
Subject: FW: Proposed 2024-2025 Operating Budget for St. Stephen BIA
Attachments: 2024-2025 Proposed Budget for AGM.pdf

November 6, 2024

Municipality District of St. Stephen
22 Budd Ave.
St. Stephen, NB, E3L 1E9

ATTENTION: Jeff Renaud, CAO

Good afternoon, Jeff.

Please find attached herewith our proposed 2024-2025 Operating Budget. Kindly present same to Mayor and Council for approval, as laid out in the *Business Improvement Area Act* of 1985. This proposed budget is based on a levy of twenty cents for each one hundred dollars of assessed value.

St. Stephen BIA had a successful year working on many projects. To recap 2024 and our contributions to MDSS, please see below:

Downtown St. Stephen partnered with Waterfront Saint Andrews and sold ISO certified solar eclipse glasses in April 2024. We are looking forward to building a valuable and mutually beneficial relationship between our two BIA's.

Downtown New Brunswick grant: Town Square project **\$20,000.00**. Total project was \$31,832.39, MDSS contributed \$11,832.39.

- 5 x green metal picnic tables
- 4 x 32 gallon green thermoplastic trash cans
- 3 x 8 foot cedar plaza benches
- 6 x self-watering flower pots
- Downtown St. Stephen welcome sign "free parking"
- 3 x Mediterranean Globe self-watering flower pots
- Tidy Bear Waste Container

Downtown New Brunswick grant: Art for the People in Downtown St. Stephen "Celebration of Botany" **\$11,984.00**.

Community Investment Fund grant: Art for the People in Downtown St. Stephen "Celebration of Botany" **\$6,000.00**.

Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture grant: Moonlight Music Festival **\$1,800.00**. Downtown St. Stephen partnered with The 5 Kings Restaurant to host the Moonlight Music Festival. Good time had by all, even with Tropical Storm Debby arriving.

We applied under Canada Summer Jobs, as per request of MDSS and was successful in obtaining funding for one summer student **\$4,559.00**. The student worked under the supervision of GCC. When the application process is opened for 2025, we will again apply for summer students, as per request of Michelle Vest.

We are pleased to say, in the last four years St. Stephen BIA has given **\$248,371.71** in gifts to MDSS, festivals to help offset associated costs, and invested in Community Safety and Security.

On November 22nd, we will be offering our Downtown St. Stephen (DSS) Dollars at a 20% discount in lieu of our usual 10% discount. For the past five years we absorbed the 10% discount. Downtown New Brunswick has just announced a Christmas grant of **\$2,000.00**, and we want to pass savings onto our community for supporting our small downtown businesses. For example, you can purchase \$200.00 DSS Dollars for \$160.00, maximum per person \$200.00, maximum being sold \$10,000.00.

At your convenience, we would like to sit down and discuss future projects to partner together and be prepared if/when The Department of Environment and local Government announces the yearly grant of \$500,000.00 in support of eligible BIA's across the Province.

Thank you for your time and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Heather Donahue

HEATHER DONAHUE

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