

THE ELECTRIC CITY/LA NOUVELLE FRANCE SOCIETY
222 Doty Road, Weymouth, NS B0W 3T0

July 2, 2020

Warden Ronnie LeBlanc and Council
Municipality of Clare

Dear Warden LeBlanc and Council:

As you are aware, The Electric City/La Nouvelle France Society has been working diligently with the ultimate goal of establishing and running an experiential interpretive centre in Weymouth to share the remarkable story with the world. Most recently, we finished working closely with the Acadia Entrepreneurship Centre, of Acadia University, in the creation of a business plan, a copy of which we have sent to your Executive Assistant. We extend our sincere thanks to your Council for your support of that project.

Throughout our almost three years as an independent non-profit society, we have been self-sustaining, financing our day to day activities through various fund raising efforts. Other than special project funding, it has not been necessary for us to seek financial assistance from any government source to maintain our activities. We have been able to procure operational funding by offering special events including play productions, bi-weekly jam sessions held at the Weymouth Historical Society building, and community meals and talks; further funding has been raised from ticket sales on prize packages, selling memberships, and donations. Since March of this year, because of the Covid 19 crisis, none of these fund raisers are possible for us to employ. We examined federal and provincial funding available as a result of the pandemic, but at this stage of our development, we have "fallen through the cracks," and have been told at all turns that we do not qualify.

Our Society now finds itself in a challenging financial situation, and so we are writing to the Council seeking your assistance in providing us with some bridge funding that would enable us to continue our efforts on behalf of the community.

Our expenses include day to day office supplies; postage; travel; professional fees (Tourism industry Association of NS; Joint Stocks, etc.); cleaning, bathroom supplies, and oil for the Historical Society building, as part of our arrangement with their Society for use of their building; lunches and snacks for the jam sessions; and so on. We have been using our Society's VISA card for the last couple of months, but that has reached its limit; our bank account is now depleted as well. Most recently, we have met expenses by the generosity of one of our members.

We are asking Council to support our efforts by providing The Electric City/La Nouvelle France Society with a one-time grant of \$ 2,500.00; that would enable us to pay our credit card debt, and allow us to keep functioning until we are once again able to continue with our usual fund raising activities.

In the meantime, we are part way through the process of applying for charitable status, and, now that our business plan is finished, we will soon meet with federal and provincial government departments which we expect to assist us with major funding to establish our centre.

We thank Council for considering our request. Please note, we are available to answer any questions you may have.

Yours truly

Stacey Doucette



Hal Theriault



Co-Chairs

The Electric City/La Nouvelle France Society