

City Council Travel and Training Expenses - 2019

ISSUE

This report provides a summary of Councillors' Travel and Training expenses for 2019. The Mayor's summary is also provided.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the City Clerk dated February 18, 2020 be forwarded to City Council for information.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

Section 3.4 of Policy No. C01-023, "City Councillors' Travel and Training", states that the City Clerk will, on an annual basis, prepare a report listing the total cost of each Councillor's Common and Individual Travel and Training. Upon approval of the Councillors, the report is to be submitted to City Council, as information.

Also included are Councillors' other travel and training expenses that were either budgeted outside of the regular travel budget (i.e. pension training for those Councillors that do not sit on a pension board) or were paid from other sources (i.e. Board of Police Commissioners, Pension Boards, etc.)

Individual Travel and Training

Each Councillor is allotted funds annually for general travel and training, such as attendance at the annual SUMA convention and FCM conference. The total amount budgeted for 2019 for all Councillors was \$35,000.00. For 2019 the total expenditures, less GST, were \$17,371.78. Appendix 1 sets out the details for each individual Councillor.

Common (Appointed) Travel and Training

A Common Travel and Training Budget is provided in order for Councillors to attend annual conferences or board meetings of any organization on which they are appointed as an official representative of the City of Saskatoon, or as a Board member, such as the Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway Association or FCM Boards and Committees. The total amount budgeted for Common Travel and Training in 2019 was \$24,000.00. For 2019, the total expenditure, less GST, is \$33,778.61. Appendix 2 sets out the details for each individual Councillor.

Pension (Non-Appointed) and Other Travel and Training

There are various Boards that Councillors are either appointed to or have a vested interest in that fall outside of the above travel and training budgets. A \$7,000 budget was approved for 2019 for those Councillors that do not sit on a pension board to obtain pension training. For 2019, the total expenditure, less GST, is \$3,968.13. Appendix 3 sets out the details for each individual Councillor.

Travel and training expenditures are also included for those Councillors who sit on Boards which are paid from other sources. For example, if a Councillor is a Trustee on a pension board, those expenses are paid for from the Plan. Appendix 4 sets out the details for each individual Councillor as well as the source of funds.

Included as Appendix 5, is a summary of travel expenses for Mayor Clark for 2019. The total amount budgeted for 2019 for the Mayor's Office (including staff) was \$32,000.00. For 2019 the total expenditures of the Mayor only (or designate), less GST, was \$9,912.51. It should be noted the attached summary for Mayor Clark lists car allowance which is the subject of a separate report.

City Council's former Executive Committee, at its meeting held on September 7, 2010, considered the matter of posting the expenses of all members of City Council, including the Mayor, on the City's website and resolved that the information be posted on the City's website annually in order to demonstrate City Council's commitment to transparency.

Further, at its meeting held on January 29, 2018, City Council resolved that in accordance with City Council's commitment to transparency, the annual posting of car allowance expenditures and travel and training expenditures for members of City Council to the City's website for 2017 and going forward be to the same level of detail as currently provided for in City Council's Communications and Constituency Relations Allowance. Redacted receipts and related information will be posted accordingly.

APPENDICES

1. Individual Travel and Training 2019 – Councillors
2. Common (Appointed) Travel and Training 2019 – Councillors
3. Pension (Non-Appointed) Travel and Training 2019 – Councillors
4. Other Travel and Training 2019 - Councillors
5. Travel Expenses – 2019 – Mayor Clark

Report Approval

Written by: Janice Hudson, Committee Assistant
Reviewed and Approved by: Joanne Sproule, City Clerk

Admin Report - City Council Travel and Training Expenses - 2019.docx