



**SPECIAL EVENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
March 25, 2026**

PRESENT: Councillor Tony Mancini, Chair
Councillor Billy Gillis, Vice Chair
Councillor Laura White
Gordon Stevens
Ross Jefferson
Leah Batstone
Sue Uteck

REGRETS: Natasha Chestnut
Jeff Ransome

STAFF: Billy Comer, Manager, Events
Shari Dillman, Events Grant Administrator
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.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:33 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 – August 13, 2025, January 7, 2026 Special Meeting and January 15, 2026 Special Meeting

MOVED by Councillor Gillis, seconded by Sue Uteck

THAT the minutes of August 13, 2025, January 7, 2026 Special Meeting and January 15, 2026 Special Meeting 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

Deferred to the April 8, 2026 meeting of Special Events Advisory Committee:

- Item 9.1.1 Halifax Regional Event Strategy Report

MOVED by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Gillis

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

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

7.3.1 Halifax Music Fest – Halifax Music Fest Ltd.

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated March 25, 2026

Louis Thomas, representative from Halifax Music Fest Ltd. gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

7.3.2 FIFA World Cup Canada Celebrates– Soccer Nova Scotia

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated March 25, 2026

Lindsay MacAskill, representative from Soccer Nova Scotia gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

7.3.3 FIFA World Cup Canada Trophy Tour – Soccer Nova Scotia

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated March 25, 2026

Lindsay MacAskill, representative from Soccer Nova Scotia gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

7.3.4 MacPhee Centre for Creative Learning Society – FamFest Atlantic

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated March 25, 2026

Allegra Swanson and Craig Mercer, representatives from FamFest Atlantic gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

7.3.5 City of Laughs Comedy Festival– City of Laughs Dartmouth

The following was before the Committee:

- Presentation dated March 25, 2026

Anton Nestel, representative from City of Laughs Dartmouth gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Committee.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

9. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 Halifax Regional Event Strategy Report

The following was before the Committee:

- Staff report dated March 25, 2026

This matter was deferred during the approval of the Order of Business.

10. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

10.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – January 15, 2026 Special Meeting

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Councillor Gillis, seconded Leah Batstone

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of January 15, 2026 Special Meeting be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – April 8, 2026

12. ADJOURNMENT

**Special Events Advisory Committee
Minutes
March 25, 2026**

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Olawumi Odeyinka-Apantaku
Legislative Assistant