



**Subject:** *District Recreation Fund Application 2025 - Intake 2*  
**To:** Parks, Recreation & Culture Committee  
**Date Prepared:** May 27, 2025  
**Prepared by:** Jo Swinemer, Community Development Coordinator  
**Approved by:** Alana Tapper, Director, Parks, Recreation & Culture

### Summary

This report presents recommendations for the District Recreation Fund (DRF) for the Executive Committee to review and recommend to Council.

The second DRF intake closed on April 30, 2025. There were 3 grant applications received with requested funds totaling \$45,516. The applications were reviewed by the Staff Grant Review Committee and evaluated against Council policy. All 3 applications meet the policy criteria and have been included in this report.

Council may wish to approve funding from multiple districts where projects benefit facilities and users of facilities that service a large area of the municipality. This report notes under each project where other districts have contributed to previous years' projects.

### Financial Impact Statement

The available District Recreation Fund for 2025-2026 was \$803,870. In addition, there is \$3875 remaining in the Gore area rate (reallocated to District 11) and \$192,652 in the Mount Uniacke recreation area rate.

In Motion C25(108) Council approved \$185,441 for 7 projects, across 7 districts, for the first intake.

The total requests for this second intake (3 projects) are \$45,516. Based on policy review, DRF allocation would be \$31,443 for these 3 projects.

### Recommendation

That Council approve funding for the DRF grant applications based on discussion at Committee, pending confirmation of external funding (where applicable) and supporting documents are received.

### Recommended Motion

*Move that Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee recommend that Council approve District Recreation Funding 2025-2026 (Intake 2) based on discussion at Committee [motion(s) will have details for Council].*

## Background

The District Recreation Funding Program offers annual funding opportunities to groups that provide benefit to the residents of East Hants and offer the development of programs, activities and infrastructure that encourage active and healthy lifestyles.

### District Recreation Funding Program Objectives:

1. Support community-based organizations to maintain and enhance their recreation facilities.
2. Establish criteria which is equitable and consistently applied.
3. Maintain accountability when dispersing public recreation funds.
4. Support the vision and strategies of municipal strategic plans.

Organizations are first eligible for 50% of project costs (33% for CCRCE properties/projects). If a districts fund does not have sufficient funding to meet this threshold, the organization may then receive up to 50% of a district's available funds. In special circumstances, Council may contribute more than 50% of the total project cost or more than 50% of the funds not yet committed in the District Recreation Fund if:

- The applicant is the only organization maintaining a recreation facility in that district;
- There is evidence of significant community support demonstrated by written letters of support from the other eligible organizations;
- The project directly advances municipal plans; or,
- At the direction of Council.

Applications are reviewed for completeness, adherence to policies and evaluated against alignment with municipal recreation priorities and other applications from the district and Municipality.

Staff evaluate the District Recreation Funds applications and make allocation recommendations based on policy. Council may wish to consider combining district funds to help accommodate the funding requests or adjust the allocation amount for a particular project.

### 2025/2026 District Recreation Funds Allocations:

Districts	2025/2026 Available Funds	Intake 1 Allocations	Available Funds Intake 2
1 - Enfield Centre (Garden-Cole)	\$63,946	\$43,481	\$20,465
2 - Elmsdale (Mitchell)	\$71,681	\$29,849	\$41,832
3 - Nine Mile River-Belnan (Hebb)	\$65,426	\$25,710	\$39,716
4 - Shubenacadie-Indian Brook (MacPhee)	\$48,768		\$48,768
5 - Maitland-Noel Shore (Rhyno)	\$66,261		\$66,261
6 - North Lantz-Milford (Merriam)	\$41,922	\$18,230	\$23,692
7 - South Lantz (Tingley)	\$62,633	\$23,480	\$39,153
8 - Mount Uniacke-South Rawdon (Perry)	\$133,932	\$13,592	\$120,340
9 - South-East Uniacke (Moussa)	\$132,139	\$13,107	\$119,032
10 - Enfield-Grand Lake (Dixon)	\$43,355	\$17,992	\$25,363
11 - Rawdon-Kennetcook (Roulston)	\$73,807		\$73,807
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$803,870</b>	<b>\$185,441</b>	<b>\$618,429</b>
Remaining Gore \$0.01 (Dist. 11)	\$3,875		\$3,875
Mount Uniacke Additional Rate	\$192,652		\$192,652
<b>Total Available Funds</b>	<b>\$1,000,397</b>		<b>\$814,956</b>

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## Discussion

The Staff Grant Committee reviewed the applications against Council's policy. The projects are summarized below by district. Outlined for each project is a brief description, the total cost, recommendation for funding based on policy and other relevant notes, such as pending funding from other sources.

## DRF Project Descriptions

### District 5 - Maitland-Noel Shore

Funding Available: \$ 66,261

#### Noel Road Willing Workers Community Club

**Project:** Flooring Upgrade

**Description:** Current flooring is more than 20 years old and is showing a lot of wear, especially in high traffic areas. New flooring will be same throughout, of commercial grade and waterproof.

**Total Project:** \$ 17,022

**Requested DRF Funds:** \$11,552

**Application Status:** Complete

**DRF Policy Allocation:** \$ 8761 (1/2 project)

**Shortfall:** \$2761

**Notes:**

- First time applicant of DRF program.
- This community hall is quite close to the border of District 11 and used by many Kennetcook and Noel Road residents.

### District 10 - Enfield-Grand Lake

Funding Available: \$ 25,363

#### EH Horne School Preservation Society

**Project:** Brick Work and Chimney Repair

**Project Description:** Repair exterior chimneys (liners and brick from roof up) and repointing of brickwork on south facing exterior wall, rear wall was completed last year.

**Total Project:** \$ 47,988

**Requested DRF Funds:** \$23,994 (1/2 project)

**Application Status:** Complete

**DRF Policy Allocation:** \$12,682 (1/2 district funds available)

**Shortfall:** \$11,313

**Notes:**

- District 1 has contributed to past projects.

## District 11 - Rawdon-Kennetcook

Funding Available: \$ 73,807

### Stanley Sport Aviation Association

**Project:** Multi-Use Building Construction

**Project Description:** The club is working to construct buildings destroyed by fire that were used for community and club fundraising activities, social events, education and training sessions and aircraft storage/maintenance. Construction of the multi-use building will include the removal of existing concrete foundations from previous buildings, pouring of new foundations and construction of the building.

**Total Project:** \$502,280

**Requested DRF Funds:** \$10,000

**Application Status:** Complete

**DRF Policy Allocation:** \$ 10,000

#### Notes:

- Only one quote received, deemed acceptable, as in-kind project management increased value substantially.
- Funding confirmed from Province and funding still pending from Federal ACOA program.

#### Summary of allocations based on policy:

Applicant	District	DRF Amount Requested	Dist. Funds Available	DRF Allocation (based on policy)
Noel Road Community Hall	5	\$11,522	\$66,261	\$8,761
EH Horne School Preservation	10	\$23,994	\$25,363	\$12,682
Stanley Sport Aviation	11	\$10,000	\$73,807	\$10,000
<b>Totals:</b>		<b>\$45,516</b>		<b>\$31,443</b>

#### Code of Conduct

With the new Code of Conduct, Councillors who feel they have a conflict of interest should declare this conflict before any discussion takes place related to a motion of Council. District Recreation Fund applications will be broken out into separate motions to allow those Councillors with an identified conflict the opportunity to participate in discussions for other applications, if a conflict is declared.

#### STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

District Recreation Fund Program provides capital funding to non-profit community groups who own and/or operate indoor and outdoor community facilities available to all residents to enjoy. These community groups contribute to a strong community and provide sustainable infrastructure.

## FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The available District Recreation Funds for the second intake of 2025-2026, is \$618,429, and broken down below by district.

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<b>Total Available Funds</b>	<b>\$1,000,397</b>		<b>\$814,956</b>

The requests for the second intake totaled \$45,516. The amount brought forward through Council policy allocation is \$31,443.

## Alternatives

Council may wish to approve funding from multiple districts where projects benefit facilities and users of facilities that service a large area of the municipality.