

Priorities Committee Meeting_Jan29_2019

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE AND UPDATE

GOVERNANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Review of GOV-001-026 Elected Officials Business Expense Policy

Report Purpose

To provide the Priorities Committee with a report on the Governance Advisory (GAC) review of the Elected Officials Business Policy.

GAC Recommendation to Priorities Committee:

THAT the Priorities Committee recommend to Council the approval of the GOV-001-026 Elected Officials Business Expense, as set out in enclosure 3 of the January 29, 2018 report.

Report

The Elected Business Expense Policy was scheduled to be reviewed in 2018. Accordingly, the Governance Advisory Committee (GAC) reviewed the policy and considered changes that could be recommended to Council. The GAC consulted similar policies at the provincial and federal level as well as policies and practices of other municipalities.

In addition to the housekeeping changes throughout the policy, the Committee is supports a simplified approach to certain types of expenses that would enable members of Council to have more flexibility and discretion. The following is a list of the recommended changes:

1. References to "spouses/partners" have been changed to "guest" - see sections 5 and 6.
2. Changes made to requirements for air travel to allow members of Council to use discretion when booking business class – see section 10, c, ii.
3. Section 11, which details circumstances when additional businesses and hospitality expenses may be authorized, now applies to all members of Council rather than just to the Mayor.

Enclosure 1 provides the current policy. Enclosure 2 provides a marked up version of the policy and enclosure 3 provides a clean copy of the policy with the updates incorporated.

This GAC report provides the Priorities Committee an opportunity to review and discuss the recommendations. Should the Priorities Committee support the recommended revisions to the policy, then the report and updated policy would need to be referred to Council for approval. Alternatively, the report could be referred to Administration or the GAC for further work if required.

Enclosures

- 1 GOV-001-026 Elected Officials Business Expense Policy (current)
- 2 GOV-001-026 Elected Officials Business Expense Policy (marked up)
- 3 GOV-001-026 Elected Officials Business Expense Policy (UPDATED)