



Date: October 5, 2023
To: Council
cc: Kim Ramsay, CAO
From: Alana Tapper, Director of Parks, Recreation & Culture
Re: PRC Quarterly Report - July 2023 - September 2023

OVERVIEW

This report brings forward deliverables from the Parks, Recreation and Culture workplan for the second quarter of the 2023/2024 fiscal year.

PARKS & OPEN SPACES

- July flooding event necessitated a number of repairs:
 - Re-graded the Walton Lighthouse Road
 - Re-installed the Brickyard Park bridges and dock
 - Re-installed the Wickwire Station Dock and re-graded the driveway
 - Trails had to be graded and topped with gravel
- Nine Mile River Trail and Walton Fire Department work continues
- Centre Rawdon Playground awarded
- Enfield and Walton playgrounds were installed
- Working with developers on multiple open space requests
- Working on annual playground inspections
- Playground annual inspections are ongoing

SPORTSPLEX

- Provincial Rink Revitalization grant funding sent to East Hants Arena Association for planned capital repairs to the ice plant structure, will be held in reserve by the Municipality as the repairs had to be delayed until 2024 due to maintenance required by the EHAA
- Ice rate (4%) and field rate (3%) increases approved by Council
- Ongoing discussions between the Municipality and the General Manager regarding the OH & S action plan from the audit conducted in June
- Dome deflated in advance of a weather event (Hurricane/Tropical Storm Lee) in September
- Quarterly board meeting on September 25

TOURISM

- Full complement of Visitor Experience staff at BHP (6 positions) and FTIC (2.5 positions), 3 Aquatic Centre staff hired part-time after the EHAC closure
- Revenue: Burntcoat Head Park gift shop and guided ocean floor tours brought in \$50,500 of direct income for the Municipality
- Cruise ship excursions (bus tours)
 - Approximately 30 separate tours visited both BHP & the Fundy Tidal Interpretive Centre this season representing over 1,000 additional guests (mainly from the USA and Germany)

- Traffic this season at-a-glance:

RECORDED VISITORS AT TOURISM SITES 2023		
	Burntcoat Head Park	Fundy Tidal Interpretive Centre
Pre-season (Jan-Apr)	2,003 (712 last year)	n/a no trail counter
May	1,732 (2,231 last year)	861
June	4,734	2,283
July	8,856	4,192
August	9,262	4,090
September	5,900	2,563
October		
Total 2023 visitors:	31,695	13,989

- Funding and grants:
 - Actively participating in Tourism Nova Scotia’s “Voice of the Visitor” program and the “Compelling Tourism Communities” program. The Compelling Tourism Communities Program marketed East Hants as a tourism destination online throughout the Maritimes; and hosted a travel influencer on a visit to the Noel Shore for the week of September 25-29
 - Submitted final signed agreement for the Department of Oceans and Fisheries’ Habitat Stewardship Program (protecting ocean floor habitat of the Atlantic Mud-Piddock at Burntcoat). Awaiting the 2023 disbursement of funds (annually amounts to over \$19,000 per year for the next 3 consecutive years).
 - Tourism grants plus staffing/operating grants for East Hants Museum Society (Tinsmith Museum) and Walton & Area Development Association (WADA) were processed
- Events:
 - Staff and Council hosted Explore Your Own Backyard at BHP on September 9 with approximately 250 people attending
 - New event, Burntcoat Head Park Autumn Sunset Ocean Floor Strolls (September 28 & 29) had 41 attendees total
 - Upcoming: Fall Colours & Folk Tales at Burntcoat Head Park October 13
- Dining On the Ocean Floor concluded for the season on September 6, 8 events held this year
- Weather impacts on this season: closed for 4 days total in peak season (July floods and September tropical storm).

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Information and Statistics

The Community Development Coordinator continued to work with a variety of community groups. Assistance was offered in a number of areas including bylaw development, funding sources, grant application support, program creation, non-profit registry of joint stocks registration assistance, asset transfers, project planning, and volunteer recruitment.

- Hants Senior Safety organization has dissolved and returned funding to East Hants that has been credited to General Government Grants
- Met with CRA’s community outreach staff about programs and outreach opportunities, volunteer income tax programs, and options for community groups. There is opportunity to partner on senior education, for income tax, benefits and programs
- Fall edition of E-newsletter sent to 30 subscribers outlining upcoming event for volunteers (Food Safety course and Volunteer Networking in Rawdon)

Grants Processed:

General Government

- Recycle My Cycle, Sackville & Area Rotary Club, \$500
- Nova Scotia 4H (Pro Show), \$500
- Halifax East Hants 4H (Award sponsorship), \$100

Community Partnership Fund

- East Hants Community Learning Association (Community Rider), \$50,000

Not for Profit Insurance Grant

- Empire Trails, \$1500
- Bell Park, 402.50
- Tennecape Community Hall, \$864
- East Walton Community Club, \$499

RECREATION

Summer Day Camps

- Total Registrations: 408 (2022 - 287)
- Inclusion Placements: 8
- Aquatic Camps cancelled after July 21, increased school spaces to accommodate larger numbers

Ball Hockey

- U11-U15, 7 weeks - 290 registrations
- Adult, 9 weeks - 62 registrations

Events

- Cultural Canvas Sept 28 @ LEMC 6pm - 8pm
 - Educational event recognizing Truth & Reconciliation /Treaty Day
 - Painting with Quentin Syliboy, Indigenous art displays and educational resources
 - Partnered with the Library, and Obsidian Studios
 - 42 Participants

Fall Programs:

- Art Exploration with Quentin Syliboy
 - EH Sportsplex, Ages 11-16, Tuesdays starting September 12
 - Uniacke District School, Ages 11-16, Thursdays starting Octber 26
 - EH Sportsplex, Ages 17+, Tuesdays starting Oct 24
- Crochet
 - Fundamentals through Granny Squares, Thursdays starting September 14
 - Casual Crochet Drop in, Wednesdays starting September 13
- Intro to Drama
 - Riverside Education Centre, Tuesdays starting October 3 6:30-9pm ages 16+
- Badminton
 - Riverside Education Centre, Tuesdays starting October 3 ages 12-17
- Pickleball
 - Maple Ridge Elementary, Wednesdays starting October 4 6:30-9pm ages 16+
 - Uniacke District School, Wednesdays starting October 4 6:30-9pm ages 16+
- Ball Hockey
 - Uniacke District School, Mondays starting October 16 ages 7-15
 - Enfield Elementary, Mondays starting October 16 ages 7-15
- Recreational Basketball
 - Uniacke District School, Saturdays starting Oct 14 ages 4-12

Community Grants 2023-2024

Total Fund 2023-2024: \$33,000
 Funds Grants: \$20,434 (62%)
 Total Remaining: \$12,566 (38%)

Recreation Operating: \$14,636 (72%)
 Event Hosting: \$1,712 (8%)
 Rec Programming: \$4,086 (20%)

Organization	Approved	Grant	Grant Description
Bell Park Development Assoc.	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Trail Maintenance
Corridor Minor Baseball Assoc.	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Umbrellas/Bases & Sound System
East Walton Community Club	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Front Step Repair
Elmsdale Beautification Society	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Park Maintenance
Lions Memorial Park Society	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Park Maintenance
Milford Recreation Assoc	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Park & Trail Maintenance
Noel New Horizons Rising Tides	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Window Replacement
Off Leash East Hants Society	\$1,500	Rec Operating	Grounds Maintenance
Mawikuti'k Society	\$750	Event Hosting	Freedom March Event Insurance & event expenses
East Hants Mastodons U15	\$1,200	Rec Programming	Fastpitch Nationals - Alberta Aug 7-14
Shubenacadie Hay Days	\$712	Event Hosting	Canada Day Event Insurance & Event Expenses
Kids Action Program	\$986	Rec Programming	Backpack & Carriers for walk & hike events
Nova Scotia U23 Selects	\$500	Rec Programming	Softball Nationals in Saskatoon
Ben Orchard - Rugby NS U19 Keltics	\$100	Rec Programming	U19 Keltics Atlantic Rugby Championships
Hants North Jays U13AAA	\$1,300	Rec Programming	U13AAA Atlantic's
Corridor Volleyball Club	\$1,200	Rec Operating	Coaching Education
Nine Mile River Trail	\$1,436	Rec Operating	Trail repairs
Nine Mile River Trail	\$250	Event Hosting	Jack O Lantern walk event
TOTAL	\$20,434		

District Recreation Fund (DRF) - 2023-2024 Approved Applications

Organization	Project	Funding Awarded	In-take
Nine Mile River Community Hall	Solar	\$ 3,598	Jan 2023
Rainbow Community Club	Roof Replacement	\$ 7,603	Jan 2023
Enfield, Elmsdale & Dist. Lions Club	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	\$ 50,000	Jan 2023
Gore District Volunteer Fire Dept	Furnace Replacement	\$ 9,200	Jan 2023
Lions Memorial Park Society	Washroom	\$ 5,750	April 2023
Milford Recreation Association	Siding, Picnic Tables & Benches	\$ 19,800	April 2023
EH Horne School Preservation Soc.	Flooring & Painting	\$ 13,949	April 2023
East Gore Community Club	Roof Replacement	\$ 12,293	April 2023
Empire Trails Association	Bridge Replacements	\$ 15,558	April 2023
	TOTAL	\$137,751	

Available DRF Funds

District	Carry Over for Report	2023-2024 Allocation	January 2023 (Intake 1)	April 2023 (Intake 2)	2023-2024 Available Funding
1 - Enfield	\$ 36,029	\$ 28,919	\$ (10,000)	\$ (7,648)	\$ 47,300
2 - Elmsdale/Belnan	\$ 63,936	\$ 23,935	\$ (7,398)	\$ (7,400)	\$ 73,073
3 - Milford/Nine Mile River	\$ 2,408	\$ 19,135	\$ (3,598)	\$ (14,723)	\$ 3,222
4 - Shubenacadie	\$ 7,296	\$ 9,919			\$ 17,215
5 - Maitland/MacPhees Corner	\$ 39,485	\$ 11,702			\$ 51,187
6 - Walton/Noel/Kennetcook	\$ 8,445	\$ 9,431	\$ (7,603)		\$ 10,273
7 - Lantz/Milford	\$ 24,012	\$ 25,297		\$ (3,427)	\$ 45,882
8 - Mount Uniacke	\$ 60,124	\$ 23,792			\$ 83,916
9 - South/East Uniacke	\$ 63,241	\$ 23,839			\$ 87,080
10 - Enfield/Grand Lake	\$ 18,331	\$ 26,873	\$ (32,602)	\$ (6,301)	\$ 6,301
11 - Rawdon/Gore	\$ 55,335	\$ 14,328	\$ (8,544)	\$ (12,500)	\$ 48,619
3 - Milford/Nine Mile River - Gore \$0.01	\$ 8,351			\$ (8,351)	\$ -
5 - Maitland/MacPhees Corner - Gore \$0.01	\$ 3,875				\$ 3,875
11 - Rawdon/Gore - Gore \$0.01	\$ 7,656		\$ (656)	\$ (7,000)	\$ -
Shubenacadie Additional Funds	\$ 665				\$ 665
Mount Uniacke Additional Rate	\$ 81,325	\$ 35,335			\$ 116,660
	\$ 480,515	\$ 252,505	\$ (70,401)	\$ (67,350)	\$ 595,269