



# Rural Municipality of Belfast (RMB)

Mayor: Garth Gillis; Chief Administrative Officer: Bob Brooks; Incorporated 1972

## COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE MEETING - MINUTES

Friday, March 8, 2024 at 5:00 PM

*Upper Meeting Hall, Wood Islands Market*

### ***In Attendance:***

Committee: Chair - Councillor Billy Gamble (Voting)  
Mayor Garth Gillis (Ex-Officio - Voting)  
Councillor Katherine Bryson (Voting)  
Councillor James Kinnee (Voting)

Administration: CAO Bob Brooks (Non-Voting)

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### **Item      Order of Business**

1. **Call to Order** – Committee was called to order by Mayor Garth Gillis at 5:12pm, as Chair – Councillor Billy Gamble was slightly delayed.

*“In the spirit of Reconciliation, we acknowledge that the land upon which our organization stands is unceded Mi’kmaq territory. Epekwitk (PEI), Mi’kma’ki, is covered by the historic Treaties of Peace and Friendship. We pay our respects to the Indigenous Mi’kmaq People who have occupied this Island for over 12,000 years; past, present, and future.”*

2. **Declarations of Conflict of Interest** – (*Committee Members involved in any Community Grants Applications on today’s Agenda will need to declare a Conflict. Committee Members in Conflict will need to step out during any discussion about their individual Community Grant Application, but may remain and vote on any other application, and on the Community Grants Recommendations as a block*). Only one declaration – Councillor Billy Gamble still has a contract with BAWG – he will step out during the BAWG consideration.
3. **Approval of Agenda** – A discussion about compliance was added to item 9 on this Agenda.

Moved by **Councillor Kinnee** and **seconded** by **Councillor Bryson** to adopt the agenda as amended.

Votes for:   3      Votes against:   0      Result: **Carried Unanimously**

Councillor Gamble joined the meeting at 5:19pm and took over the role as Chair.

4. **Orientation of Committee Proceedings by CAO** – As a result of the Public Call for Proposals for the 2024/25 Community Grants Program; RMB received 20 applications, totalling more than \$240,000 in ‘asks’. All 20 applications are in compliance with RMB’s Bylaw and Policy. Committee will then follow the following process:
  - a. **Public Presentations** (*if any*)
  - b. **Committee moving In-Camera** (*deliberations closed to the public*)

- i. Evaluation of each separate application
  - ii. Deliberations to determine a Recommendation(s) to Council
  - c. Committee moving out of In-Camera (*back into a public meeting*)
  - d. Committee moving/approving a Recommendation(s) to Council as to the recipients for the 2024/25 Community Grants Program.
5. **Public Presentations of Grant Applications (if any)** – There were no public in attendance.
  6. **Motion to move In-Camera and Out of In-Camera** – not required as there were no public in attendance.
  7. **Committee Deliberations** – Committee members deliberated all applications to a total of \$195,816 in Grant Funding to be recommended to Council to be awarded (*Tally Sheet attached*). Councillor Gamble declared a conflict and stepped out of the room for the BAWG discussion. Committee also recommended two additional recommendations.
  8. **Community Grants Committee – Recommendation(s) to Council:**

Following the deliberations of the Community Grants Committee for the 2024/25 Community Grants Program allocations; Committee Members make the following three recommendations for Council consideration:

**(1) Recommended 2024/25 Grant Allocations as follows:**

1. Belfast Rural Fire Department	\$115,000
2. Belfast Rec Centre (GPEI Rink Grant)	\$8,500
3. Belfast Rec Centre (Operations)	\$26,000
4. Belfast Rec Centre (Warming Centre)	\$1,208
5. Belfast Area Watershed Group (BAWG)	\$7,000
7. Belfast Days	\$7,500
8. Belfast Historical Society	\$4,000
9. Belfast Minor Hockey	\$3,000
10. Belfast Wrestling Club	\$1,500
14. Pinette Raceway Inc.	\$2,000
16. Point Prim Lighthouse Society	\$3,000
18. Vernon River/Belfast Community Pantry	\$2,400
19. WIADC – Warming Centre	\$1,208
20. WIADC – Wood Islands Market Operations	\$10,000
21. WIADC – Wood Islands Lighthouse	\$3,000

**Total 15 Allocations Recommended \$195,816**

**(2) Addition of one question to next years' Grant Program Application:**

The Community Grants Committee is recommending that next years' application and beyond, contain a question about financial need for the community grant; i.e. any other funders involved and % of funds from RMB.

**(3) Move Warming Centre allocations to RMB Operational Line-Item:**

The Community Grants Committee felt that as the Warming Centre allocations are for operations and maintenance of RMB's 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Emergency Warming Centres, the annual allocations more appropriately belonged as RMB Operational Line-Items and out of the Community Grants Program. Recommended to be reallocated in next year's budget allocations.

**Moved** by Mayor Gillis and **seconded** by Councillor Bryson to approve the three recommendations (*as presented above*) of the Community Grants Committee and present the recommendations for Council consideration.

Votes for: 4 Votes against: 0 Result: **Carried Unanimously**

9. **New Business for the Agenda** (*per Item 3 above*)

- a. Committee Members had a brief discussion about how RMB deals with compliance of a Community Grant allocation in that grant year and at what point/grant limit an applicant should provide detailed financial statements.

10. **Next Meetings:**

- a. **Regular Council Meeting** – the next regular meeting of Council is scheduled for Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 7:00 PM - Upstairs Hall, Wood Islands Market.
- b. **Community Grants Committee Meeting** – there are no further meetings of the Committee scheduled at this time.

11. **Adjournment** – As there is no further business...

**Moved** by Mayor Gillis to adjourn the meeting at: **6:42pm**.

Minutes Approved On: \_\_\_\_\_

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Chair Councillor Gamble

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CAO Bob Brooks

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