



GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

Administration Comments - Report from the Saskatoon Municipal Review Commission – 2021 Municipal Election

Recommendation of the Committee

1. That the City discuss and consult with other Saskatchewan cities, SUMA, and municipal associations to seek consensus for changes to local elections, including when they are held;
2. That the Administration conduct a review of monthly communications and constituency relations allowance spending patterns and that any amendments to Policy No. C01-027 be revisited after the review is complete;
3. That the status quo be maintained, providing mayoral candidates with a reimbursement of audit fees up to \$2,000 where campaign expenses of \$5,000 or more are incurred;
4. That the Administration conduct a review of all schedules in Bylaw 8491 for clarity, consistency, and thoroughness and that the City Solicitor be instructed to amend Bylaw 8491 to include:
 - a) definition of “campaign period” commencing June 1 in the year of a general election;
 - b) a definition of “campaign expense” to state that remuneration paid to an official agent does not constitute a campaign expense;
 - c) a schedule where the official agent can be listed;
 - d) schedules for the appointment of official agent for candidate for mayor and the appointment of auditor for candidate for mayor;
 - e) clarifying language regarding the retention of records by candidates when an official agent has been appointed;
 - f) the addition to section 25 of “In addition to the penalties set out in section 24, if a candidate who is elected contravenes any provision of this Bylaw, sections 120, 121, 122, and 123 of The Cities Act shall apply.”; and
 - g) other general housekeeping amendments that were brought forward throughout the election process based on questions from candidates; and
5. The Administration seek clarity from Government regarding disqualification provisions in The Cities Act, specifically sections 120 through 124, as to their application and interpretation.



GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

History

The Governance and Priorities Committee, at its meeting held on August 23, 2021, considered a decision report of the City Solicitor regarding the above.

Your Committee respectfully submits the above recommendation.

Attachment

Report of the City Solicitor dated August 23, 2021