



KINGSVILLE
FOLK
MUSIC
FESTIVAL

AUGUST 7-9
2020
kingsvillefolkfest.org

May 1, 2020

Dear Mayor Santos and Members of Council,

On behalf of the Sun Parlour Folk Music Society Board of Directors I am writing to inform you of the decision to postpone the 2020 Kingsville Folk Music Festival until 2021 and to request that the Society still receive the 2020 sponsorship payment from the Town of Kingsville.

This cancellation decision is due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Health Canada, provincial and federal government regulations limiting crowd size. We are not alone, as festivals and events across Canada have been announcing the cancellation of their events.

As a result of the pandemic, all revenue from ticket sales, vendor applications and local sponsors to the festival came to an abrupt stop in March. As well, the Society participates in charity bingo which generates over \$3,000/month and that was also halted in March, with no direction as to when it will start up again and no Government relief fund available. The Society also had to cancel fundraising concerts which generate over \$1,000 profit per concert.

The Society has paid non-refundable performer deposits totalling \$25,000 and we are in the process of refunding over \$4,000 to ticket buyers. Each year the Society relies on the Town sponsorship to pay for these performer deposits.

Society operating expenses are over \$3,000/month (rent, insurance, contract staff, memberships, storage unit).

Provincial and Federal grants continue to be awarded to festivals across the country in order to ensure that we can all survive financially. We are asking the Town of Kingsville to recognize the financial hardship being experienced due to the pandemic and to provide the 2020 sponsorship payment to the Society. This will allow us to continue to pay our operating expenses and to be in a position to bring another fantastic weekend of music to Kingsville, August 13-15, 2021.

Sincerely,

Dennis Rogers, President