS: Joseph Allen, Vice Chair  
Councillor David Hendsbee  
Darryn Steeves  
Hosherdar Polad

STAFF: 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).*

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

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.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 THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Councillor Hinch, seconded by Councillor Hartling

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

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **3. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

## **4. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

### **4.1 STAFF**

#### **4.1.1 HRM Anti-Black Racism Grants Program: Fiscal 2025 – Recommended Awards**

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff report dated January 8, 2026

Russel Brooks, Advisor Anti-Black Racism responded to questions of clarification from the Committee regarding ineligible and incomplete applications for the program, and the dialogue that had followed the application period. Brooks noted that Beechville Lineage of Light, one of the recommended applicants, was registered as the InHeritage Healing Hub.

MOVED by Councillor Hartling, seconded by Councillor Hinch

**THAT Grants Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council approve sixteen (16) awards as detailed in Attachment 2 of the staff report dated January 8, 2026 for a combined total of \$100,000 from Operating Account E401-8004 Anti-Black Racism Grants.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Olawumi Odeyinka-Apantaku  
Legislative Assistant