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Finance Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 6, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

MODL Council Chambers – 10 Allée Champlain Drive, Cookville

- 1. Call to Order**
 - 1.1 Mi'kma'ki Territorial Acknowledgement
- 2. Announcements, Acknowledgements, Recognition**
 - 2.1 Proclamation –Lyme Disease Awareness Month 1
- 3. Public Input (15 Minutes)**
- 4. Changes/Approval of Agenda**
- 5. Approval of Minutes – April 1, 2025 (as circulated)**
- 6. Business Arising from Minutes**
- 7. Presentations/Scheduled Times**
 - 7.1 Efficiency Nova Scotia – Energy Poverty and Equity, Josh McLean..... 9:15 a.m. 2-7
- 8. Referrals from Committees/Council**
- 9. Staff Reports**
 - 9.1 Recreation Department**
 - 9.1.1 Pine Grove Park – What We Heard Report..... 8-22
 - 9.1.2 Additional Funding Request - Community Recreation Capital Grant..... 23-30
 - 9.1.3 Annual Operating & Major Recreation Capital Grants 31-56
 - 9.2 Planning & Development**
 - 9.2.1 Funding Support to Friends of Crescent Beach 57-62
- 10. Consideration of Correspondence - Nil**
- 11. Recommendations from Council – Nil**
- 12. Added Items**
- 13. In Camera - Nil**
- 14. Adjournment**



Proclamation

Lyme Disease Month

Whereas Lyme disease is a serious illness caused by the bite of a blacklegged tick infected with the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*: (pronounce Bor-re-lia burg-dor-feri) and

Whereas blacklegged ticks carrying a variety of diseases or illnesses can now be found in all parts of Nova Scotia; and

Whereas awareness, education and practicing preventative measures, such as daily tick checks and proper tick removal, can help reduce your chances of contracting tick-borne diseases;

Therefore, be it resolved that I, Mayor Elspeth McLean-Wile, on behalf of the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg, do hereby proclaim May 2025 as "Lyme Disease Awareness Month".

May 6, 2025

Mayor Elspeth McLean-Wile



Energy Poverty and Equity

Josh McLean, EfficiencyOne

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg
May 6, 2025

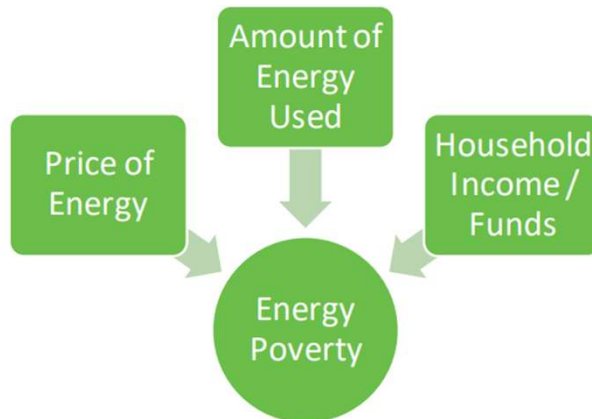
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Energy Poverty



When a household spends more than 6% of take-home income on home energy use

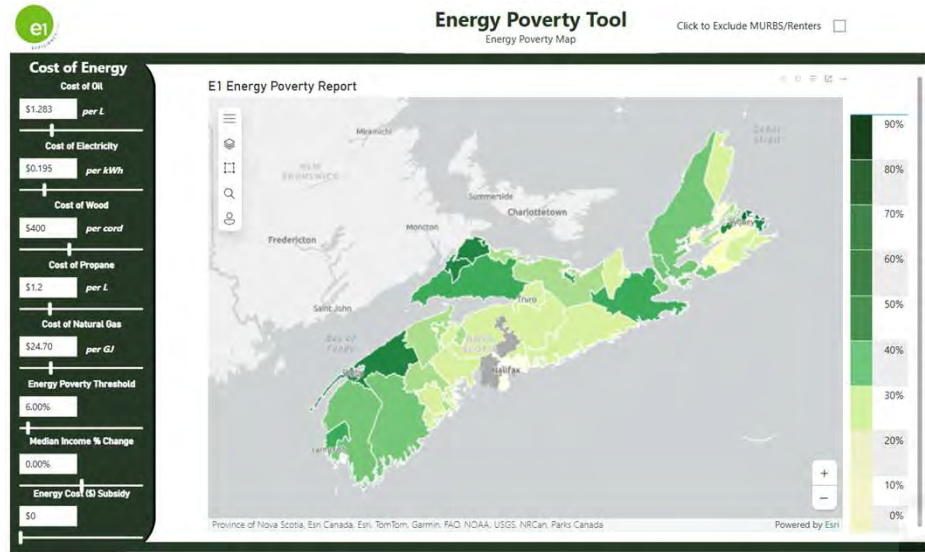


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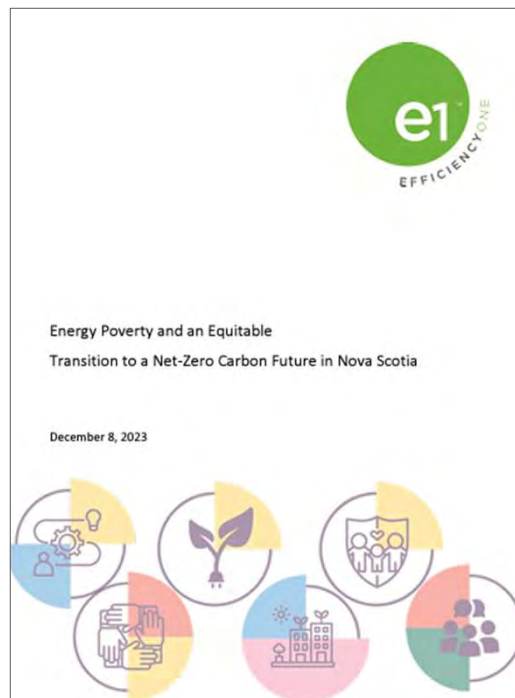
Energy Poverty in Nova Scotia

Range of Nova Scotian households in energy poverty in the last 3 years: 34% - 48%



3

[Energy Poverty and an Equitable Transition to a Net-Zero Carbon Future in Nova Scotia – EfficiencyOne](#)



4



Programs to address Energy Poverty and Equity:

Participant	Efficiency Nova Scotia Program
Low-income Homeowner	HomeWarming and Oil-to-Heat Pump Affordability Program
Low-income Renter	Affordable Multifamily Housing
Moderate-income Homeowner	Moderate Income Top-Ups and Oil-to-Heat Pump Affordability Program
Mi'kmaw Households	Mi'kmaw Home Energy Efficiency Project
African Nova Scotian Households	African Nova Scotian Communities Retrofit Pilot

5

5



HomeWarming Program

Established:	2007
Eligibility:	Homeowners: based on income level + number of people in the home
Energy Assessment:	Yes
Avg. Incentive Spend per Building	Over \$10,000
Participant Cost:	\$0
Annual Energy Bill Savings:	\$860 (electrically heated) \$1,700 (non-electrically heated)
Top 3 Upgrades:	1. Ceiling Insulation 2. Basement & Crawlspace Insulation 3. Exterior Wall Insulation

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Affordable Multi-Family Housing Program

Established:	2018
Eligibility:	Owners of multi-unit residential buildings who offer affordable rent
Energy Assessment:	When appropriate
Avg. Incentive Spend per Building	\$18,250 (electrically heated) \$29,900 (non-electrically heated)
Participant Cost:	Varies (most buildings can get up to 80% rebates, some are 100%)
Annual Energy Bill Savings:	\$3,320 (electrically heated) \$2,950 (non-electrically heated)
Top 3 Upgrades:	1. Heating systems 2. Insulation 3. Windows and doors

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Moderate-Income Top Ups and Oil-to-Heat Pump Programs

	Moderate-Income Top-Ups	Oil-to-Heat Pump Affordability
Established:	2023	2024
Eligibility:	Moderate-income homeowners with non-electric heating (via Home Energy Assessment program)	Low and median-income homeowners with oil heating, via 1 of 3 programs
Energy Assessment:	Yes	Optional
Incentive Spend per Building	Up to \$15,000 is available	Up to \$15,000 is available
Participant Cost:	Varies by home	Varies by home

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Mi'kmaw Home Energy Efficiency Project

Established:	2018
Eligibility:	Homes in Mi'kmaw communities
Energy Assessment:	Yes
Avg. Incentive Spend per Building	\$7,500 (electrically heated) \$12,850 (non-electrically heated)
Participant Cost:	\$0
Annual Energy Bill Savings:	\$750 (electrically heated) \$1,310 (non-electrically heated)
Top 3 Upgrades:	1. Mini-Split Heat Pump 2. Attic Insulation 3. Basement & Crawlspace Insulation

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African Nova Scotian Community Pilot

Established:	Late 2024
Eligibility:	African Nova Scotian living in one of the following communities: Preston Township and Guysborough, with either low or moderate income*
Energy Assessment:	In some situations
Avg. Incentive Spend per Building	It will vary – we use existing programs and offer top-ups in some cases
Participant Cost:	It will vary
Annual Energy Bill Savings:	Data expected to come in beginning late 2025

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Thank you

efficiencyTM
NOVA SCOTIA

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The Municipality of the District of Lunenburg Information Report

Report to: Municipal Finance Committee
Submitted by: Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, Parks, & Tourism
Date: May 6, 2025
Re: Pine Grove Park – What We Heard Report

Recommendation

N/A

Executive summary

At the January 14, 2025, Council meeting Council made the following motion directing staff to undertake a public consultation session:

“That Municipal Council direct staff to hold a public information and engagement session to gather input from residents on the future use of Pine Grove Park, and further request that staff bring the results of such information and engagement session to Council in the form of a report along with options for future use of the Park.”

This report satisfies the direction from Council to bring the results of the information and engagement session to Council. The options report will be presented to Council after criteria for evaluating park upgrades has been developed as directed by Council on January 23, 2025.

The public consultation session was held on February 25, 2025, at the Municipal Council Chambers. At this session six questions were posed, which were also posted on the MODL Engage site to seek further input from the public online. The responses to these six questions are what forms the What We Heard Report which **is attached**. The six questions asked were as follows:

1. **How would you like to see the property used? i.e. become a vacant lot (remove all park features); sell as a residential lot; remain as a park. Please include all ideas.**
2. **How did/do you use the park?**
3. **What were/are the current challenges in the park?**
4. **What are the things you love/loved about the park?**
5. **What are features you would like to see at the park?**
6. **What are features you would not like to see at the park?**

From the responses to these questions, it is clear that this park is a very valuable asset in the community and used greatly when all the park features were maintained and present. The main concerns are around vandalism, the upkeep of the park and safety. The major takeaway is that the majority of respondents want the property to remain as a park, one providing similar features as in the past. The top features that scored the highest (10 or more) were a rink/multi-purpose surface, basketball courts, soccer/sport field, playground equipment, security cameras (new feature), lighting for evenings and splashpad.

Background

In 2012 MODL entered into a management agreement with the Pine Grove Outdoor Play Association Society. A management agreement is a legal agreement between the Municipality and an Association for the development, maintenance and operation of municipally owned land. Some residents approached Council wanting to turn this piece of vacant property into a park. The first major feature installed was the multi-purpose court that served as an ice-skating pad in the winter. Overtime more features were added such as the basketball courts, playground, vault toilet, gazebo, storage shed, walking track around the grassy area and the splashpad.

In 2022 the Board of the Association was having challenges getting enough volunteers to serve on the Board and to maintain the park. Two public meetings were held, one in September and one in November of 2022 to explain the position of the Board and to look at recruiting some new people to sit on the Board to keep the park under the community group's umbrella. Unfortunately, there were not enough volunteers, and the Board made the decision to hand the property back to MODL.

Initially the park was closed and through inspections and on advice from MODL's insurer a number of the features were removed such as some playground equipment and the ice rink (the

concrete still remains). Last year Council directed staff to bring the park to a safety standard for passive recreation use. This was done and the park was re-opened. It is closed currently for the season scheduled to re-open May 16, 2025.

At the February 6, 2024, Finance Committee meeting, the Seahawks Minor Football Club, which is a not-for-profit organization, made a presentation requesting Council consider entering into a management agreement with them, enabling them to convert the former Pine Grove Park into practice fields for their football club and other clubs. At the July 9, 2024, the following motion was made:

“That Municipal Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk, upon receiving confirmation of insurance, to sign the 5-year Management Agreement with the Seahawks Minor Football Club, as presented, for the purposes of establishing practice football fields at the former Pinegrove Park site (PID 60252533).”

On December 17, 2024, the Director of Recreation, Parks and Tourism received an email from the President of the Seahawks Minor Football Club formally withdrawing their request to take over management of Pine Grove Park.

Discussion

N/A

Strategic Focus

N/A

Budget/Financial Implications

None at this time.

Climate Change/sustainability

N/A

Inclusion Diversity equity and Accessibility (IDEA@MODL)

N/A

Strategic Communications

N/A

Work plan

N/A

Alternatives

N/A

Conclusion

The Pine Grove Park has been part of the municipal park system since 2012 and for the first 10 years managed by the Pine Grove Outdoor Play Association. In 2022 the property was handed back over to the Municipality who made the decision to open it as a passive park in 2024. In February 2025 public consultation was undertaken in which it was evident that the majority of community members would like to see the park rejuvenated with many of the features that were part of the park in the past with the hope of this park being once again a safe place for community to gather.

Report Preparation	
Department	Recreation, Parks, & Tourism
Report Prepared by	Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, Parks & Tourism
Report Approved by	
Date Reviewed by C.A.O.	

WHAT WE HEARD REPORT

Pine Grove Park



What We Heard Report

Pine Grove Park

February 25, 2025

Municipal Office, Cookville

On February 25, 2025, the Municipality hosted a public engagement session concerning the Pine Grove Park. The intent of the engagement session was to receive feedback from the community about how they used and/or are currently using the park, the challenges with the park, and what they would like the park to be in the community. Approximately 40 people were in attendance in-person, we had 24 responses online, and 139 people visited the MODL Engage website.

The property owned by the Municipality, commonly known as the Pine Grove Park, became a community park in 2012. A management agreement, which is defined as a legal document between the Municipality and an Association for the development, maintenance, and operation of municipally owned land, was entered into with the Pine Grove Outdoor Play Park Association. The initial investment in the park was the development of an outdoor multi-purpose court which was used as a rink in the winter and for activities such as ball hockey and scooters in the other seasons. Over the years, a number of features were added such as play equipment, basketball court, gazebo, washroom, walking track, grassy area for ball play such as soccer and a splash pad.

In 2022, the Board reached out to the Municipality stating they were struggling as a Board and were contemplating dissolving the Association and handing the park over to the Municipality. Two community meetings were held in the Council Chambers in Cookville, one in September, and another in November of that year. The Board explained their challenges and stated if members of the community did not step up to serve on the Board, the current Board would be dissolving and handing the park to the Municipality. It was made clear to those who attended the public meetings that once handed over to the Municipality, they would decide the future of the park. They could permanently close the park; they could make the necessary investments that were required to bring the park to a safe standard; or they could open the park without providing the same features. Members of the community did not put their name forth to serve on the Board and hence the decision was made to dissolve the Association and hand the park over to the Municipality.

The Municipality made the decision to initially close the park. Assessments were conducted by staff and on the advice of the Municipality's insurer, some of the park

features were removed including some play equipment, the basketball nets, and the rink boards. In July of 2024, Council provided staff directions to conduct the work in the park needed to make it a safe, passive park. Work was completed and the park was re-opened.

At the February 6, 2024 Finance Committee meeting, the Seahawks Minor Football Club, which is not-for-profit organization, made a presentation requesting Council consider entering into a management agreement with them, enabling them to convert the former Pine Grove Park into practice fields for their football club and other clubs to use. At the July 9, 2024, Council meeting, the following motion was made:

“That Municipal Council authorize the Mayor and Municipal Clerk, upon receiving confirmation of insurance, to sign the 5-year Management Agreement with the Seahawks Minor Football Club, as presented, for the purposes of establishing practice football fields at the former Pine Grove Park site (PID 60252533).”

On December 17, 2024, the Director of Recreation, Parks, and Tourism received an email from the President of the Seahawks Minor Football Club formally withdrawing their request to take over management of Pine Grove Park.

At the January 14, 2025, Council meeting, staff were directed to undertake a public engagement session to seek input from the public on the possible future development of the park. The following motion was made:

“That Municipal Council direct staff to hold a public information and engagement session to gather input from residents on the future use of Pine Grove Park, and further request that staff bring the results of such information and engagement session to Council in the form of a report along with options for future use of the Park.”

At the public engagement session held on February 25, 2025, in which a public open house style was used, six questions were posed to the public. A staff member was stationed at each question and engaged with community members and captured their responses. These same six questions were posed online through the MODL Engage website.

The following are the questions that were posed, and the responses represent the feedback received both online and in-person. The number beside each response represents the number of times the response was provided. If no number is shown it means it was mentioned once.

1. How would you like to see the property used? i.e. become a vacant lot (remove all park features); sell as a residential lot; remain as a park. Please include all ideas.

- Remain as a park x 38
 - The original way it was
- Liked potential of Seahawks/football x 17
 - Field with lights
 - Turf
- Community garden x 5
 - Benches, welcoming space
- Playing field x 3
- Sell as a resident lot x 2
- Splash pad to be used/somewhere x 2
- Seeing more kids in the area x 2
- Meeting/gathering place x 2
- Like to see the park used
- Dog park
- Looking for green space
- Remain as part of the community
- Band shell for entertainment
- Yearly garden party as fundraiser
- Donations to food bank
- Passive Park, not an active park
- Natural reserve with walking trail
- Play space
- Planters for garden veggie boxes
- Relocated

2. How did/do you use the park?

- Hockey/rink x 16
- Splash pad x 11
- Playground x 8
- Basketball x 6
- Bike/scooter/rollerblade/skateboard on rink during summer x 6
- Birthday parties x 6
- Soccer field x 5
- Walk/trail x 5
- Ball hockey x 4
- Board member x 3
- Walk dog/off leash x 3
- People outside community came to use the rink x 3
- Took kids/grandkids to park x 3
- Community skates x 2
- Limited use now x 2
- Don't use it now. Sad, miss it x 2
- Fun x 2
- Green space x 2
- Reading books from the free library at the gazebo and donated old books x 2
- Used for international students (whole park)
- Rink maintenance
- Soccer field development (seeding, watering)
- Cleaned the park/maintenance (volunteer)
- Stopped using it when association dissolved
- Planned to use for community multi-use
- It's not welcoming/have a community feel now
- Kids to play
- Community events
 - Easter egg hunts, seed planting with South Shore Young Naturalists Club
- Picnics and playing outside in a safe and beautiful outdoor space
- Did not use it, children are grown

3. What were/are the current challenges in the park?

- Vandalism x 11
- Volunteers, park upkeep x 9
- Park is set too far back to be safe x 5
- Garbage x 4
- No lights x 4
- Too much taken away, nothing left x 4
 - Equipment gone
- Maintenance x 3
- Funding x 3
- Noise and partying at late hours x 2
- Keeping splash pad operational x 2
 - need alternate water source (trucked in, storm water, nearby stream?)
 - need more splash park features
- Lack of security x 2
- Parking x 2
- Fires set (gazebo set on fire) x 2
- Need camera to keep it safe x 2
- Park closed x 2
- Roof over rink
- Visibility/opportunity for vandalism
- No chain/rope/gate (encourages mischief)
- Concerns with fires and property in the direct area
- Needs more field maintenance
- Second road needed, access to new subdivision
- Dangerous only 1 way in and out, narrow for emergency vehicles
- Not open enough
- Feels unsafe to be there alone
- Police had to be called frequently
- Destruction of property
- Lack of respect for the property
- Hunting
- Could be better use of the space
- Need field area developed
- No washrooms
- Water quality
- Rink was used by hockey players during winter so hard to skate with family
- No challenge, just needs some updates (i.e. splash pad)

4. What are the things you love/loved about the park?

- Rink x 15
 - Skating
 - Bikes, scooters, rollerblading
 - Ball hockey
- Open green play space x 15
- Playground equipment x 11
- Washroom x 11
- Splash pad x 10
- Basketball court x 9
- Location x 7
- Gazebo/BBQ x 7
- Hang out place for kids and to play x 5
- Equipment shed x 5
- Quiet x 4
- Book box x 3
- Hearing the kids/families play x 3
- Walking trail and walking dogs x 3
- Geocaching x 2
- Lots of parking x 2
- Safe, no traffic x 2
 - 1 access point so the kids running around wasn't so scary and stressful to enjoy instead of being on guard
- Place for birthday parties
- Field
- Nature
- Everything about the park
- Electrical capacity
- Storage space
- Parking
- There for residents to use
- Safe area for kids to play outside
- Chalk on court
- Library
- "I live on Dawson Heights. The park was a feature of the neighbourhood that made me choose this house"
- Fire pit
- Benches

5. What are features you would like to see at the park?

- Rink x 22
 - Improved boards around rink
 - Roof over cement pad
 - NS Ball Hockey League
 - Possible artificial ice
 - Ball hockey
 - Ice rink
- Basketball court/hoop x 16
 - New nets, wider court and re-do the court surface
- Soccer/sports field x15
 - Field repairs
 - Better soccer nets
 - Some way to book the fields
 - Mow the grass
- Playground equipment x 14
 - Swings x 8
 - Add slide x 7
 - Add more equipment x 2
- Security camera x 12
- Lighting for evenings x 12
- Seating/picnic tables x 11
- Splash pad x 10
- Storage shed with equipment x 7
- Nature walk/trail/path x 5
- Practice football field x 5
- Dog park x 4
- Family park x 4
- Parking x 3
- Green space x 4
- Gate the driveway closed at night x 3
- Brought up to the standard that it was and maintained x 3
 - Paid, scheduled MODL employees to service the park all seasons
- Community garden x 2
 - Vegetables donated to food bank
- Natural features x 2
 - Natural playground
- Community get togethers (i.e. BBQ) x 2
- Baseball field
- Driveway cleared out so you can see more
- Fenced dog area

- Horseshoe club
- Markets
- Outdoor films in summer
- Sell as residential property
- Fence around the park
- Washroom
- Accessible washroom and other accessible features
- Field house
- Accessible during peak times
- Garbage cans
- Water
- “It’s a perfect little piece of heaven the way it is”
- Fire pit
- Open and visible to the public

6. What are features you would not like to see at the park?

- No development x 12
- No housing added x 8
- No Seahawks football fields (too noisy for rural) x 4
- Do not make the hockey or basketball areas any smaller. (Both are currently smaller than a regular size court) x 3
- Maintain green open space x 2
- No dog park, only walk dogs on leash x 2
- No motorized stuff
- No playground equipment in the middle of the grass area
- Low-income housing to lower the value of our property
- No logging trucking
- No easy access at night
- No park
- Vandalism
- No unsupervised fires
- Firepit
- No more mischief
- Do not want to lose the rural area
- No garbage
- No large events that would attract a lot of traffic
- Iron in the water
- Not used in a similar way that already exists in the MODL. Something TOB doesn't have and/or support
- Needles
- Things that people can destroy
- Ice rink
- No lighting
- A park would be wonderful for families in the area and surrounding area, but in a different location that is not secluded
- Splash pad
- Cameras

Conclusion

From the responses, it is clear this park is a very valuable asset in the community and was used greatly when all the park features were maintained and present. The main concerns are around vandalism, the upkeep of the park, and safety. The major takeaway is most respondents want the property to remain as a park, which provides similar features as in the past. The features that scored the highest were a rink/multi-purpose surface, basketball courts, soccer/sport field, playground equipment, security cameras (new feature), lighting for evenings (new feature), seating/picnic tables and splash pad.



The Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Request for Decision

Report to: Finance Committee
Submitted by: Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, Parks and Tourism
Date: May 6, 2025
Re: Additional Funding Request – Community Recreation Capital Grant

Recommendation

That the Finance Committee recommend Municipal Council provide up to \$20,000 to the Community Recreation Capital Grant program for the 2025-2026 fiscal year to come from the general operating reserves.

Executive summary

The amount budgeted for the Community Recreation Capital Grant in the 2025-2026 operating budget is \$24,000. Typically, \$20,000 is budgeted each year for this grant category with the additional funding to accommodate groups who have asked for a carryover as they could not complete their capital project within the same fiscal year. This fiscal year only \$750.00 is needed to accommodate the carryovers, leaving \$23,250. To date \$21,100 in grants have been approved for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. This leaves only \$2,150 left in this grant category to award, and we are only one month into the fiscal year. Two applications are waiting to be approved which will bring the amount remaining to zero. Last year was the first year that the funds were depleted by February. In other years \$20,000 was sufficient to accommodate the grant requests.

In assessing the increase in demand for the community recreation capital grant two possible reasons come to mind. They are:

1. The annual grant workshop (held the last three years) has attracted 60+ participants each year and thus, organizations have become more aware of the grant programs MODL has to offer.
2. The grant policy was updated on January 10, 2023, in which groups can now apply annually for the community recreation capital grant as opposed to waiting for 24 months to pass. Also, the amount they could request went up from \$1,000 to \$2,000.

Discussion

The discussion before Council is whether to provide additional funding through the operating reserves for the community recreation capital grant program. Funds for this grant category will soon be depleted, and we are only one month into the fiscal year. Staff would only utilize up to the \$20,000 based on requests and eligibility of applicants. If all the additional funds were not used, they would be returned to the general operating reserves at the end of the fiscal year. If Council supports contributing an additional \$20,000 this would not impact the surplus predicted at \$120,600 but would utilize \$20,000 in this reserve not originally budgeted in the 2025-2026 budget. The forecasted amount at the end of March 2025 is \$12.2 million for the general operating reserves.

Strategic Focus

This initiative supports two of Council's five strategic priorities: Quality of Life in that this grant program supports non-profit community groups offering programs and services which foster social inclusion. The other strategic priority is Communication and Engagement as MODL's grant program application process enables many community groups to engage directly with the Recreation, Parks and Tourism Department staff, building relationships and the funding certainly helps to build a strong community fabric. Community groups are vital to build social connections and providing support and services many of our residents need, often addressing affordability concerns.

Budget/Financial Implications

The budget implication would be transferring up to \$20,000 from the general operating reserve to the community recreation capital grant program. If utilized fully in 2025-2026 this would impact the reserve by \$20,000. At the end of March 2025, the general operating reserves are forecasted to have \$12.2 million.

Climate Change/sustainability

N/A

Inclusion Diversity equity and Accessibility (IDEA@MODL)

Some of the projects approved could enable community groups to provide facilities and programs that are more inclusive and accessible.

Strategic Communications

Each year the Municipality must publish the grants it has awarded. Any funds granted to groups from the additional \$20,000 would be advertised and made public annually following MODL's policy.

Work plan

Managing and administering the grant program is part of the department's responsibilities.

Alternatives

1. To not approve the additional \$20,000 requested recognizing the funds will be depleted for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.
2. To award a different amount than the \$20,000 recommended by staff.

Conclusion

Providing grant funding to non-profit community groups is an investment in our communities and the many programs, services and facilities they provide. They do contribute to the quality of life in MODL, often helping to address the many social issues members of our communities' face and play a vital role in bringing community members together.

Report Preparation	
Department	Recreation, Parks and Tourism
Report Prepared by	Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, Parks and Tourism
Report Approved by	
Date Reviewed by C.A.O.	

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Policy Details	
Name	Community Grants Program/Sponsorship Request
Number	043
Legislative Authority	MGA 2, 47, 48(3) 65C
Effective Date	February 27, 2024

Purpose

- 1 (1) The purpose of this Policy is to set guidelines for the distribution of funds to not-for-profit and charitable organizations in the community.
- (2) The Municipality recognizes and supports the efforts of community organizations to provide cultural, social, heritage, economic and/or recreation programs, facilities and events to the benefit of Municipal residents.
- (3) The Municipality offers grants for training of volunteers to further the benefits of their volunteerism, supporting local athletes competing in national or international events and to persons travelling to provincial, national or international competitions in sports, recreational or cultural events.

Authority

- 2 (1) Authority is provided under Sections 2, 47, 48(3) and 65C, Municipal Government Act, as amended.

Eligibility

- 3 The following types of organizations/individuals are eligible for funding:
 - (1) Charitable organizations (e.g., foundation and charities);
 - (2) Global community service organizations (e.g., VON, United Way);
 - (3) Community-based organizations (e.g., community halls, sports halls, recreation groups, social groups;
 - (4) Any funding requests from community groups who have management agreements with the Municipality and any adjacent municipal units requesting funding to support their municipally owned recreation facilities will be processed through the budget and not through the grant policy, unless otherwise stated in the management agreement.

- (5) For grant applications, organizations should ensure that any outstanding grant approvals from the previous fiscal year should be completed, unless an extension to the funding has been approved.
- (6) Individuals who meet the criteria of the grant they are applying for.

Grant Categories

- 4 (1) **Annual Operating**
To help with an organization's annual operating costs.
- (2) **Community Economic Development**
To help with the development of projects or initiatives that promote the area and foster community economic growth.
- (3) **Community Event**
To help with the hosting and/or delivery of a Community Event, under \$30,000.
- (4) **Community Recreation Capital**
To help with the expansion or improvement of an indoor or outdoor cultural, social, heritage and/or recreation facility, and/or equipment, for projects under \$10,000.
- (5) **Community Recreation Program**
To help with the delivery of a new or expanded cultural, social, heritage and/or recreation program.
- (6) **Elite Athlete Travel**
To help elite athletes living in the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg with travel costs when competing at National or International events.
- (7) **Leadership Training**
To help with training costs for individuals or community organizations that will continue to expand the programs, services and activities provided by community organizations.
- (8) **Major Events**
To encourage new or expand existing large-scale events that create a positive economic impact for the Municipality, for events over \$30,000. The Major Events grant is to support operating, marketing, or promotional expenses for events that will attract visitors to the area.

- (9) **Major Recreation Capital**
To help with the development, expansion or improvement of an indoor/outdoor cultural, social, heritage and/or recreation facility and/or equipment for capital projects \$10,000 or more.
- (10) **Sponsorship Ad/Donation of Prize(s) Request**
To help with sponsorship of local, not-for-profit organization's projects, events or initiatives that help residents of the Municipality, or to supply prize(s) to enhance the project, event or initiative.
- (11) **Sport, Recreational & Cultural Travel Assistance**
To help individuals, teams/groups with travel costs when competing in provincial, national or international competitions in sport, (who do not meet the Elite Athlete grant criteria) or recreational and cultural events.

General Information

- 5 (1) Municipal Council sets funding limits and annual budget allotments for each grant category.
- (2) Applicants will complete the proper Municipal application form and provide the requested information.
- (3) Application deadlines and expiry periods may apply.
- (4) Funding frequency is limited within each grant category.
- (5) Applicants should show community support, fundraising efforts and efficient use of resources, sound business practices and development of volunteers.
- (6) A financial statement and pertinent document must be filed with the Municipality following completion of the project.
- (7) The Municipality reserves the right to deny any application believed not within its mandate.
- (8) All proposed work must follow Municipal, Provincial and Federal regulations.
- (9) Applicants must agree to recognize the Municipality for its contribution

(e.g., banner, public announcement, sign, brochures, programs, advertisements).

(10) The municipality will publish to the public a list of recipients of grants and the amounts given as stated in Section 65C of the **Municipal Government Act**.

Approval Process

- 6 (1) Municipal Council approves the following grants
 - a) Annual Operating
 - b) Major Recreation Capital
 - c) Major Events Grant (request more than \$2,500)


- (2) Applications for all other grants under this Policy, and grants under the specified amounts in 6(1) c) are reviewed and approved/denied by the responsible staff person, with notification to Municipal Council.

- (3) Applicants will be notified in writing of approval or denial. This communication will explain any terms and conditions that apply to the grant approval.

Evaluation Criteria

- 7 (1) The evaluation may include but is not limited to the following criteria
 - a) Project/program fits within the mandate (vision/mission) of the Municipality.
 - b) Organization is a not-for-profit group.
 - c) Program, event, facility is for public community use.
 - d) A financial need is proved.
 - e) The organization is sourcing other funding partners.
 - f) The grant proposal is practical.
 - g) The funding provided by the Municipality will enable the organization to use dollars from other funding partners.
 - h) The application has shown that they will recognize the Municipality's contribution.
 - i) The organization shows long-term sustainability.
 - j) The applicant has proved its own commitment to the project (i.e. financial, in-kind donations).

- k) The percentage of users from the Municipality of Lunenburg.
- l) The breakdown of staff (volunteer, paid, externally funded).
- m) Funding **must** be requested from the host Municipality if organization is located outside the Municipality of Lunenburg (proof of request **is** required).

Policy Adoption	
Date of Original Passage	January 10, 2023
Date of Notice of Intent to Amend	February 20, 2024
Date of Council Approval	February 27, 2024
Effective Date (if different from Council Approval)	February 27, 2024
I certify that this Policy 043 Community Grants Program/Sponsorship Request was adopted by Municipal Council as indicated above.	
Signature of Municipal Clerk 	February 27, 2024

Version	Amendment Description	Approval Date
Repeal & Replace	Update for accessible formatting, and a complete review of the policy.	Jan. 10, 2023
V2	Removed the "Membership based, not-for-profit organizations having an annual adult membership of \$125 or less and for Youths or Seniors" from the eligibility criteria.	Mar. 28, 2023
V3	Addition of training for volunteers, support for athletes, and persons travelling to Provincial, National, or international competitions in sports, recreational or cultural events to the purpose. Amended eligibility grant criteria, further defined Community Events, Major Events, clarified Elite Athlete funding, Removed PRO Kids program and revised Youth Travel to Sport, Recreational and Cultural Travel.	Feb. 27, 2024



The Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Request for Decision

Report to: Municipal Finance Committee

Submitted by: Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, Parks & Tourism

Date: May 6, 2025

Re: Annual Operating and Major Recreation Capital Grants

Recommendations

That Council for the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg approve the applications for the 2025-2026 Annual Operating Grant program in the amount of \$99,701 as presented.

That Council for the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg approve the applications for the 2025-2026 Major Recreation Capital Grant program in the amount of \$52,359 as presented with the funds approved for the South Shore Multi-Cultural Society being contingent on securing storage space.

Executive summary

N/A

Background

Each year the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg offers an Annual Operating Grant (AO) and Major Recreation Capital Grant (MRC) program to its non-profit groups to support the many volunteers and volunteer groups that make our communities better places to live, work and play.

This year, the Municipality of the District of Lunenburg received 43 applications by the deadline of March 1st, totaling \$172,363 for Annual Operating Grants, seeing a decline from last year's request. In 2024-2025 the Municipality received 51 applications totalling \$200,520.60 in requests. A total of 8 applications in the amount of \$84,458 in requests for Major Recreation Capital grants were received. Last year 14 applications were received, totalling a request of \$193,516.86. This year's applications include requests from 4 new organizations for assistance with annual operating expenses compared to 14 new groups last year.

As with every year, there were more requests than funds available. This year's requests total \$258,321. The 2025/26 budget for contingency grants (a combined account to provide funding for both Annual Operating Grant and Major Recreation Capital Grant requests) is \$156,744, after paying carried over grants from 2024-2025 fiscal year.

Discussion

The applications were reviewed based on criteria and the budget available. After using the criteria, for most groups an additional % was subtracted to arrive at the \$152,060 staff are recommending be awarded. In most cases, an additional 20% for those groups in MODL, 25% for regional groups and 30% for those outside MODL was deducted. If the funds are approved, it will leave \$4,684 to possibly fund any late applications. One late application has been received with two other groups inquiring at the time of this report being written.

GRANT SUMMARY	Requested 2025-26	Recommendation (Budget \$156,744)
Annual Operating	\$172,363.00	\$99,701.00
Major Rec. Capital	\$84,458.00	\$52,359.00
Late Applications	\$1,500.00	No recommendation at this time
TOTALS	\$258,321.00	\$152,060.00
REMAINING BUDGET		\$4,684.00

Please see the attached spreadsheet for details of applications and the recommended awards.

Strategic Focus

Supporting community groups improves Quality of Life for our residents, and many times these groups create opportunities for social interaction, therefore reducing social exclusion.

Budget/Financial Implications

No budget implication; this amount is included in the Recreation, Parks & Tourism operating budget for 2025-26, and the recommendations do not exceed the budgeted amount.

Climate Change/sustainability

N/A

Inclusion Diversity equity and Accessibility (IDEA@MODL)

Many of the community groups we recommended to fund, provide facilities and programs that foster inclusion and accessibility in our district on many different levels.

Strategic Communications

N/A

Work plan

Managing and administering the grant program is part of the department’s responsibilities.

Alternatives

Council may opt to change the recommended amounts suggested by Staff.

Conclusion

Providing grant funding to non-profit community groups is an investment in our communities and the many programs, services and facilities they provide. They do contribute to the quality of life in MODL, often helping to address the many social issues members of our communities’ face and play a vital role in bringing community members together. The following pages provide more information on the organizations.

Report Preparation	
Department	Recreation, Parks & Tourism
Report Prepared by	Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, Parks & Tourism
Report Approved by	
Date Reviewed by C.A.O.	

Annual Operating Grants

Organizational Overview

Barss Corner Community Hall Association – Registered in District of Lunenburg

This community hall has been a community space since 1958 and is 100% volunteer supported. The hall relies on fundraising, donations and rentals as its main means of support.

Operational expenses include supplies, bank fees, insurance, utilities, oil, repairs and maintenance. Revenue sources include rentals, donations, grants, and fundraising.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,460.

Bridgewater Barracudas Swim Club – Registered in Town of Bridgewater

The Club promotes and develops competitive swimming for the youth of Bridgewater and surrounding areas during the summer months. The Club has existed since 1972 and, except for coaches, operates entirely on volunteers.

Operational expenses include advertising, promotions, closing ceremonies, dues and fees, rental at the LCLC and TOB outdoor pool, meet expenses, and payroll for coaches. Revenue sources include grants, meet revenue, registration, sponsorship, fundraising and selling team merchandise.

2025-2026: Amount requested \$3,250, recommended amount \$1,524.

Bridgewater Sports and Cultural Association – Registered in Lunenburg County

The Association was formed in January 2024 to oversee and assist four established groups/teams in Lunenburg County: The Lunenburg Cricket Club, the South Shore Malayalis Cultural Group, the Lunenburg FC Soccer Team, and the Bluenose Giants Tug of War Team. Their mandate is to enhance the quality of life for community members by providing opportunities for physical activity, cultural engagement, and social interaction.

The Association provides opportunities for newcomers, people of diverse cultural backgrounds and the broader community to come together through sports, recreation, and cultural

activities. This benefits the community by helping newcomers settle and integrate and by providing Lunenburg County residents with new sports, recreational and cultural opportunities. Operational expenses include travel, administrative expenses, sports equipment, advertising and promotions, insurance, professional fees for performers, and venue rentals. Revenues include fundraising, donations, grants, and corporate funding.

2025- 2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,375.

Broad Cove Community Centre – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The community hall’s mandate is to provide facilities for the residents and various organizations of the community of Broad Cove, and for other people or organizations who may wish to rent the facilities. Their mandate is also to protect and preserve Broad Cove beach and adjacent lands in their natural state for the enjoyment of residents of Broad Cove and any such persons that share this objective.

Operational expenses include advertising, supplies, insurance, bank fees, utilities, repairs and maintenance. Revenue sources include membership fees, fundraising, donations, cash on hand, rentals, and grants.

2025-2026: Amount requested \$5,000, recommending \$3,600.

Chester Brass Band Society – Registered in Municipality of the District of Chester

The Band was founded in 1873, and they are observing their 152nd year in 2025. The purpose of the Society is to contribute to the Nova Scotian quality of life, with particular emphasis on Chester Area residents, by providing the public an opportunity to learn about and enjoy music in the brass band tradition. Members come from all over, including the District of Lunenburg. They perform with other municipal ensembles, with vocalists and instrumental soloists of distinction. The Band performs in concert halls, theatres, schools, churches, parks, for charitable organizations and other community activities including concerts for public observances, holidays, and community events. The Band collaborates with Legions, schools, and churches throughout the District of Lunenburg and with musical organizations such as the Studio Singers and the Seaside A Capella.

Operational expenses include administrative expenses, insurance, professional fees, utilities and repairs and maintenance of the Chester Brass Band building. Revenue sources include donations, cash on hand and grants.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$800, recommended amount \$420.

Coastal Action – Registered in the Town of Mahone Bay

Coastal Action is seeking financial support to support their water quality monitoring component of the LaHave River Watershed Project. Project initiatives include monthly water quality monitoring, aquatic connectivity assessments in the Main River and West Branch sub-watersheds, fish habitat restoration work in the Main River and West Branch sub-watersheds, community outreach and education initiatives.

Operational expenses include salaries, field supplies and materials, lab fees, travel, office and meeting space, rent, communications, insurance, and office equipment. Revenue sources include funding from the Atlantic Salmon Conservation Foundation, NSA Adopt-A-Stream, Environmental Damages Fund and the Town of Bridgewater.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,220.

Feltzen South Cemetery – Registered in District of Lunenburg*NEW

This cemetery is completely maintained by volunteers. This is a non-denominational cemetery.

Operational expenses are maintaining the cemetery such as mowing and purchasing ground to maintain the graves. Revenue sources are donations and some fund raising.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$863 recommended amount \$800.

Flourish 55+ Healthy Active Society – Registered in Town of Bridgewater

Their mission is to provide support to those 55+ in the Town of Bridgewater and the Municipality of Lunenburg by adhering to the 7 Healthy Aging Habits for Optimal Health and offering interactive programs through mental, physical and social recreation.

Operational expenses are salaries, office expenses, programs, utilities, insurance. Revenue sources include corporate donations, membership fees and donations, and grants.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$2,975.

Heritage Boatyard Co-op Limited – Registered in Town of Mahone Bay

The Heritage Boatyard Co-op is dedicated to all the past and present wooden boat activities along the South Shore. Traditional shipbuilding methods are preserved, and they promote the available local historic skills and advertise the area through trade shows and events. They also have exciting youth programs that include restoring vintage vessels and Toy Boat Squadron events.

Operational expenses include insurance, building maintenance, utilities, administrative expenses, events, travel costs to boat festivals. Revenue sources business donations, grants, events, and support from the Mystic Seaport Museum's annual Wooden Boat Festival.

2025-2026 – Amount Requested \$5,000, recommending \$3,150.

LaHave Islands Marine Museum Society – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The Society was established in 1978 to preserve, display, and be the depository of the history of the LaHave Islands and the area's inshore fisheries. They own the Museum building, the Community Hall on Bells Island and have responsibility for St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church. Two of these buildings hold heritage status. They help contribute to tourism in the Municipality.

Operational expenses include summer student wages and benefits, administration, facility maintenance, marketing, and programming. Their revenue sources include fundraising, donations, gift shop sales, rentals, federal and provincial grants, and membership dues.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$750 recommended amount \$721.

LaHave River Salmon Association – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The Association is dedicated to the conservation of Atlantic Salmon and other native species on the beautiful LaHave River in Nova Scotia. Since its conception in 1963, the LHRA has been a steward of the river, helping maintain and enhance the native fish population and increasing angling opportunities.

Operating expenses include summer staff wages, mileage for volunteers, Sports and RV shows, student bursary, protective equipment and gear, website, insurance, consultant for watershed plan, banking fees, and rent. Revenue sources include fundraising, cash on hand and grants from various funding partners.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,400.

Lunenburg & District Swimming Pool Society- Registered in Town of Lunenburg

The Society maintains a summer swimming pool facility for use of all ages and provides water safety and aquatic leadership instruction, swim team, public swims, and other recreational activities for the residents of the Town of Lunenburg, District of Lunenburg and surrounding communities, as well as providing opportunities for employment and volunteering for the youth of the community.

Their operational expenses include staffing, advertising and promotion, administrative expenses, merchandise, membership, insurance, professional fees, utilities and repairs and maintenance. Revenue sources include pool membership and registration fees, grants, fundraising and donations.

2025-2026: Amount requested \$5,000, recommending \$2,398.

Lunenburg Academy Foundation- Registered in Town of Lunenburg

The Lunenburg Academy Foundation is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and sustainable operation of the Lunenburg Academy. Its mission is to ensure that this National Historic Site remains a thriving cultural and educational space for future generations. They host events, exhibitions, and educational programs that enrich the local and broader community. The heritage classroom offers hands-on historical learning experiences, giving students and visitors a glimpse into the past. The Academy have several diverse tenants including the Heritage Classroom, The Lunenburg Library, the Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance, Atlantic Canada Language Academy, Lunenburg Walking Tours, South Shore Genealogical Society, Class Afloat, the MLA's office and the South Shore Regional Centre for Education's pre-primary program.

Their operational expenses include administrative expenses, salaries, professional fees, marketing. Revenue sources include donations, investments, grants, and sale of merchandise.

2025-2026: Amount requested \$5000, recommending \$2,398.

Lunenburg County Hikers Club- Registered in Lunenburg County

The Club promotes active lifestyles through guided hikes in and around Lunenburg County. Their Facebook page also serves as a meeting place to find out about hiking, local trails, and other people to hike outside of the club's guided events. Their Facebook account has 3800 members. All leaders are nationally certified by the Outdoor Council of Canada.

Their operational expenses include Recreation NS and Hike NS membership, insurance, first aid supplies, volunteer training and administrative expenses. Revenue sources include donations and grants.

2025-2026: Amount requested \$500, recommending \$500.

Lunenburg County Historical Society – Registered in District of Lunenburg

In operation since 1974, the Lunenburg County Historical Society maintains and operates the Fort Point Museum in LaHave. They conduct research, gather, compile, and preserve historic documents and artifacts, and provide historic education programs, events, and celebrations. The museum is open seasonally from June – September and by appointment in September to May. In 2024 they hired a seasonal museum director.

Their operational expenses include staff salaries and benefits, facility maintenance, utilities, insurance, and administration. Their revenue sources are donations, fundraising, government funding including grants, membership fees and gift shop sales.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000 recommended amount \$2,800.

Lunenburg County North River Recreation Committee Society – Registered in District of Lunenburg

Community hall that provides a venue for activities such as bingo, music jams, funerals, teas, kids parties, ice skating, basketball, dance practice and elections. It is the focal point of the community.

Their operational expenses include administrative expenses, cleaning, supplies, advertising, insurance, utilities, repairs and maintenance. Revenue sources include donations, grants, fundraising, rental, canteen.

2025-2026: Amount requested \$5,000 recommending \$3,100.

Lunenburg Foundation for the Arts- Registered in District of Lunenburg

The Lunenburg Foundation of the Arts was registered as a charity in 2015. The organization is dedicated to ensuring a vibrant future for the arts in Lunenburg County, by supporting artists and art organizations, to advance the understanding and appreciation of the arts. The foundation is entirely operated by dedicated volunteers, who commit many hours to working for the benefit of the arts community in MODL. They act as an advocacy organization for the arts within the County and support other art-based organizations through logistical and operational support. Through fundraising they support local artists and art initiatives by providing grants and bursaries to artists creating work within Lunenburg County.

Operational costs include grants and bursaries to artists and art organizations, Lunenburg County high school bursaries, website, events, and administrative expenses. Revenue sources include donations, fundraising and grants.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$4,000, recommended amount \$2,450.

Mahone Bay Founders Society – Registered in Town of Mahone Bay

The Mahone Bay Museum, formerly the Settlers Museum, has been in existence since 1987. It is a small community museum run by the Mahone Bay Founders Society. They protect and provide on-site and on-line access to the history of the Mahone Bay area. The Museum values the diversity of the community, protecting histories in the archives and making them accessible.

Operational costs include salaries, office supplies, advertising, exhibits and collections, programming, utilities, insurance, utilities, and heating oil. Revenue sources include grants, corporate donations and general donations, campaigns, events, and retail sales.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$3,000, recommended amount \$1,449.

Mahone Bay Signature Festivals – Registered in Town of Mahone Bay

The Signature Festivals promote Mahone Bay and Lunenburg County as desirable locations to live, work, shop, and visit. The Scarecrow and the Father Christmas Festivals continue to expand and draw visitors from all over the world. The Scarecrow Festival is in its 29th year and Father Christmas in its 20th year.

Operational costs include advertising, event expenses, insurance, rent and utilities. Revenue sources include event revenue, grants, and donations.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$2,500, recommended amount \$1,313.

Maitland & District Recreation Community Centre – Registered in District of

Lunenburg

The hall is used by community members as well as residents from the surrounding areas. The hall is used for a variety of events including elections, birthday parties, showers, anniversaries and funerals. They hold a weekly music jam from April to December each year, which is well attended by the senior population. They also host a Penny Auction.

Operational costs include event expenses and utilities. Revenue sources include event revenue, grants, and hall rentals.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$2,500, recommended amount \$1,650.

Navy League of Canada, Lunenburg Branch – Registered in Town of Lunenburg*NEW

Established in 1895 to ensure adequate naval defense, the Navy League of Canada's main objective was to promote an interest in Maritime Affairs throughout Canada, while also keeping watch over policies relevant to Canada's waters. The two World Wars placed heavy dependence on the Navy League and its ability to support Merchant Navy and operate hostels. However, by the end of the Second World War and the closing out of its War Services operations, the Navy League was again able to turn its attention to its primary objectives: continued support of youth training and promoting a knowledge of Maritime Affairs. The Lunenburg Branch is powered by volunteers and works directly to support the Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps #39 Neptune, ensuring that youth in the community have access to high quality leadership training, citizenship development, and maritime history.

RCSCC #39 offers a comprehensive training experience for youth, building skills such as teamwork, problem-solving, effective communication, seamanship, navigation, marksmanship and first aid. Cadets develop self-discipline, leadership skills and a strong sense of responsibility. They have opportunities to travel out of province for training camps, participate in public events such as Remembrance Day ceremonies, commemoration of the Battle of

Atlantic, Fishers' Memorial Service and marching band performances. Many cadets form lifelong friendships and gain valuable life skills that prepare them for future careers and community involvement.

Operational costs include rent, heat, electricity, phone, insurance, corp. assessments, training, repairs and maintenance. Revenue sources include fundraising, donations and grants.

2025-2026 Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$2,538.

Nova Scotia Sea School – Registered in Town of Lunenburg

The Sea School offers multi-day sailing and wilderness programs for youth aged 12-19 in Lunenburg, exploring the coastline between Chester and the LaHave Islands. Their mandate is to provide experiential and adventure opportunities that transform how participants see themselves, the world around them and their capacity to contribute to society. The programs are skill-building and life-training courses and provide an essential leadership opportunity with the outcome of creating responsible citizens who contribute to society.

Their operational expenses include salaries and benefits, program costs, facility costs, and fleet costs. Their revenue sources include tuition fees, donations, and government grants.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$0.00 (did not make application to the Town of Lunenburg).

Parkdale Maplewood Community Hall Association – Registered in District of Lunenburg

This Association operates a community hall. The Hall services the areas of Parkdale, Maplewood, Newburne, Scarsdale, Farmington, Four Mile Road area and Sherbooke Lake. This hall can accommodate large crowds of 125-175. The Hall is used by senior groups, church groups, 4-H, youth groups, the local museum, and for funerals and weddings. Many fundraisers take place such as the monthly breakfast.

Operational expenses include janitor fees, supplies, insurance, bank fees, utilities, oil, propane, maintenance of grounds and building. Revenue sources include fundraising, donations, membership fees, rentals and cash on hand.

2025-2026: Amount requested \$2,000, recommending \$1,730.

Parkdale-Maplewood Community Museum - Registered in District of Lunenburg

This is one of three museums in the Municipality that fulfill the requirements for the Provincial Community Museums Assistance Program. It is dependent on all three levels of government as well as local volunteers to carry out their mission of preserving community history. Their educational program gives young people an understanding of the way their grandparents and ancestors lived, and they get to experience some of these skills firsthand. They host weekly socials. They have a gift shop that sells products made by artisans in the Municipality. They receive a commission on these items.

Their operational expenses include salaries and benefits, program costs, facility costs, insurance, and administration. Their revenue sources include donations, operating grants, fundraising, sales, and membership dues.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$3,000, recommended amount \$1,740.

Pride Lunenburg Society – Registered in Lunenburg County

The Society provides advocacy, awareness, and resources for 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals and their allies in Lunenburg County.

Operating expenses include training, travel, advertising, supplies, insurance, professional fees, equipment and facility rentals. Revenue sources include ticket sales, merchandising, donations, fundraising, grants and cash on hand. rentals, fundraising, events, donations, and grants.

2025-2025: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$0.00 (applied for major event grant for Pride Week).

Riverport Community Centre – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The RCC is a volunteer organization run by a Board of Directors with charitable status. The Board's mandate is to maintain the building and have it open for community events such as meetings, dinners, dances, weddings, funerals, games, music shows, elections, etc.

Operating expenses include insurance, cleaners, repairs and maintenance, bookkeeping fees, portable toilet, telephone/internet, fundraising and hall rental expenses. Revenue sources include rentals, fundraising, events, donations, cash on hand, and grants.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$3,000, recommended amount \$2,076.

Rossini Opera Festival (L.A.M.P.) – Registered in Town of Lunenburg

Rossini Opera Festival Nova Scotia is a registered charity that operates the Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance (“LAMP”). It is recognized internationally as an academy of music performance. LAMP helps young and emerging artists hone their performance skills by being mentored by and performing along with some of the best classically trained performance musicians of our time, as well as international superstars. They offer two robust seasons of performances which each include a variety of chamber music, composition/new music, and jazz, performed on a range of instruments including piano, violin, cello, percussion, organ, double bass and more.

In 2024 they expanded their accessibility to the public by offering a concert series on Tuesdays at noon offered free of charge. This series is in addition to LAMP’s outreach program which continues to provide free performances in schools, hospitals and care facilities throughout MODL. At the same time, the programming they offer attracts participants from around the world, and these artists are often here for a week or more, spending their money in our farmers markets, shops, restaurants, accommodations, and visiting our parks and beaches.

Their operational expenses include advertising and promotion, rent, salaries and benefits, performance fees, insurance, and administration costs. Their revenue sources include government grants, donations, tuition fees, sponsorships and ticket sales.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$2,783.

Royal Canadian Legion Br 102, New Germany – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The Royal Canadian Legion cares for all those who served our nation. As members, they show their thanks by supporting and advocating for veterans, by remembering their sacrifices and by continuing the tradition of service in helping communities. The Legion does serve as a community hall providing a venue for many community events and activities.

Their operational expenses include costs of goods sold, labour, administrative expenses such as insurance, utilities, maintenance and repairs. Their revenue comes from sales of goods, rentals, membership, grants, and donations.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,700.

Seaside A Cappella Show Chorus Association – Registered in District of Lunenburg

Seaside A Cappella is a registered Canadian charity and an award winning educational a cappella show chorus based on Nova Scotia's South Shore. Founded in 2017, the chorus comprises approximately 56 active members, primarily from the District of Lunenburg. Seaside A Cappella is dedicated to empowering women through development of vocal and performance skills. The group welcomes women of all ages who love to sing and strives to deliver joy, optimism, and harmony to the community and beyond.

Their operational expenses include Director expenses, music purchase & licensing. Their revenue comes from chapter dues, fundraising and grants.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$2,900.

SHAID Tree Shelter Society – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The Shelter endeavors to relieve the suffering of animals by providing temporary care and shelter to helpless, abandoned, homeless or unwanted animals in distress. They place as many pets as possible in responsible and caring homes. They are proudly a no-kill shelter and have been serving the community since 1986. They strive to educate the public in responsible pet ownership and promote the spaying and neutering of pets.

2024 saw the shelter take in 502 cats and kittens, 27 dogs and puppies and two birds.

Operational expenses include professional fees, advertising/marketing, animal expenses, insurance, office expenses, taxes, repairs and maintenance, salaries, phone, utilities, travel, medical and security. Revenue sources are from adoptions, bequests, donations, fundraising, grants, memorials and membership.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,300.

Simpson’s Corner Community Hall – Registered in the District of Lunenburg*NEW

The hall was a former schoolhouse which closed in 1965 and was converted into a community hall to address the needs of the community to have a central location where residents could gather for various activities. The hall is available for rent for social events and activities. Card games and potlucks have been the main activities since 2020. With the closure of the church the hall plays an even more vital role in the community.

Operational expenses include printing materials, supplies, insurance, utilities, cleaning and maintenance. Revenue sources are membership fees, fund raising, cash on hand.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,560.

South Shore Bluegrass Music Association – Registered in District of Lunenburg*NEW

The objective of the society is to support and promote Bluegrass, Country and Ole Time Country Music. From May until October, they host music JAMS every Friday night, which are open to the public. These JAMS, as well as their monthly shows are enjoyed by all. They support organizations like the IWK, the South Shore Regional Hospital and the Salvation Army. They are in their 42nd year and will continue to share fellowship and music.

Operational expenses include administration, supplies, power, insurance, property taxes, maintenance. Revenue sources are membership fees, camping fees, fundraising and donations.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,100.

South Shore Lightning Basketball Association – Registered in Town of Bridgewater

This Association was founded in 2021 to enhance basketball programs on the South Shore. The Association is committed to fostering growth, sportsmanship, and a strong basketball community in the region. Recognizing the need for high quality development opportunities, the Association takes a grassroots approach to program management and player development. They offer competitive club teams for those 10-17 and basketball camps focused on skill development and training.

Operational expenses include equipment, coaches training, advertising, supplies, website, insurance, phone, referees, uniforms, gym rental, association fees and team gear. The revenue sources are from club teams/camps, sponsorship, donations, fundraising, cash on hand and equipment lease.

2025-2026 Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,188.

South Shore Minor Hockey – Registered in Lunenburg County

South Shore Minor Hockey Association oversees coaching and operations of 291 registered hockey players from U7 to U18 levels. The Board of Directors is committed to fostering a safe, inclusive and fun environment for the young players, coaches, officials and community volunteers.

Operational expenses include referee costs, training, insurance, administrative expenses, ice rental, tournament costs and league fees. Revenue sources are from registration fees and fundraising (i.e. Gary Wentzell Tournament).

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$2,625.

South Shore Multicultural Association – Registered in South Shore

The Association has been active in Lunenburg/Queens since 2013. They welcome newcomers to the area and work to provide a warm social environment in which recent immigrants and people of diverse cultural backgrounds can find important social, cultural, and recreational opportunities. They host festivals, celebrations, and programming throughout the year. The SSMA is often the first point of contact for those seeking immigration and settlement information. They are the umbrella group for many cultural communities, which is especially important in rural areas.

Their mandate is to honour local heritage and embrace a culture of inclusion and diversity within our communities. To provide a warm, social gathering place for community members of diverse cultural backgrounds. To partner with community groups to host festivals to celebrate diversity. To help newcomers make social connections and integrate into their new communities. To work toward increasing community education on the value of diversity and inclusion.

Operational expenses include salaries, training, travel, administrative expenses, advertising, insurance, professional fees (performers, photographers, sound technicians) rentals for venues for events, phone, internet. Revenue sources are from event sponsors, donations, cash on hand, and grants.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$2,813.

South Shore Sexual Health – Registered in Town of Bridgewater

South Shore Sexual Health is a resource centre for all ages that offers service, support, and supplies. They are pro-choice, youth-friendly and 2SLGBTQ* positive. They believe that everyone should have access to quality, non-judgmental sexual education and resources. They offer guidance and pregnancy options counselling, as well as workshops. People can pick up free or low-cost safer sex supplies, pregnancy tests, HIV self-tests, menstrual supplies and gender-affirming gear.

Operational expenses include payroll, training, travel, advertising, supplies, rent, insurance, phone, internet, and professional fees. The revenue sources are from Sexual Health Nova Scotia, grants, selling merchandise, fundraising and donations, contingency funds and savings.

2025-2026 Amount Requested \$4,000, recommended amount \$2,130.

Tancook Island Recreational Centre Association – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The Tancook Island Recreational Centre is an integral part of the community, holding almost all the Island's extracurricular activities and events. Currently the Centre is used as the weekly gymnasium for the elementary school, a tourism centre during the summer months, a venue for the Island's events and gatherings and home to the local emergency response association.

Their operational expenses include administration, cleaning, heat, insurance, power, property tax, maintenance, canteen, community events, and summer student salary. Their revenue sources include fundraising, donations, memberships, canteen and merchandise sales, grants, rentals, and cash on hand.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,360.

The 644 Revitalization Network – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The Network is a dedicated group of volunteers who want to see services and support for residents of the community. Their mission is "Working together to enrich the vitality and diversity of New Germany and surrounding areas." Their goals are food security, local infrastructure, senior social inclusion, supporting vulnerable and underserved community members, and nurturing rural arts.

Their operational expenses include program expenses, insurance, website, marketing, farmers market and equipment. Their revenue sources include primarily grants, fundraising, and donations.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,700.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul – Registered in Town of Bridgewater

Through the Society's Helping Neighbours-in-Need program, they aid individuals and families who need immediate help to meet their basic needs, such as power, rent, fuel, oil, firewood, medical supplies, eyeglasses, dental care, school supplies and a vast variety of other necessities.

The furniture segment of the program provides new beds, gently used donated furniture and household items. In 2024 72 households were furnished.

Their operational expenses include food assistance, medical assistance, helping to pay power bills and fuel, rent assistance, gas cards, bus fares, house-related expenses, assistance with phone and internet bills. Their revenue sources include donations, fundraising, funds from other registered charities and grants.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$2,500, recommended amount \$1,453.

Upper Northfield Cemetery – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The Upper Northfield Cemetery exists to provide burial plots for community members and associated members. There are five trustees that provide leadership for the community members regarding cemetery maintenance, plot sales and upgrades.

Their operational expenses are joint stock fees, bank fees and mowing. Their revenue sources include lot sales, donations and cash on hand.

2024-2025: Amount Requested \$2,200, recommended amount \$968.

Upper Northfield Community Hall – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The Hall provides space for community gatherings and for events.

Their operational expenses include supplies, insurance, utilities, and propane. Their revenue sources are cash on hand, rent, donations and grants.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$2,500, recommended amount \$1,374.

We Feed Lunenburg Association – Registered in District of Lunenburg/Town of Lunenburg*NEW

We Feed Lunenburg is dedicated to building a self-sufficient community to help those in need. The non-profit strives to create a sustainable environment where everyone has access to nutritious food and support. Through collaborative efforts and community engagement, they aim to alleviate hunger and promote wellbeing for all residents of Lunenburg County. They offer 24/7 365 days a year access to healthy food.

Their operational expenses include supplies, insurance and bank fees. Revenue source is primarily donations and grants.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$3,160.

YMCA King Street Youth Centre – Registered in Town of Bridgewater

The YMCA of Southwest Nova Scotia opened the King Street YMCA Youth Centre in 2012 with the purpose of supporting youth ages 11-19 years in the Municipality of Lunenburg, who experience barriers with programming fees attached. The Centre provides access to Free, drop-in programs, workshops and volunteer opportunities throughout the communities in Lunenburg County. Programming is inclusive, non-judgmental and safe, ensuring access is equitable and programming is diverse integrating cultures, gender, sexual orientations, and socioeconomic backgrounds as well as being accessible. This Centre is 100% funded by grants, donations and fundraising.

Their operational expenses include salaries and benefits, program supplies, lease and utilities, insurance, administration, and education. Their revenue sources include grants, fundraising, donations and YMCA funding.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$5,000, recommended amount \$2,800.

Major Recreation Capital Grants

Organization/Project Overview

Barss Corner Community Hall – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The hall provides a central location for various community groups and organizations to have a place to meet and hold events.

Project: To install heat pump mini-splits to reduce heating costs.

Anticipated Project Costs: **\$16,537**

Anticipated Funding Sources: MODL, Provincial Funding (\$8,348 – confirmed), own funds.

2025-2026 Amount Requested \$8,189, recommended amount \$5,765.

Bridgewater Sports & Cultural Association – Registered in Lunenburg County

The Association was formed in January 2024 to oversee and assist four established groups/teams in Lunenburg County: The Lunenburg Cricket Club, the South Shore Malayalis Cultural Group, the Lunenburg FC Soccer Team, and the Bluenose Giants Tug of War Team. Their mandate is to enhance the quality of life for community members by providing opportunities for physical activity, cultural engagement, and social interaction.

Project: Purchase of a lifelike Robotic Elephant for multicultural events, parades and educational programs.

Anticipated Project Costs: **\$18,000**

Anticipated Funding Sources: MODL, Provincial (\$5,000 – Pending), donations.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$9,000, recommended amount \$5,400 (contingent on finding a storage location).

Lunenburg Academy Foundation – Registered in Town of Lunenburg

The Lunenburg Academy Foundation is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and sustainable operation of the Lunenburg Academy. Its mission is to ensure that this National Historic Site remains a thriving cultural and educational space for future generations. They host

events, exhibitions, and educational programs that enrich the local and broader community. The heritage classroom offers hands-on historical learning experiences, giving students and visitors a glimpse into the past. The Academy have several diverse tenants including the Heritage Classroom, The Lunenburg Library, the Lunenburg Academy of Music Performance, Atlantic Canada Language Academy, Lunenburg Walking Tours, South Shore Genealogical Society, Class Afloat, the MLA's office and the South Shore Regional Centre for Education's pre-primary program.

Project: Roof Replacement.

Anticipated Project Costs: **\$749,585.66**

Anticipated Funding Sources: MODL, Parks Canada \$250,000, Town of Lunenburg \$250,000, the Foundation.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$15,000, recommended amount \$7,560.

Lunenburg County North River Recreation Committee Society – Registered in District of Lunenburg

Community hall that provides a venue for activities such as bingo, music jams, funerals, teas, kids parties, ice skating, basketball, dance practice and elections. It is the focal point of the community.

Project: Replace water lines, repair floor and add a playground.

Anticipated Project Costs: **\$18,644.85**

Anticipated Funding Sources: MODL, Provincial Funding \$6,215 (pending), in-kind labour.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$6,215, recommended amount \$4,475.

Lunenburg Rod & Gun Club – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The Lunenburg Rod & Gun Club was originally established in 1954 and recently incorporated under the Societies Act. They currently have a membership base of between 350-400 people. Their objective is to provide self-sustaining and inclusive club environment with activities centred on various shooting sports. They are committed to safe and proper handling of firearms at all times.

Project: Install metal siding on the clubhouse including trims around the windows, doors, external equipment and corners.

Anticipated Project Costs: **\$30,500**

Anticipated Funding Sources: MODL, Province \$9,500 (pending). They also have cash on hand.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$9,500, recommended amount \$6,688

Northwest United Baptist Church (Heritage Property) – Registered in District of Lunenburg

The Church is a 200+ year old Baptist Church which is a Municipal and Provincial heritage property.

Project: Scraping, painting and doing minor repairs to the exterior and installing a heat pump.

Anticipated Project Costs: **\$27,008.75**

Anticipated Funding Sources: MODL, Church reserves

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$13,504, recommended amount \$7,886.

Parkdale Maplewood Community Centre – Registered in District of Lunenburg

This Association operates a community hall. The Hall services the areas of Parkdale, Maplewood, Newburne, Scarsdale, Farmington, Four Mile Road area and Sherbooke Lake. This hall can accommodate large crowds of 125-175. The Hall is used by senior groups, church groups, 4-H, youth groups, the local museum, and for funerals and weddings. Many fundraisers take place such as the monthly breakfast.

Project: Paint interior of hall, replace worn and damaged countertops in the kitchen and a few electrical outlets, replace the wheelchair ramp.

Anticipated Project Costs: **\$16,100.**

Anticipated Funding Sources: MODL, in-kind labour and own savings.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$8,050, recommended amount \$5,345.

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 24 – Registered in Town of Bridgewater

They advocate for the care and benefit of all who served Canada regardless of when or where they served. They also provide representation and assistance to veterans, including those currently serving in the Canadian Forces and the RCMP and their families. Access to their services is available to them at no cost whether or not they are a Legion member. Their mission is to serve veterans, promote Remembrance, and serve their community and Municipality.

Project: Upgrade/retrofit the elevator

Anticipated Project Costs: **\$110,503**

Anticipated Funding Sources: MODL, TOB \$1,500 (pending), Provincial funding \$50,000 (pending), and the Legion itself.

2025-2026: Amount Requested \$15,000, recommended amount \$9,240

Grant Type	Organization	Amount Requested	Recommend 2025/26	Received 2024/25	Note
AO	Barss Corner Community Hall	\$5,000.00	\$3,460.00	\$2,039.00	
AO	Bridgewater Barracudas Swim Club	\$3,250.00	\$1,524.00	\$0.00	
AO	Bridgewater Sports & Cultural Association	\$5,000.00	\$3,375.00	\$2,194.00	
AO	Broad Cove Community Association	\$5,000.00	\$3,600.00	\$1,887.00	
AO	Chester Brass Band Society	\$800.00	\$420.00	\$765.00	
AO	Coastal Action Foundation	\$5,000.00	\$3,220.00	\$1,893.00	
AO	Feltzen South Cemetery	\$863.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	NEW
AO	Flourish 55+	\$5,000.00	\$2,975.00	\$0.00	
AO	Heritage Boatyard Cooperative Ltd	\$5,000.00	\$3,150.00	\$2,066.00	
AO	LaHave Islands Marine Museum	\$750.00	\$721.00	\$750.00	
AO	LaHave River Salmon Association	\$5,000.00	\$3,400.00	\$2,305.00	
AO	Lunenburg & District Swimming Pool	\$5,000.00	\$2,398.00	\$0.00	
AO	Lunenburg Academy Foundation	\$5,000.00	\$2,398.00	\$0.00	
AO	Lunenburg County Hikers Club	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	
AO	Lunenburg County Historical Society	\$5,000.00	\$2,800.00	\$2,161.00	
AO	Lunenburg County North River Recreation Committee Soc	\$5,000.00	\$3,100.00	\$2,066.00	
AO	Lunenburg Foundation for the Arts	\$4,000.00	\$2,450.00	\$1,756.00	
AO	Mahone Bay Founders Museum	\$3,000.00	\$1,449.00	\$1,226.00	
AO	Mahone Bay Signature Festivals	\$2,500.00	\$1,313.00	\$2,066.00	
AO	Maitland & District Recreation Community Centre	\$2,500.00	\$1,650.00	\$0.00	1st time AO, CRC 2016-17
AO	Navy League of Canada, Lunenburg Branch	\$5,000.00	\$2,538.00	\$0.00	New, budgeted grant 2006-07
AO	Nova Scotia Sea School	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,844.00	
AO	Parkdale Maplewood Community Hall Assoc	\$2,000.00	\$1,730.00	\$860.00	
AO	Parkdale Maplewood Community Museum	\$3,000.00	\$1,740.00	\$1,346.00	
AO	Pride Lunenburg Society	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
AO	Riverport Community Centre	\$3,000.00	\$2,076.00	\$2,161.00	
AO	Rossini Opera Festival Nova Scotia	\$5,000.00	\$2,783.00	\$2,238.00	
AO	Royal Canadian Legion Br 102, New Germany	\$5,000.00	\$3,700.00	\$0.00	
AO	Seaside A Cappella	\$5,000.00	\$2,900.00	\$1,337.00	
AO	SHAID	\$5,000.00	\$3,300.00	\$1,911.00	
AO	Simpsons Corner Community Hall Society	\$5,000.00	\$3,560.00	\$0.00	1st time AO, CRC 2017-18
AO	South Shore Bluegrass Music Association	\$5,000.00	\$3,100.00	\$0.00	NEW
AO	South Shore Lightning	\$5,000.00	\$3,188.00	\$2,325.00	
AO	South Shore Minor Hockey Association	\$5,000.00	\$2,625.00	\$1,868.00	
AO	South Shore Multicultural Society	\$5,000.00	\$2,813.00	\$2,169.00	
AO	South Shore Sexual Health	\$4,000.00	\$2,130.00	\$1,399.00	
AO	Tancook Island Recreational Centre Association	\$5,000.00	\$3,360.00	\$2,453.00	
AO	The 644 Revitalization Network	\$5,000.00	\$3,700.00	\$2,325.00	
AO	The Society of Saint Vincent De Paul	\$2,500.00	\$1,453.00	\$1,318.00	
AO	Upper Northfield Cemetery	\$2,200.00	\$968.00	\$688.00	
AO	Upper Northfield Community Hall	\$2,500.00	\$1,374.00	\$2,161.00	
AO	We Feed Lunenburg Association	\$5,000.00	\$3,160.00	\$0.00	NEW
AO	YMCA	\$5,000.00	\$2,800.00	\$1,860.00	
	OTHER APPLICATIONS 24/25			\$31,127.00	
	TOTAL ANNUAL OPERATING REQUESTED	\$172,363.00	\$99,701.00	\$85,064.00	

Grant Type	Organization	Amount Requested	Recommend 2025/26	Received 2024/25	Project Details / Notes
MRC	Barss Corner Community Hall	\$8,189.00	\$5,765.00	N/A	Heat-pump installation
MRC	Bridgewater Sports & Cultural Association	\$9,000.00	\$5,400.00	N/A	Robotic Elephant
MRC	Lunenburg Academy Foundation	\$15,000.00	\$7,560.00	N/A	Re-roofing project
MRC	Lunenburg County North River Recreation Committee Soc	\$6,215.00	\$4,475.00	N/A	Waterline replacement, repair floor, add playground
MRC	Lunenburg Rod & Gun Club	\$9,500.00	\$6,688.00	N/A	Wrap, New Siding, Cladding project
MRC	Northwest United Baptist Church	\$13,504.00	\$7,886.00	N/A	Re-painting & heat-pump
MRC	Parkdale Maplewood Community Hall Assoc	\$8,050.00	\$5,345.00	N/A	Re-painting, kitchen refurb, wheelchair ramp
MRC	Royal Canadian Legion Br 24, Bridgewater	\$15,000.00	\$9,240.00	N/A	Lift Retrofit

2024-2025 APPROVALS \$67,861.00

TOTAL MAJOR REC CAPITAL REQUESTED \$84,458.00 \$52,359.00 \$67,861.00

SUMMARY	Requested 2025-2026	Recommend Award 25/26	Approved 2024-2025
Anual Operating	\$172,363.00	\$99,701.00	\$85,064.00
Major Recreation Capital	\$84,458.00	\$52,359.00	\$67,861.00
GRAND TOTAL	\$256,821.00	\$152,060.00	\$152,925.00

AO	Lunenburg Doc Fest	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,860.00	LATE APPLICATION!
	TOTAL LATE AO APPLICATIONS	\$1,500.00	\$0.00		



The Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Request for Decision

Report to: Finance Committee

Submitted by: Abhimanyu Jain, Manager of Climate Change and Sustainability
Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation, Parks and Tourism

Date: May 6, 2025

Re: Funding Support to Friends of Crescent Beach

Recommendation

That the Finance Committee recommend Municipal Council provide up to \$30,000 (or 12% of the total project cost, whichever is lower) to the Friends of Crescent Beach (FOCB) to support a feasibility and options study, contingent on the group's successful grant application to the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund.

Executive summary

The Friends of Crescent Beach (FOCB) are requesting \$30,000 toward a \$250,000 study to assess climate risks and explore long-term adaptation options for Crescent Beach. Led by a team of experts and supported by the provincial Department of Public Works, the study will help guide future protection of this important coastal area. The project supports MODL's goals for climate resilience, sustainability, and enhancing recreation and public spaces.

Background

The Friends of Crescent Beach, Green Bay & Area Society has been a dedicated community steward since the early 1980s, evolving from the LaHave Islands Communities Association. Initially formed to protect local lands and rights, the group now focuses on managing and protecting Crescent Beach.

FOCB has led hands-on conservation work for decades—putting up fencing and signs, restoring dunes with plants and biomass, building recycling stations, and organizing regular cleanups. They've also acted as a link between the community and provincial departments to help protect the beach's natural and recreational value.

On February 11, 2025, FOCB presented to Council on the increasing vulnerability of Crescent Beach following Hurricane Lee. To help address long-standing erosion and storm impacts, FOCB is applying for \$250,000 from the Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund. They are requesting \$30,000 from MODL toward the required \$50,000 non-provincial match, with the remaining \$20,000 to be raised independently. A letter from FOCB confirming this, along with a letter of support from the Department of Public Works (the landowner), is attached to this report.

Discussion

FOCB's proposed study is a timely response to the growing climate risks at Crescent Beach. It will look at flooding, erosion, sea-level rise, and options to protect the shoreline. The project will be led by a team of experts from CBCL Engineering, Coastal Action, Saint Mary's University, and CB Wetlands and Environmental Specialists Specialists.

The study prioritizes nature-based solutions and reflects strong community values and stewardship. FOCB has demonstrated a long-term commitment to the beach and is well positioned to lead this work.

Support from MODL would strengthen their funding application and show the Municipality's commitment to community-driven climate action.

Strategic Focus

This project supports two of the Council's strategic priorities: 'Climate Change Action' and 'Quality of Life'. It will help MODL plan for sea-level rise, erosion, and storm impacts, and support climate-resilient solutions. It also helps protect Crescent Beach as a valued public space for recreation and community connection. Supporting this study shows MODL's commitment to climate action and preserving important natural areas for future generations.

Budget/Financial Implications

If the SCCF grant is approved, MODL would contribute up to \$30,000 from the operating reserve - \$15,000 from the Open Space Operating Reserve and \$15,000 from the Sustainability Reserve. FOCB will raise the remaining \$20,000, keeping the cost to the Municipality low.

Contributor	Amount	% of Total Project Cost
Province (SCCF)	\$200,000	80%
MODL	\$30,000	12%
FOCB (fundraising)	\$20,000	8%
Total Project Cost	\$250,000	100%

Climate Change/sustainability

The project supports MODL’s climate goals by providing data and recommendations to guide adaptation for a high-risk coastal area. Its focus on nature-based solutions helps protect both infrastructure and the environment over the long term.

Inclusion Diversity equity and Accessibility (IDEA@MODL)

Not applicable

Strategic Communications

MODL’s support will be acknowledged in project reports and public materials. Staff recommend collaborating with FOCB to share updates and results through municipal channels and keep the residents informed.

Work plan

Minimal staff time is required. Sustainability staff may act as a point of contact with FOCB during the study phase.

Alternatives

1. Approve a lesser contribution (e.g., \$20,000) and request that the group increase their fundraising target.
2. Decline the funding request, in which case FOCB would need to secure the full matching amount from other sources.

Conclusion

The Friends of Crescent Beach’s proposed study is a timely, community-led project that addresses growing climate risks to a valued public space. It supports Council’s priorities on climate action and quality of life, and offers strong value for a modest cost. Staff recommend the Council contribute up to \$30,000, if SCCF funding is approved.

Attachments

1. Letter from the Friends of Crescent Beach confirming the project funding details.
2. Letter of support from the Department of Public Works (landowner).

Report Preparation	
Department	Planning and Development Services, and Recreation, Parks and Tourism
Report Prepared by	Abhimanyu Jain, Climate Change and Sustainability Manager
Report Approved by	
Date Reviewed by C.A.O.	

Friends of Crescent Beach, Green Bay and Area Society
Box 148
Lahave, NS B0R 1C0

25 March, 2025

MODL
110 Allee Champlain
Cookville, NS B4V 9E4
Attention: Abhimanyu Jain

Dear Abhimanyu

Thank you for the video conference of March 19th with yourself and Trudy Payne to discuss the proposed feasibility and options study of Crescent Beach proposed by Friends of Crescent Beach (FOCB). This study is FOCB's response to the damage done at the beach by Hurricane Lee in Sept 2023. We appreciate the support expressed by MODL staff.

Friends of Crescent Beach (FOCB) will be making a grant submission to the province's Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund (SCCF) by April 22nd 2025. The study group members (CBCL Engineering, Coastal Action, St. Mary's Univ and CB Wetlands & Environmental Specialists) have set a study budget of \$250,000 max. Under the SCCF funding rules, their grant would cover 80% of the cost and the applicant is expected to raise the remaining 20% from non-provincial sources. We ask MODL to consider funding \$30,000 (12%). FOCB would be responsible for raising the remaining \$20,000 (8%).

Public Works is the recognized owner of Crescent Beach. On March 24th we met with Mitchell Conrad (Regional Manager) and Allison Collicut (Area Manager) to discuss the planned study. They are interested in the project and are preparing a letter of support. Since they are a provincial body, they cannot help with funding under this program. We will send MODL a copy of the letter of support as soon as it is received.

Please be in touch if there are any further questions.
Thank you for your consideration

D. Hughes
Dave Hughes / Secretary FOCB

March 28, 2025

Kirsten Ellis
kirsten.ellis@cbwes.com

Dear Kirsten Ellis,

The Department of Public Works acknowledges the Friends of Crescent Beach's initiative to assess climate risks and adaptation strategies for the beach, dune, road, and tidal wetlands of Crescent Beach. We recognize the importance of understanding and addressing potential climate-related impacts on both the environment and infrastructure.

DPW supports efforts to gather data and explore adaptation solutions. While any proposed work on DPW lands will require approval to proceed within the right-of-way, we are generally supportive of the preliminary concept of climate change protection infrastructure. The final scope of work will be subject to a thorough review to ensure alignment with departmental standards and requirements.

We appreciate the dedication of the Friends of Crescent Beach and their project partners in advancing this important work and look forward to reviewing their findings.

Sincerely,

Alison Collicutt, P. Eng
A/Area Manager, Lunenburg/Queens
Nova Scotia Public Works

cc: Mitchell Conrad, District Director, Western