



Rural Municipality of Belfast (RMB)

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

COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMITTEE MEETING - MINUTES

Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 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)

Administration: CAO Bob Brooks (Non-Voting) and Admin Ashley Feschuk (Non-Voting)

Public: Keir White – Pinette Park Revitalization Plan 2.0; and Luke Rooney

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** – One Committee member in attendance declared a conflict of interest with an item on the Agenda – Councillor Billy Gamble is a member of Belfast Area Watershed Group.

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

4. **Orientation of Committee Proceedings by CAO** – As a result of the Public Call for Proposals for the 2026/27 Community Grants Program; RMB received 15 applications, totalling more than \$278,000 in ‘asks’. All but one application are in compliance with RMB’s Bylaw and Policy (*both documents attached*). Committee adhered to the following process:

- a. **Public Presentations** (*there was one public presentation*)
- b. **Committee moved to In-Camera** (*deliberations closed to the public*)
 - i. **Evaluation of each separate application**
 - ii. **Deliberations to determine Recommendations to Council**
- c. **Committee moved out of In-Camera** (*back into a public meeting*)
- d. **Committee moving/approving Recommendations to Council as to the recipients for the 2026/27 Community Grants Program.**

5. **Public Presentations of Grant Applications – Keir White, Pinette Park Revitalization Plan 2.0 –** the plan will transform the park into a walkable (trail system), educational and welcoming community space. It will highlight Belfast’s rich local history, the importance of watershed stewardship and a renewed visible park identity. Mr. White then answered Committee questions. **Additionally, Mr. Luke Rooney** attended just to answer any questions the Committee had about the Arena and the Iona Park application.

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

Moved by **Mayor Garth Gillis** and **seconded** by **Councillor Kinnee** for Committee to move In-Camera to evaluate and draft recommendations for Council consideration of the 2026/27 Community Grants Program recipients.

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

7. **Committee In-Camera Deliberations (*no public minutes were taken for in-camera deliberations; however, a recommendation from Committee to Council, will be made in public, once out of the in-camera session*)**

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

9. **Community Grants Committee – Recommendations to Council:** Following the deliberations of the Community Grants Committee regarding the 2026/27 Community Grants Program allocations; Committee Members recommend the following for Council consideration (***Tally Sheet attached***):

(1) Recommended Grant Allocations as follows:

1. Fire Protection Services	\$165,000
2. Belfast Rec Centre (GPEI Rink Grant)	\$8,500
3. BAWG - Belfast Area Watershed Group	\$8,000
4. BCDC - Belfast Community Development Corp.	\$5,000
5. Belfast Days	\$4,000
6. Belfast Historical Society	\$2,500
7. Belfast Minor Hockey Assoc.	\$2,500
8. Belfast Rec Centre - Operations	\$29,000
9. Coop Cottage	\$0
10. Iona Park Inc.	\$2,000
11. Pinette Raceway Inc.	\$2,000
12. Point Prim Lighthouse Society	\$2,000
13. Vernon River/Belfast Community Pantry	\$2,400
14. WIADC – Wood Islands Lighthouse	\$2,000
15. WIADC –Wood Islands Market - Operations	\$5,000

\$ Total ***\$239,900***

(2) A second recommendation was made by Committee members that all future applicants must submit the following documentation with their Community Grants Application for review.

1. Operational budget - including revenue sources and expenses.
2. Capital projects - including funding sources and expenses
3. A profit/loss statement with year end bank balance.
4. Request identifying the amount and anticipated use of funds from RMB.

Moved by Councillor Kinnee and seconded by Councillor Bryson to approve the 15 allocation recommendations (*as listed above in (1)*), as well as the second recommendation regarding additional financial information (*as listed above in (2)*) of the Community Grants Committee and present the recommendations for Council consideration.

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

10. **New Business for the Agenda** – There was no new business for the Agenda.

11. **Next Meetings:**

- a. **Regular Council Meeting** – the next regular meeting of Council is scheduled for Wednesday, March 18, 2026 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: 9:05pm.

Ashley/Bob

Minutes Approved on: _____

Committee Chair – Councillor Billy Gamble

CAO – Bob Brooks

13056 Shore Road - Unit 104a, Wood Islands, PE C0A 1R0 - Office (902) 962-208
Website: www.ruralmunicipalityofbelfast.com Em: ruralmunicipalityofbelfast@gmail.com