

HRM COMMUNITY GRANTS AWARDS

The HRM Community Grants Program awards annual cash grants to registered non-profit organizations located within our municipality. The focus of these grants is primarily the provision of modest financial assistance to community-based volunteer initiatives. The 2017 Community Grants Program received 130 applications for a combined total of \$1,421,480.00 in funding requests. Due to limited funds 52 awards for a combined total of \$453,858.00 was recommended. The following organizations of particular interest to our district were recommended for grant awards:

- **Moser River & Area Historical Society:** A grant of \$1,700 for building materials to construct a wheelchair ramp at McMann House.
- **NS Woodlot Owners & Operators Association—Mooseland:** A grant of \$2,500 for small forestry & navigational equipment to support the Otter Ponds Demonstration Project.
- **Harbour Lites New Horizon Seniors Club—Musquodoboit Harbour:** A grant of \$3,000 for the purchase and installation of a commercial grade appliance.
- **Eastern Shore Players Society:** A grant of \$4,750 towards the purchase of portable lighting equipment.
- **Africville Heritage Trust Society:** A grant of \$5,000 towards the Negro Spirituals Music Project to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the last service conducted in the original church.
- **Conseil Communautaire du Grand-Havre:** A grant of \$5,000 towards a Francophone Cultural Centre feasibility study.
- **Cole Harbour Rural Heritage Society:** A grant of \$5,000 for repairs to Harris House.
- **Royal Canadian Legion Branch #58—Watt Section:** A grant of \$10,000 towards the installation of an auxiliary power system in order to be designated as an EMO comfort centre.
- **Royal Canadian Legion Branch #161—Gaetz Brook:** A grant of \$10,000 towards the installation of an auxiliary power system in order to be designated as an EMO comfort centre.
- **Seaforth Community Hall:** A grant of \$10,500 for the acquisition & installation of a metal roof.
- **MusGo Riders Cooperative Limited:** A grant of \$12,000 towards the purchase of another vehicle for rural transit service.
- **Musquodoboit Harbour Heritage Society:** A grant of \$12,000 for exterior repairs to the Railway Museum.
- **NS Black Cultural Centre:** A grant of \$25,000 for community access enhancement upgrades.
- **Sheet Harbour Chamber of Commerce:** A grant of \$25,000 for the installation of floating docks for the coastal marina project.

GRADUATION CONGRATULATIONS

I want to congratulate all Graduates in the Class of 2017 from High Schools, Community Colleges, and Universities. May each of you have many life successes and the best of luck with your future endeavours. Be sure that you all have a Great Prom and a Safe Grad!

2017 STUDENT CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Every year HRM presents a Citizenship Award to outstanding Grade 9 students throughout the municipality. The recipients are chosen based on qualities of leadership in their school and community and commendable performance in their courses. This year the following students from our district were bestowed with this honour:

Matthew Logan Hogg—Duncan MacMillan High
Lauren Johnson—Oyster Pond Academy
Tyler Milne—Gaetz Brook Jr. High School
Jaime Spicer—Ross Road Jr. High School
Araya Smith—Graham Creighton Jr. High School

Great job by these outstanding students!

FREE SWIMMING LESSONS BY HRM

HRM offers free swimming lessons at various supervised outdoor beaches. Registration is required to take part in these classes. Registration will start at 10 AM on June 7th and will continue until classes are full. Register online at HRM's "Rec Connect": <https://eservices2.halifax.ca/reconnect/Activities/ActivitiesAdvSearch.asp> or call 902-490-6666. Lifeguard supervision runs from July 1st to August 31st. Our district has five locations: Orenda Beach in Lake Echo, Kinap Beach in West Porters Lake, Pleasant Drive in Gaetz Brook, Webber's Beach in Lake Charlotte/Upper Lakeville and Malay Falls Beach in Lochaber Mines/Sheet Harbour. All of these beaches have some level of HRM supervision including daily maintenance and weekly water testing. However this service at the Old Government Wharf in West Petpeswick/Musquodoboit Harbour has been discontinued due to low usage and frequent closures due to water quality problems. For more information, please call HRM Beach Line 902-490-5458 or visit www.halifax.ca/rec/Beaches.html. Have fun in the sun and be safe when in the water.

ROADSIDE GIVEAWAY JUNE 3RD & 4TH

Residents are encouraged to participate in HRM's Roadside Give Away Weekends—June 3rd & 4th and October 14th & 15th. There are some rules to follow if you wish to partake. Please go to this link for more information about how and when to put out your items: www.halifax.ca/recycle/CGAW.php. Discover the "Hidden Treasures" in your neighbourhood and our communities. Share your roadside finds on Twitter at #hfxcurbside or send in comments to: WasteLess@Halifax.ca or [Facebook.com/HalifaxRecycles](https://www.facebook.com/HalifaxRecycles) or @hfxgov.

HALIFAX GREEN NETWORK PLAN

The Halifax Green Network Plan is nearing the final phase of development and HRM is seeking your input. Join us at an upcoming public meeting to discuss the draft directions for protecting a region-wide network of open space lands and waters to help HRM shape its future Green Network. To see what was discussed in Phase 1 and 2 check out the Halifax Green Network Primer Report and its Values Maps: www.halifax.ca/HalifaxGreenNetwork/documents/HGNP-Primer_170309-HIGH.pdf, www.halifax.ca/HalifaxGreenNetwork/documents/HGNP-Primer-ValuesMaps_170110.pdf

Phase 3 local meeting dates are:

- **Wednesday, June 7th 6-8 PM** at Musquodoboit Valley Bicentennial Theatre & Cultural Centre, 12390 Hwy #224, Middle Musquodoboit Thursday, June 8th 6-8 PM at the Sheet Harbour Lions Club, 183 Pool Road
- **Monday, June 12th 6-8 PM** at the Old School Community Gathering Place, 7962 Highway #7, Musquodoboit Harbour. If you can't attend a meeting, you can participate in the online survey: www.shapeyourcityhalifax.ca/halifax-green-network.

LOW INCOME TRANSIT PROGRAM

Beginning July 2017, the HRM Annual Low Income Transit Program will accept up to 1,000 qualified applicants who will be able to purchase a subsidized monthly pass from July 2017 to June 2018. The intent of the program is to make monthly transit passes more affordable for low-income residents. Those participating in the program will be able to purchase monthly adult transit passes for 50% off the regular price. To qualify for the Halifax Transit Low Income Transit Pass Program the applicant must not already receive a transportation subsidy under the NS Employment Support & Income Assistance Program, and the applicant's household income must be less than \$33,000 per year. The application form is available online at: www.halifax.ca/transit/LowIncomePass.php.

UPDATE ON MVP RENOVATIONS

Eight bids were received for HRM Tender (17-166) for the renovations to the branch library, fitness center and Service Counter in the Musquodoboit Harbour Village Plaza (MVP). The successful bidder was Blunden Construction at a quote of \$788,000.00. It is anticipated that the renovation work will begin by mid-June and hopefully be concluded by mid-November. During this construction period the fitness center, library and service counter will still be operating at the current site but within a more confined space. The HRM Service Counter & Recreation Staff will be relocated to an on-site trailer, and the library will be reduced in size to fit a space inside the fitness center area. The fitness center itself will remain in the same spot but at a reduced utilization area of about 60% capacity. Some of the duplicate machines will be removed to make room within these confined quarters. HRM did a review of local facilities and assessed different alternative service delivery models. It was determined that the most cost-effective approach would be to keep as much of the current services at the current location but at a reduced rate. Your patience during this renovation period will be greatly appreciated. For more details, www.halifax.ca/rec/CentresMusqHarbour.php or contact the MVP fitness centre directly at 902-888-4058.

