

## STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Shelburne Municipal Council

**FROM:** Robin Smith, Community Development Coordinator

**APPROVED BY:** Val Kean, Director of Economic & Community Development

**DATE:** September 24, 2025

**SUBJECT:** 2025/26 Support Request from Town of Lockeport-Seacaps Park

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**ORIGIN**

For Council to consider financial support of the purchase playground equipment for the redevelopment of Lockeport's Seacaps Playpark, as requested.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended to Council:

That Council approve the request from the Town of Lockeport for financial support in the amount of \$5,000 under the Municipality's Grants to Organizations Program, to support the purchase of playground equipment for the redevelopment of Seacaps Playpark. Funds to come from 2025/26 Grants to Organization, GL# 00-21950-791.

**BACKGROUND**

The Municipality of the District of Shelburne has received correspondence from the Town of Lockeport, dated August 18, 2025, requesting financial assistance for the redevelopment of Seacaps Playpark (attached).

The Municipality sets an annual budget for Grants to Organizations, with three grant categories:

- Operating Grant – For programs, services, or events. Provides 50% of costs (excluding salary and wages) up to a maximum of \$5,000.
- Capital Grant – For facility repairs or equipment purchases. Provides 70% of costs up to a maximum of \$2,500.
- Partnership Support – For establishing partnership contribution agreement or large special projects that have significant community benefit. Funding amount based on total project budget and funding formula with other partners.

This request falls into the category of partnership support of a special project and aligns with the Municipality's objective to invest in facilities that promote recreation, wellness, and community connection.

## **DISCUSSION**

Seacaps Playpark has long served as a gathering place for families, not only in Lockeport but across the Municipality. Due to safety concerns, in early 2025 the park was closed, leaving a void in the community. The Town of Lockeport has committed \$50,000 towards the redevelopment project and an additional \$50,000 has been raised through volunteer efforts. Lockeport is now seeking contributions from partners to ensure the park's redevelopment into a safe, inclusive, and vibrant space.

The redevelopment of Seacaps Playpark is a regional project benefiting residents across the Municipality. The request meets the intent of the Grants to Organizations policy by:

- Supporting a community-wide initiative that strengthens social connections and promotes recreation.
- Leveraging matching contributions from the Town of Lockeport and community fundraising efforts, maximizing the impact of municipal funds.
- Providing long-term benefit through the creation of a safe and inclusive recreational space.

Staff have confirmed there is budgeted grant funding available. It is recommended Council consider fully funding the request, in the amount of \$5,000, demonstrating the Municipality's continued commitment to regional collaboration and support for shared infrastructure that enhances residents' quality of life.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

The amount of \$5000.00 will be taken from the Grants to Organization GL# 00-21950-791.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Funding Request Letter



# Town Of Lockeport

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*My Town . . .*

Lockeport – where  
we partner to build a  
prosperous future with services  
that provide value and a  
quality of life in which we take  
pride.

Town of Lockeport  
P.O. Box 189  
Lockeport, NS B0T 1L0

August 18, 2025

To the Town Council and Warden Penny Smith  
Municipality of the District of Shelburne

Dear Warden Smith and Members of Council,

Our communities share a long history, and together, we have celebrated milestones, supported each other, and built connections that strengthen the very fabric of life in our region.

I am reaching out today with a heartfelt request for your support for a project that is close to the hearts of so many — the redevelopment of Seacaps Playpark.

This beloved park has served as a gathering place for generations, not just for the children and families of Lockeport, but for residents across the Municipality of the District of Shelburne. For decades, it has been a place where families come together to play, laugh, and create memories that last a lifetime. Its closure due to safety concerns has left a void in our communities — a space that once united us now sits silent, and its absence is deeply felt.

We are committed and well on pace to rebuild Seacaps Playpark as a safe, inclusive, and vibrant space where children from both our town and the municipality can continue to grow, play, and connect. The Town of Lockeport has committed over \$50,000, and our community has raised an additional \$50,000 through grassroots efforts. Yet, a funding gap remains, and we are asking our neighbors and partners — those who have shared this park for generations — to help us ensure its future.

We invite the Municipality of the District of Shelburne to consider a \$5,000 contribution through our Legacy Donation Program, which supports the purchase of specific pieces of new playground equipment. Any level of support would be deeply appreciated and publicly recognized, celebrating the role and investment the municipality has played in sustaining this shared community space for generations to come.

Seacaps Playpark is more than just a playground — it is a symbol of our communities coming together, a place where bonds are formed, and where every child's laughter echoes the strength of our shared heritage. Your support will ensure that this essential fabric of our communities continues to bring people together for decades to come.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Derek Amalfa  
Mayor, Town of Lockeport  
On behalf of *Seacaps Park Playground Fundraising Group*

RECEIVED  
AUG 27 2025