



MERMAID THEATRE OF NOVA SCOTIA
t: (902) 798 5841 | f: (902) 798 3311 | puppets@mermaidtheatre.ca
Civic Address :132 Gerrish Street Windsor, Nova Scotia B0N 2T0 Canada
Mailing Address: P.O Box 2697 Windsor, Nova Scotia B0N 2T0 Canada
www.mermaidtheatre.ca

July 23, 2024

Dear Mark Phillips,

We were deeply disappointed to learn that Mermaid Theatre's \$50,000 grant request for support under the West Hants Recreation Facility Capital Investment Project Grant was declined.

This funding was critical for addressing urgent infrastructure needs at Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia, including a new roof and HVAC system, which are essential for sustaining year-round programming for the community and advancing our environmental sustainability initiatives. The total estimated cost to renovate Mermaid Theatre's facilities is \$5 million. While we greatly appreciate the Provincial investment of \$1.16 million for multiple infrastructure upgrades, it covers only a portion of the significant cost of the long-overdue renovations.

We had hoped that our municipality would recognize the important role Mermaid Theatre plays in delivering high-quality arts and educational programming to the citizens of West Hants and value us as a community asset.

Mermaid Theatre is a charitable non-profit organization. We continue to contribute significantly through tax revenues and stimulate local economic activity through our diverse range of events, programs, and for-profit businesses we align with, bringing thousands of people to West Hants. Annually, we reach over 250,000 spectators globally and welcome more than 5,000 guests to Mermaid's theatre, serving as cultural ambassadors for Windsor.

Our mission to foster community impact, alongside our commitment to sustainability and cultural enrichment, underscores the value we place on collaboration with local stakeholders, including West Hants Municipality. We sincerely believe that partnerships with the municipality are pivotal in ensuring the continued growth and accessibility of our facilities for all residents.

We are committed to pursuing opportunities that will enable us to uphold our mission of artistic excellence and community engagement. We remain hopeful for the possibility of alternative avenues for support and collaboration with West Hants Municipality.

As an organization recognized for our contributions to West Hants, it is disheartening to find ourselves in a position where our request for support does not align with the municipality's priorities, revealing a gap in assistance from our local council members.

Sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DE", followed by a long horizontal line.

Danny Everson
Executive Director
Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brianna Dykeman".

Brianna Dykeman
Business Development & Marketing Manager
Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia