



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**19 MAY 2021, ONLINE VIA ZOOM**

**AGENDA**

- 1. Welcome and Approval of Agenda**
- 2. Deceased Members - Moment of Silence**
- 3. Minutes of Last Annual Meeting (16 Sept. 2020) - Attached**
- 4. Business arising from the Minutes**
- 5. President's Report**
- 6. Treasurer's Report**
- 7. Appointment of Auditor for 2021-2022**
- 8. Reports of Vice Presidents**
  - a. Vice President (Programmes)**
  - b. Vice President (Publications)**
  - c. Vice President (Publicity)**
- 9. Report of Membership Secretary**
- 10. Report of Nomination Committee**
- 11. New Business**
  - a. Community Support Grants Initiative - Attached**
- 12. Adjournment**



## **Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society Annual Meeting, Wednesday, September 16, 2020**

**Opening:** Following a lecture by Paul Bennet that looked at the process of determining the turning points of Nova Scotian history, the President of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society called the delayed 2020 annual meeting of the Society to order at 8:20 pm with 27 members in electronic presence using the virtual meeting platform ZOOM. As, Sara Beanlands, the Society President noted, it was an unusual meeting in an unusual year, yet no matter where we likely were, we remained in the ancestral lands of the Mi'kmaq.

**Approval of Agenda:** The agenda and all the documents to be addressed at this meeting had been posted on the Society's website and most had been distributed through e-mail earlier in the week. The agenda was approved on the motion of John Reid and Robert Bérard.

**Memorial Moment:** Sara Beanlands noted the passing this year of Society Fellow and distinguished Dalhousie based historian, P. B. Waite; our Treasurer, Robin Orr, and our Auditor, Hugh Creighton. She invited those present to join in a moment's silence to contemplate the life and contributions of these members and others who may also have died this year.

**Minutes:** The distributed minutes needed not to be read aloud and were adopted on the motion of John Macleod and James Morrison.

**Business arising from the minutes:** It was noted that any such business would be addressed in the reports.

**New Members:** Welcomed into membership of the motion of the Secretary and seconded by all in the virtual presence were: Karen Clifford, Nepean, ON; Peter Cullen, New Ross, NS; Bill Curry, Port Maitland, NS; Kathleen Kaldis, Leominster, MA; Bonita MacDermott, Dartmouth; Robert Summerby-Murray, Halifax, NS; and Lois Yorke, Halifax, N.

**President's report (Sara Beanlands):** Sara reviewed the highlights of the year and in particular thanked the speakers who presented and those who due to COVID did not yet get to present. She remained through COVID inspired by the efforts, loyalty and dedication of editors, council members and the membership of the Society who persevered in advancing the Society's programs and activities. She noted that it had been the intention to present Fellowship awards in person to Margaret Conrad and to John Grant at either the annual dinner or this annual meeting, and that the Society will look forward to the renewal of in person events when this may be possible.

**Treasurer's report (Hope Beanlands):** Hope presented statements of income and expense and a preliminary balance sheet both of which included information for the current year and retrospective information for the previous two years. In terms of income and expense the Society ended the year with an issue of the Journal published and a surplus of \$2,500.

**Appointment of Auditor:** While an auditor's report normally is presented at the Annual Meeting this spring saw the death of the Treasurer who had been nominated at the previous Annual Meeting as well as the death, in September 2019, of the Auditor appointed at that meeting. The Society has yet to identify a name to be nominated as the Society's auditor. The Council of the Society suggested a course of action and thus it was moved by Hope Beanlands, seconded by Shirley Tillotson and approved by the membership that the Society defer and delegate to the Council the selection of an auditor and the receipt and concurrence in the subsequent report for 2019-2020, which would be available to members on request; and that the same auditor be asked to act for 2020-2021 and present that report at the next Annual Meeting.

#### **Reports of the Vice Presidents:**

**Vice President (Programs) (Shirley Tillotson):** Shirley noted that we continue this year, and into the next, to benefit from John Grant's tenacity in securing speakers. She did, however, invite suggestions.

**Vice President (Publications) (John Reid):** After thanking our editors, authors and reviewers John Reid drew attention to the evolution of the **Journal** towards more structured peer review and the resulting need for both a working editorial team and a distinct editorial board supported by a volunteer managing editor to facilitate the peer review process. He also noted the intention to consult the membership on preferences regarding electronic publication, continued paper publication and the effects on subscriptions.

**Vice President (Publicity) (Tanja Harrison):** In addition to her distributed report Tanja noted the technology implications of this year for virtual meetings and the growth of our social media accounts.

**Membership Secretary (Rosemary Barbour):** This report was also in the package and indicated stability in membership over a three year period.

**Omnibus Report Approval Motion:** On the motion of James Morrison and Nicole Neatby all reports not specifically and previously approved were put to the Society for approval and were approved.

**Nominations Committee:** James Morrison moved the adoption of the nominations report as distributed. This included the following nominations:

President: Lois Yorke, 2020-2023

Past President: Sara Beanlands, 2020-2023 (James Morrison outgoing)

VP Programmes: Shirley Tillotson, 2019-2021

VP Publicity: Tanja Harrison, 2018-2021

VP Publications: John Reid, 2018-2021

Treasurer: Hope Beanlands, 2020-2023

Secretary: John Macleod

Assistant Secretary: Anjali Vohra

Membership Secretary: Rosemary Barbour

Councillors: Nicole Neatby, 2020-2023 (Gregory MacNeil outgoing)  
Claudine Bonner, 2018-2021  
Albert Lee, 2019-2022  
Dan Conlin, 2018-2021  
Sara Hollett, 2019-2022  
Matthias Rodorff, 2019-2022

Additional nominations were sought from the Zoomasphere, or virtual floor, three times and each time the notifications and chat and sound remained vacant and silent. It was then moved by James Morrison and seconded by Robert Bérard, and accepted by all, that nominations cease and that the report be adopted.,

**Appointment of Signing Officers:** With the change of officers it was moved by Sara Beanlands, seconded by John Macleod and approved by all, that the signing officers be confirmed as being any two of the President, Treasurer or Secretary as updated by this annual meeting.

**Closing:** Sara Beanlands the new Past President then welcomed the Lois Yorke, the new President, who made a few remarks.

John Reid, on behalf of the Society and all present, then thanked Sara Beanlands for her leadership in steering the Society during the past three years and more recently into the COVID world.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.



### **President's Annual Report – May 2021**

In her Annual Report last September as outgoing president, Sara Beanlands remarked it had been “an extraordinary year.” Little did we realize then that the same would also apply through the entire coming year. Here we are now at the end of 2020-2021, still in the midst of a world-wide pandemic – but thanks to loyal support once more from Executive, Council and Members, the RNS Historical Society continues to thrive, moving from strength to strength.

The world of online meetings and presentations which seemed so strange a year ago has now become routine, as we adjust to the opportunities offered by Internet technology. A full slate of evening lectures rolled out between September and May, complete with real-time question-and-discussion periods after each. Thanks to the promotional work of Tanja Harrison (VP Publicity), 30+ participants on average joined us each month; and thanks to the energetic work of Shirley Tillotson (VP Programme), discussion times were lively and often provocative. Our sincere thanks to each of the nine presenters; we are especially pleased to see first-time speakers and younger historians stepping forward to challenge us with new topics and fresh perspectives.

Volume 23 of the *Journal* appeared exactly on time, thanks to the efforts of Anne Marie Lane Jonah, the Editor – a true accomplishment, given the challenges of the pandemic world. The *Journal* is arguably the Society's most visible legacy, and now has Mathias Rodorff as volunteer Managing Editor to assist with the production process. Meanwhile, John Reid (VP Publications) has coordinated next steps in exploring the *Journal's* future, including a Member's Survey which drew an excellent and useful response.

After a period of transition, the Society's finances are moving forward satisfactorily under the keen eye of Hope Beanlands, current Treasurer. A new venture this year has been development of the Society's Community Support Grants, a small but significant initiative, enhanced by an anonymous donation in support of a two-year trial period – a gesture for which the Executive is most grateful.

Lastly, as new President, I thank the Executive and Council for guidance and patience as I 'learned the ropes' – an excellent team to work with! Looking towards 2021-2022, with a full slate of presentations nearing completion and the prospect of brighter days ahead, I can only point to the Society's standing record across 143 years – a sure guarantee we will survive, flourish, and continue to fulfill our mandate.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lois Yorke / President  
14 May 2021



## Report of the Vice-President, Programmes, 2020-2021

To the President, Executive, and Membership of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society:

The Society has met the challenges presented by the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, and has successfully presented a full slate of lectures as outlined in the Fall/Winter (2020-2021) Programme. This has been accomplished by transitioning to an online platform via Zoom technology, and encouraging Society members to attend virtually. Most lectures attracted over 30 participants, often from great distances, followed by lively discussion sessions.

In keeping with the Society's mandate to support and preserve the history of Nova Scotia, presenters addressed a variety of topics, historical periods, geographical areas, and reporting styles. The following lectures were delivered:

**Paul Bennett**, "The Shifting Axis and Nova Scotia's Place in Canadian Confederation, 1860s to the Present"; **Patrick Lacriox**, "Emigration and the Failure of Canadian Elites in the Nineteenth Century: Quebec and Nova Scotia Compared"; **Heather McBriarty**, "'Somewhere in Flanders': A Nova Scotian at the Front"; **Col. (Ret'd.) John L. Orr CD**, "Seven Flags over Shearwater"; **Sawyer Carnegie**, "The History of the African Nova Scotian Press Tradition and its Relationship to Black Activism in Nova Scotia, 1946-1990"; **Lindsey MacCallum and Jennifer Brady**, "'Why would a girl want to be educated?' The History of Home Economics Post-Secondary Education in Nova Scotia"; **Grace McNutt**, "Oppression in the Shadows: The Mi'kmaq of Nova Scotia and the Department of Indian Affairs, 1760-1950"; **Laurie Glenn Norris**, "'Everyone is at home at a Methodist Minister's House': Letters of Mary (Seaman) Pike and Jennie (Seaman) Wootton 1874-1890"; and **Afua Cooper**, "The Black Refugees and Lord Dalhousie: A Story in Seven Letters"

The RNSHS is the province's senior historical society and continues to seek presentations representing Nova Scotia in its entirety and diversity, with a special interest in younger and/or first-time presenters. The 2021-2022 Programme is in final stages of development, but anyone with a proposed paper or suggested topic is encouraged to contact the Executive at any time.

This is the final year of my two-year term as Vice-President, Programmes, and I have enjoyed working with the presenters in their wide range of topics. I sincerely thank the President, Past President, and Council for their support, and the Vice-President, Publicity, for assistance in promoting the lectures to an online audience.

Respectfully submitted, Shirley Tillotson, 17 May 2021



## **Report of Vice-President Publications for 2020-21 Year**

First and foremost, Volume 23 of the *Journal* was published in December 2020. Publication of the annual volume – especially one as strong as this one – is always a noteworthy achievement, but especially so in this very unusual and difficult year. This issue contains four important full-length articles by Sara Hollett, Stefanie R. Slaunwhite, John N. Grant, and Harvey Strum, as well as insightful research notes by Sharon M.H. MacDonald and David Sutherland, an extensive genealogical article by Bill Curry, and a book review by Claire Campbell. Together, these contributions represent a spectrum of vibrant research areas, and the high quality of the issue reflects the continuing dedication of the Editor, Anne Marie Lane Jonah, and her editorial team. Congratulations to all!

A further milestone this year was the appointment for the first time of a Managing Editor for the *Journal*. Mathias Rodorff took over this position in January 2021. In general, the Editor continues to determine (with peer review) the acceptability or otherwise of submitted manuscripts, evaluates necessary revisions to the submissions, initiates policy for the *Journal* (in consultation with the Editorial Board and subject when necessary to confirmation by the Society's Council), and is the leading decision-maker in any other matters concerning the *Journal*. The Managing Editor, meanwhile, has an administrative role, coordinating the peer review process in consultation with the Editor (including locating appropriate peer reviewers, conducting correspondence with them, and encouraging them to report in a full and timely manner), maintaining communication with the Copy Editor, supervising printing and distribution, and generally supporting the publication process of the *Journal* in all respects in collaboration with the Editor, the Genealogy Editor, and the Book Review Editor. It is a pleasure to welcome Mathias to this important new role!

Appointment of the Managing Editor fulfilled one of two changes to the operational side of the *Journal* that had been recommended by the Editorial Board and accepted by the Society's Council during the preceding year. The other such change was a restructuring of the Editorial Board itself into two separate bodies – a smaller Editorial Board and an Editorial Advisory Board consisting of a larger group of people who had committed to participate as assessors in the peer review process. In the context both of pandemic disruptions and a desire to have the benefit of the input of the entire current Editorial Board on other potential evolutions in the *Journal's* mandate, this restructuring has not yet been implemented, but is expected to take place within the coming year, before the 2022 Society AGM.

A major development this year was the consultation with the membership that had been recommended by the Editorial Board and approved by the Society's Council in the spring of 2020, on the possibility of electronic distribution of the *Journal*, the advisability of a membership application to Érudit/Coalition Publica, and any other matters raised by members regarding the *Journal* and its role. Accordingly, a paper questionnaire was included with every copy of Volume 23, while alternatively the questionnaire could be filled out electronically (an option taken by most of the respondents) and email responses were also accepted. A summary of the results is appended to this report, as Appendix I. Of note is that the response rate was highly encouraging – no fewer than 50 responses were received, of a membership standing currently at 184.

The Editorial Board, at an online meeting on 26 April 2021, reviewed the survey results and after an extensive discussion the following resolution was adopted:

“Whereas the will of the membership of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society, as voiced in the recent survey:

1. supported the *Journal* in its current iteration;
2. expressed some reservation about any immediate move to Érudit based on concern that such a move might require a fundamental shift in the *Journal's* direction;
3. supported the electronic distribution of the *Journal*; and
4. insisted that those who so choose could opt for a print *Journal*.

Be it resolved that the Editorial Board recommends:

1. that the Society maintains the integrity of the *Journal*;
2. that any move to Érudit be made only after further investigation, and such investigation to be reported prior to the 2022 AGM of the Society; and
3. The option for either a print or an electronic version of the *Journal* be made available to the membership.”

I commend this resolution to the Council of the Society, with my full support. What it implies is that during the 2021-22 year, the first step would be to define fully the characteristics and operational processes of the *Journal* in a way that would reflect the wishes of the membership as expressed in responses to the survey. Then, a preliminary determination would be made as to whether membership of Érudit could realistically be attained on terms that would honour these characteristics of a community-based journal, and a recommendation would be developed accordingly and would reach the Society's Council by May 2022.

My recommendation would be that this process of definition and investigation be conducted primarily by a group consisting of the Editor of the *Journal*, the Managing Editor, the Genealogy Editor, the Book Review Editor, and the three Vice Presidents of the Society. This group would be chaired by the Vice-President (Publications), while consultation would also be maintained with the fuller Editorial Board.

Also of relevance to this process, the Editorial Board approved at its meeting of 26 April 2021 an updated Mission Statement for the *Journal*, which is appended to this report as Appendix II.

All in all, this has been an important year in terms of the evolution of the *Journal* as a publication of continuing excellent quality that has a bright future, notably in the context of the support expressed by the membership of the Society.

John Reid

9 May 2021

## **Appendix I: Brief Summary of Responses to the Questionnaire on the Future of the Journal of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society**

### **Quantified responses:**

**Question 1a: Would you support the conversion of the *Journal* to a publication distributed to members mainly electronically? (Why or why not?)**

Yes:	32 (64%)
No:	13 (26%)
Other (neither yes nor no):	5 (10%)
No answer:	0

**Question 1b: If yes [to 1a], and if some members wished to continue to receive a print edition, would you support the charging of a fee (cost-recovery only) to those members?**

Yes:	42 (84%)
No:	1 (2%)
Other (neither yes nor no):	5 (10%)
No answer:	2 (4%)

**Question 2a: In the event that the *Journal* applies for membership of Érudit, all issues (other than the most recent) would become available on an open access basis. Would you support this change?**

Yes:	35 (70%)
No:	5 (10%)
Other (neither yes nor no):	8 (16%)
No answer:	2 (4%)

**Question 2b: Membership of Érudit would tend to make the *Journal* more academically prestigious and would also bring a net benefit in financial terms. However, new peer review requirements would also potentially make publication in the *Journal* more difficult for avocational historians, including speakers to the Society's speaker series. Would you support a change in this direction?**

Yes:	9 (18%)
No:	30 (60%)
Other (neither yes not no):	10 (20%)
No answer:	1 (2%)

### **Outline of comments:**

**Question 1a: Would you support the conversion of the *Journal* to a publication distributed to members mainly electronically? (Why or why not?)**

Most respondents were in favour. Reasons ranged from cost reduction to environmental responsibility, and problems involved in storing of large amounts of print material. Those who were opposed were reluctant to read material electronically, or expressed concern that the age profile of the society's member meant that a significant number would drop their membership if faced with an online journal.

**Question 1b: If yes [to 1a], and if some members wished to continue to receive a print edition, would you support the charging of a fee (cost-recovery only) to those members?**

This question received an overwhelmingly favourable response. However, there was an underlying spectrum of opinion. While some respondents emphasized that their priority was to ensure continuing access to a print version of the journal, and so favoured a minimal fee (perhaps as little as postage only), others looked for fuller cost recovery or even a small profit for the society. Concern was also expressed as to the relatively high per-unit cost of a small print run, and how far this might offset cost savings.

Nevertheless, support for finding some way in which print copies could continue to be made available, to members who preferred them, was near-unanimous.

**Question 1c: Please add any further comments on electronic distribution of the *Journal*.**

Although some respondents reiterated concerns about alienating members who are not inclined towards electronic publications, the comments also included many suggestions for ways in which electronic publication could open up such possibilities as greater searchability, adding multimedia-based features, and combining more academic articles with those aimed at a wide readership through complementary digital avenues for publication.

**Question 2a: In the event that the *Journal* applies for membership of Érudit, all issues (other than the most recent) would become available on an open access basis. Would you support this change?**

A clear majority of respondents favoured open access, although a number underlined the qualification indicated in the question, that access to the most recent issues (either one-year or two-year) should continue to be a benefit of membership. It was pointed out that membership of Érudit is not the only way to accomplish this level of open access, and that partnership with the Nova Scotia Archives or one of the universities would also be a possibility.

**Question 2b: Membership of Érudit would tend to make the *Journal* more academically prestigious and would also bring a net benefit in financial terms. However, new peer review requirements would also potentially make publication in the *Journal* more difficult for avocational historians, including speakers to the Society's speaker series. Would you support a change in this direction?**

This is the question on which there was the most significant division of opinion, although the majority (60%) answered "no." While the principle of peer review received favourable comments (and is integral to the way in which the *Journal* already operates, as it has been for many years), concern was expressed as to whether added requirements would disadvantage articles designed for a wide community readership, and there was considerable scepticism of the idea of becoming "academically prestigious." Where there was clear agreement was that the community readership must not be jeopardized, and that authors both from academic and from other backgrounds should be able to contribute in a complementary manner.

**Question 2c: Please add any further comments on the possibility of Érudit membership.**

Responses generally reflected again the need to combine high quality with retention of a broad audience. Some respondents specifically highlighted the importance of the genealogical section and expressed concern as to whether it would be sustainable under Érudit requirements. Taking the *Journal* in a direction that could be seen as elitist was a matter of concern that came through clearly in the comments as a whole, although some also suggested exploring whether there were ways in which Érudit membership could be made compatible with the community-based character of the *Journal*.

**Question 3: Please make any additional comments on the future of the *Journal* as a benefit for the Society's members, or on any other benefits of membership that you would like to see.**

*Specific to Journal:* The comments generally emphasized that the respondents were happy with the *Journal* as it currently exists: “a very good product”; “a fantastic publication”; “thanks for all your efforts.” At the same time, there were also constructive suggestions ranging from instituting an article prize to adding news sections.

*General:* While the public lectures (now available online as well as in person) and the *Journal* continue to be seen as the principal benefits of membership, respondents also emphasized the need for the society to prioritize stimulating and actively welcoming interest in all areas of Nova Scotia’s diverse history, including groups traditionally under-represented, and raised the possibility of finding additional revenues to enable modest support for historical research.

## **Appendix II: *Journal* of The Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society**

### **Mission Statement**

The *Journal* of the Royal Nova Scotia Historical Society (RNSHS) has advanced scholarship on the history of Nova Scotia since 1998 and in previous forms (the *Collections* and the *Nova Scotia Historical Review*) going back until 1878. Its mission is to make articles on a wide spectrum of important and pertinent subjects available to our members and to the broader community. The content of the *Journal* includes papers read at the Society’s public meetings, and, on a space-available basis, relevant works on the history of Nova Scotia submitted to the *Journal* but not read before the Society. This publication grew out of decades of publishing the papers read before the Society; but the *Journal* has taken a step beyond previous publications by requiring the review and revision of papers to bring them all to a similar scholarly standard. It is delivered once annually to all Society members in good standing.

The *Journal*’s mission is to foster the publication of excellent works on the history of Nova Scotia from both academic and community historians, including special attention to genealogy. It also serves the membership through a summary president’s message and book reviews. All articles and research notes are subject to independent peer review, and genealogies are reviewed, to ascertain that all works published are sound, appropriately documented, and of value to our membership. The varied authorship of contributions to the *Journal*, along with the flexibility that the editorial board exercises regarding types of submissions, allows the *Journal* to make academic works available to the broader regional community, to nurture the scholarship of graduate students, and to encourage community historians to share their work with the Society. Both the discussions at the Society’s meetings and the peer review process contribute to the published articles: providing valuable critiques, new insights, and guidance to sources and questions to consider, to help authors to develop their work to the highest standard possible.

**May 2021**



## **Annual Report of the Vice-President, Publicity**

**May 19, 2021**

The following are highlights since the last Annual General Meeting.

### **Public Lectures, Website, Promotion, and Other Activities**

The public lecture series is back and better than ever with live public events via Zoom. With our presenters' kind permission, seven lectures were recorded and are now streaming and promoted via the RNSH YouTube Channel with the May 19<sup>th</sup> lecture to bring the total to eight. Thanks are due to our wonderful speakers and the lecture organizing and technical team of VP Programmes Shirley Tillotson, Past President Sara Beanlands, Councillor Sara Hollett, and President Lois Yorke for all the work they do to ensure a smooth and professional event for all.

Promoting the public lecture series and updating the website and continue to be duties of this role. Over the past year, technical issues with updating various sections of the RNSHS website have regrettably meant that some pages remain out-of-date. We continue to try and solve the issue. If any Member has skills in website design (using WordPress) and an interest in volunteering to help the Society, please email [info@rnsht.ca](mailto:info@rnsht.ca) to connect.

The Society's [info@rnsht.ca](mailto:info@rnsht.ca) email account continues to be used by people around the world for queries and requests, with the past year being one of the more active in recent history.

Many thanks to Stefanie Slauenwhite for joining the RNSHS social media team over the past year and assisting with Twitter posts and engagement. Followers on various social fronts continue to grow. As of this writing, Facebook has 2290 followers (up from 1667) and Twitter has 582 (up from 534). The RNSHS listerv has grown from 331 subscribers to 394. For the first time, we are reporting subscribers to our YouTube channel with 27 signed on.

I am grateful for the continued patience and support of members of Council over the past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanja Harrison

Vice-President, Publicity



## Report of the Membership Secretary to the Annual General Meeting, 19 May 2021

Membership as of 31 March 2021

Type of Membership	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Life Members	15	15	15
Individual Member - Canada	132	124	117
Individual Member - USA	6	9	11
Individual Member - International	0	0	0
Institutional Member - Canada	35	34	29
Institutional Member - USA	9	9	8
Institutional Member - International	1	1	1
Family Members	4	6	1
Student Member	5	2	2
TOTAL	207	200	184

Complimentary copies are sent to the Governor-General and the Lieutenant-Governor. Deposit copies are sent to Library and Archives Canada.

### Fellows

Dr Margaret Conrad, FRNSHS  
Dr. Brian C Cuthbertson, FRNSHS  
Mrs. Joan Dawson, FRNSHS  
Dr. Judith Fingard, FRNSHS  
Mr. David B Flemming, FRNSHS  
Dr John N Grant, FRNSHS  
Mr. Donald F Maclean, FRNSHS  
Dr. Alan E. Marble, FRNSHS  
Dr. Henry Roper, FRNSHS  
Dr. David. A. Sutherland, FRNSHS

Rosemary V Barbour  
Membership Secretary

March 2021



**Nominating Committee  
May 2021**

<b>POSITION:</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>DATE OF APPOINTMENT</b>
PRESIDENT-	Lois Yorke	2020
PAST PRESIDENT-	Sara Beanlands	2020
VICE PRESIDENT- PROGRAMMES	Sarah Hollett	2021 (2019)
VICE PRESIDENT PUBLICITY	Tanja Harrison	2018
VICE PRESIDENT PUBLICATIONS	John Reid	2018
SECRETARY	John MacLeod	2001
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Anjali Vohra	2007
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Rosemary Barbour	2002
TREASURER	Hope Beanlands	2020
COUNCILLOR	Nicole Neatby	2020
COUNCILLOR	Seamus McClare	2021
COUNCILLOR	Albert Lee	2019
COUNCILLOR	Stefanie Slaunwhite	2021
COUNCILLOR	Vacant	2019
COUNCILLOR	Mattias Rodorff	2019



## **RNSHS COMMUNITY SUPPORT GRANTS**

At the RNSHS Council meeting of 15 March 2021, and after discussion, the following motion was moved by Hope Beanlands, seconded by Claudine Bonner, placed before the Council and adopted by all present.

*Be it resolved that the Council approve a two-year trial for the 'RNSHS Community Support Grants' program which will offer two grants of \$250 each annually, after application and adjudication; one grant for an organization and the other for an individual; allowing for administrative adjustments during the first year, and an evaluation of the initiative at the end of year two before proceeding further.*

### **RATIONALE AND PLAN**

#### **WHAT**

- intended to assist with/stimulate heritage initiatives at the community, organizational or individual level
- emphasis on flexibility and openness
- designed to raise awareness of the Society and show our commitment to community-based history outside HRM
- to be launched during 2021 for a two-year trial period

#### **INTENDED FOR WHOM**

- local or community heritage/historical societies around NS
- graduate and undergraduate students (graduate students already well supported by funding agencies are not eligible)

#### **HOW MUCH**

- two grants per year, each for \$250

#### **FOR WHAT**

- assistance with travel/accommodation for organizations hosting speakers from a distance
- assistance for heritage-based events sponsored by applicant organizations
- conference support for organizing bodies
- assistance to applicant organizations for preservation supplies

- assistance to individuals for travel-based historical research
- assistance to individuals for conference attendance when directly participating
- retroactive use by organizations for completed but short- or under-funded activities
- other similar activities

## **WHEN**

- application deadline 31 Oct. annually

## **HOW COMMUNICATED**

- RNSHS website and social media tools
- listservs and newsletters of Association of NS Museums and Council of NS Archives

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

- organizations: brief letter outlining intended use + proposed budget
- students: brief letter outlining intended use + proposed budget, plus brief letter from thesis supervisor
- independent scholars: brief letter outlining intended use + proposed budget, plus brief letter from publisher, employer, or other knowledgeable individual
- applications will be received via electronic or regular postal delivery

## **APPROVAL PROCESS FOR APPLICATIONS**

- review committee, initially ad hoc – 3 members of RNSHS Council, for a two-year term
- committee to establish and communicate questions to be addressed in application letter
- review of applications after 31 Oct., with reasonable turnaround time (1 month)
- all applicants will be notified; those unsuccessful will have option to speak with review committee

## **ACCOUNTABILITY PROCESS FOR APPLICANTS**

- follow-up letter from recipient indicating how/when grant was spent
- no repeat application permitted until confirmation of how/when grant was spent

## **EVALUATION PROCESS FOR MEASURING SUCCESS OF PROGRAM**

- criteria to be established at beginning, by review committee
- criteria will include: Society's fiscal capacity to continue; number of applications received; number and suitability of communication tools; suitability of October deadline; etc.