

Agenda Item: <u>D.6</u>

Request for Decision

Title	Council Remuneration Review
Proposed Motion	That Council direct Administration to engage the services of a third party to conduct a review of Council remuneration to a maximum of \$50,000 funded from Council Contingency Reserve and completed in time for consideration in the 2019 budget.
Administrative Recommendation	Administration recommends that Council select a method that provides timely information for the 2019 budget process.
Previous Council Direction	February 13, 2018 Motion 050/18: That Council direct Administration to provide options for a third-party review of Council remuneration in light of the federal government's 2019 change to the tax rules regarding elected official remuneration for the February 27, 2018 regular Council Meeting.
Report	 On February 13, 2018, Council requested Administration to provide options for a third-party review regarding Council remuneration. It is noted that a full review was completed in 2006. Administration has evaluated two (2) options: Hire a third-party consultant, or Establish a public committee. Administration has also taken into consideration timelines required to implement changes for the 2019 budget. In evaluating the options Administration has also reviewed the practices of 10 Municipal comparators (including Strathcona County, St. Albert and Morinville), results of this review show that the practice varies among these municipalities. The following evaluation of the various options has been considered in the recommendation that Administration brings forward. Hire a third-party consultant: Methodology: A third-party consultant will review other municipalities with comparable size and features, provide a report describing best practices, remuneration amounts and make a recommendation based on criteria provided.

Date Written: February 14, 2018 Council Meeting Date: February 27, 2018 Cost: Maximum: \$50,000.

Timing: 5 to 7 months.

2. Public Committee

Methodology: This would involve developing a term of reference; recruiting, screening, and selecting committee members, providing assistance as required from staff and Council members. Best practice indicates that the CAO is responsible for the selection of committee members. Typically, internal departments provide the background research to the committee.

Cost: Support staff would need to be hired to manage the committee, in 2006 the organization used a municipal Intern to support the project.

Timing: 8 months or more; timing for the 2019 budget is questionable.

 Given the constraints for internal resources and timing for 2019 budget deliberations, Administration recommends engaging the services of a consultant to complete the review. It is unlikely that a committee would be able to meet the timelines for 2019 budget deliberations.

External Communication

None.

Relevant Policy/Legislation/Practices:

• ADM-REM-1 - Council Remuneration and Expenses

Implication of Administrative Recommendation

Strategic Alignment:

Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership – An update of the Council Remuneration policy sets the stage to continue attracting high calibre candidates to represent Sturgeon County.

Organizational:

Engaging the services of a third-party consultant will provide an impartial, comprehensive review of Council remuneration and provide timely resolution to this matter.

Financial:

Funding for this initiative would come from Council contingency to a maximum \$50,000.

Alternatives Considered

Public Committee.

Implications of Alternatives

Strategic Alignment:

Similar strategic alignment to the recommendation.

Date Written: February 14, 2018
Council Meeting Date: February 27, 2018

Organizational:

The alternative requires significant investment of staff time and resources.

Financial:

Costs related to staffing resources and capacity will be significant. Additional support will need to be hired.

Follow up Action

Administration will evaluate proposals from qualified consultants in keeping with the procurement directive and procedures.

Attachment(s) None.

Report Reviewed

by:

Ed Kaemingh, Manager Financial Services

Dawn McCoy, Manager Human Resources

Rick Wojtkiw, GM Corporate Support

Bill Minnes, County Commissioner-CAO

Strategic Alignment Checklist

Vision: Sturgeon County: a diverse, active community that pioneers opportunities and promotes initiative while embracing rural lifestyles.

Mission: Provide quality, cost effective services and infrastructure to meet the diverse needs of the Sturgeon County community, while improving competitiveness and sustainability.

Focus Areas	Not consistent	N/A	Consistent
Strong Local Governance and Regional Leadership			
We promote consistent and accountable leadership through collaborative and transparent processes (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)			
Consistent with neighborhood role (see MDP), master plans, policies		×	
Considers fiscal stability and sustainability			⊠
Has a positive impact on regional and sub-regional cooperation		×	
Respect the Natural Environment			
We acknowledge the importance of a healthy environment and will minimize and monitor our impact on ecosystems (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)		×	
Compliance with Provincial and Federal regulations and/or legislation		×	
Ensure effective environmental risk management		\boxtimes	
Community Identity & Spirit			
We will build upon our strengths, where together we will create an inclusive, caring community (Strategic Plan, (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)		×	
Promotes and/or enhances residents' identification with Sturgeon County		\boxtimes	
Enhances service provision through community partnerships		×	
Supports Sturgeon County's cultural history		\boxtimes	
Planned Growth and Prosperity			
We encourage varied and integrated enterprises that enhance our strong economic base, while balancing the needs of the community and natural environment. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)		×	
 Does the proposal align with the Integrated Regional Growth Strategy (map/policies) pg. 26 MDP 		×	
Considers cumulative costs and long-term funding implications		×	
Targets growth around current or planned infrastructure		\boxtimes	
Maintain and Enhance Strong Communities			
We are committed to a safe, secure community, where our residents are respected and provided with access to opportunities. (Strategic Plan, pg. 27 MDP)		\boxtimes	
Positive impact on residents' quality of life		\boxtimes	
Supports and promotes volunteer efforts		\boxtimes	
 Provides programs and services that are accessible to all residents 		⊠	
Operational Excellence	_		<u> </u>
We have the organizational capability to deliver consistent and defined levels of			
service to all stakeholders in a professional, efficient, and cost effective manner			⊠
 Staff have the knowledge, skills and capability to perform their jobs 			
 Streamlines operational processes and policies 			
Promotes engagement and professional interaction with stakeholders			×
 Considers a cost-structure which allows Sturgeon County to remain competitive within a regional, national and global context 			

Date Written: February 14, 2018
Council Meeting Date: February 27, 2018