



Rural Municipality of Belfast (RMB)

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

COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE MEETING - MINUTES

Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 7:00 PM

RMB Office, Wood Islands Market

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

Administration: CAO Bob Brooks (Non-Voting)

Public: Sherry Pelky - BAWG

Item Order of Business

1. **Call to Order** – Committee meeting was called to order by Chair – Councillor Billy Gamble at 7:00pm.

“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** – Do any Committee members in attendance have a conflict of interest with any items on today’s Agenda? (*Yes – Councillor Gamble with BAWG Application*)
3. **Approval of Agenda** – There were no other suggested Agenda Items for this Agenda.

Moved by **Mayor Gillis** and seconded by **Councillor Bryson** to adopt the agenda as presented.

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

4. **Orientation of Committee Proceedings by CAO** – As a result of the Public Call for Proposals for the 2025/26 Community Grants Program; RMB received 17 applications, totalling more than \$255,000 in ‘asks’. All 17 applications were in compliance with RMB’s Bylaw and Policy. Committee then were informed about the 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 Recommendations to Council**
 - c. **Committee moving out of In-Camera** (*back into a public meeting*)
 - d. **Committee moving/approving Recommendations to Council as to the recipients for the 2025/26 Community Grants Program.**

5. **Public Presentations of Grant Applications (if any)** – (*Members of the public are offered five minutes to make a presentation to Committee to highlight their application; although, a public presentation is optional, as all Committee Members have received and viewed all the applications in advance.*)
- a) **Sherry Pelky with the Belfast Area Watershed Group (BAWG)** highlighted her application.

6. **Motion to move In-Camera** (*deliberations closed to the public*):

Moved by **Mayor Gillis** and seconded by **Councillor Bryson** for Committee to move In-Camera to evaluate and draft recommendations for Council consideration of the 2025/26 Community Grants Program recipients.

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

7. **Committee In-Camera Deliberations** (*no public minutes are taken for in-camera deliberations*)

8. **Motion to move Out of In-Camera** (*back into a public meeting*):

Moved by **Mayor Gillis** and seconded by **Councillor Bryson** for Committee to move out of In-Camera to present and move recommendations for Council consideration of the 2025/26 Community Grants Program recipients.

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

9. **Community Grants Committee – Recommendations to Council:**

Following the deliberations of the Community Grants Committee regarding the 2025/26 Community Grants Program allocations; Committee Members recommend the following for Council consideration (*Tally Sheet attached*):

(1) Recommended Grant Allocations as follows:

1. Belfast Rural Fire Department - OPs	120,000
2. Belfast Rec Centre (GPEI Rink Grant)	8,500
3. Belfast Rural Fire Department - Firehalls Plans	9,085
4. Belfast Area Watershed Group (BAWG)	8,500
5. Belfast Community Development Corp.	7,500
6. Belfast Days	7,500
7. Belfast Historical Society	4,500
8. Belfast Minor Hockey	1,500
9. Belfast Rec Centre - Ops	26,500
10. Belfast Wrestling Club	750
11. Pinette Raceway Inc.	2,000
12. Point Prim Lighthouse Society	3,000
13. Vernon River/Belfast Community Pantry	2,400
14. WIADC – Wood Islands Market - Ops	10,000
15. WIADC – Wood Islands Lighthouse	3,000
16. WIADC – Train Station Accessible Deck	9,625
17. Iona Park Inc.	1,500

Total **17** **\$ 225,860**

(2) Continued Caveat on Community Grant Allocations:

The Community Grants Committee is recommending continuation of the practice: that any organization receiving a Community Grant in 2025/26, be required to produce a Summary Report on how the awarded Community Grants Funds were utilized, by December 31, 2025. Any group who does not provide such report, will not be eligible for a future Community Grant.
Yes 3 No 0

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

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

10. **New Business for the Agenda** (*none*)

11. **Next Meetings:**

- a. **Regular Council Meeting** – the next regular meeting of Council is scheduled for Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 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.

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

Moved by **Mayor Gillis** to adjourn the meeting at: **8:30 pm**.