

## Governance and Priorities Committee Chair

### ISSUE

Is it possible for the Governance and Priorities Committee (“GPC”) to appoint a chairperson other than the Mayor?

### BACKGROUND

At its meeting held on [September 23, 2019](#), GPC considered a report from the City Clerk entitled “Review of The Procedures and Committees Bylaw, 2014”, which is attached to this report as Appendix 1, and resolved in part:

“That the matter for rotating the Chair for Governance and Priorities Committee meetings be referred to the Strategic Planning Session for the 2020 City Council.”

We are bringing this matter forward to GPC for discussion again since we are at the beginning of a new City Council term and it makes sense to revisit the issue before the beginning of the new year.

### CURRENT STATUS

Section 76(4) of Bylaw No. 9170, *The Procedures and Committees Bylaw, 2014* states that the Mayor is the Chair of the Governance and Priorities Committee.

Appendix 1 contains the following information from a cross-jurisdictional scan of comparable committees conducted at that time, and the Administration has confirmed that this information is accurate:

“City of Edmonton – Executive Committee  
Mayor is the Chair

City of Calgary – Priorities & Finance Committee  
Mayor is the Chair (Deputy Mayor in absence of the Mayor)

City of Winnipeg – Executive Policy Committee  
Mayor is Chair

City of Regina – Executive Committee  
Deputy Mayor is Chair

The one major caveat to this overview is that, with the exception of Regina, these Committees in other cities are made up of a select group of Council members and not the whole Council. This is the reason why the Mayor serves as the Chair of these Committees. Saskatoon and Regina are the

only cities in this sample where all members of Council serve on a priorities or executive-style Committee.”

### **DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS**

If GPC is interested in having the ability to appoint a chairperson other than the Mayor, it could recommend to City Council that the appropriate amendments be made to Bylaw No. 9170, *The Procedures and Committees Bylaw, 2014*.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Subject to the direction of Committee, the City Solicitor would bring forward an amendment to Bylaw No. 9170, *The Procedures and Committees Bylaw, 2014* to include the ability to appoint a member of Council other than the Mayor to be the chairperson of GPC.

### **APPENDICES**

1. City Clerk’s report entitled “Review of The Procedures and Committees Bylaw, 2014” dated September 23, 2019

#### Report Approval

Written by: Candice Leuschen, Executive Assistant to the City Solicitor  
Reviewed by: Joanne Sproule, City Clerk  
Mike Jordan, Chief Public Policy & Government Relations Officer  
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Approved by: Cindy Yelland, City Solicitor