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**N O R T H   A M E R I C A ' S   O L D E S T   A G R I C U L T U R A L   F A I R**

Kim Ramsay, CAO  
Municipality of East Hants  
March 16, 2023

Dear CAO Ramsay,

Plans are underway for the 258th Hants County Exhibition September 15-17 and 22-24, 2023

The Hants County Exhibition – the Oldest Agricultural Fair in North America – offers a unique opportunity to educate the public on the value of agriculture, an industry so important to our region. Our agricultural fair is a fun, family friendly event featuring a large and healthy Hants County 4–H Show, with many participants residing in East Hants. We are also the home of the largest beef show east of Quebec, the Classic Heritage Beef Show. It brings exhibitors from all over the Maritimes. We also have a variety of ox and horse pulls, horse shows, poultry shows, fruit, vegetable and home craft competitions.

Prizes and championships won at our exhibition add value to livestock, breeding stock and competition animals raised at farms in Hants County and exhibited here. This show is important to the farmers and breeders invested in the agricultural industry – as well as all the agricultural related businesses in our county.

Entertainment also plays an important role in our Hants County Exhibition. In 2019, 2021 (modified event due to Covid-19), and 2022, 100% of our entertainment budget was spent within our region. We're proud of this. It was a great show last year and we'll be expanding it in 2023.

Community support enables our not for profit Windsor Agricultural Society, who owns and operates the HCEX Fairgrounds in Windsor to host a successful exhibition, and bring 30,000 visitors to our county each September. This in turn allows us to maintain our facility for many other shows, festivals, and community events that happen throughout the seasons. We had a record breaking crowd the first Saturday last year, but unfortunately lost our second weekend to Hurricane Fiona - the first time in memory HCEX had been cancelled for any reason.

The Hants County Exhibition is carefully managed and overseen by an engaged volunteer board of directors. We are respectfully requesting grant funding for the Municipality of East Hants of \$500 in support of this historical and long standing tradition that means so much to our Hants County community.

Thank you in advance and I look forward to hearing from your department.

Have a great day!

Lisa Hines,  
HCEX Manager  
902 790 3151