



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: January 9, 2012
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VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: January 17, 2012

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: City Clerk

SUBJECT: Municipal Infrastructure Forum - February 7, 2012, and 2012 FCM Sustainable Communities Conference - February 8-10, 2012 - Ottawa, ON

RECOMMENDATION *

THAT Council give consideration to authorize Councillor Raymond Louie to attend the 2012 FCM Municipal Infrastructure Forum on February 7, 2012, and the 2012 FCM Sustainable Communities Conference from February 8-10, 2012, to be held consecutively in Ottawa, ON with expenses estimated at \$2,082.25, to be funded from the 2012 Councillors Travel Budget.

REPORT SUMMARY *

This report seeks Council's approval for Councillor Louie to attend the Municipal Infrastructure Forum February 7, 2012 and the 2012 FCM Sustainable Communities Conference from February 8-10, 2012, to be held in consecutively in Ottawa, Ontario.

Councillor Louie is the Council appointed Director to the Federation of Canadian municipalities (FCM), Chair of the FCM Sustainable Communities Awards committee, Chair of the FCM Standing committee on Municipal Infrastructure and Transportation Policy, Chair of the FCM Green Municipal Fund Council and Member of the FCM Standing Committee on environmental Issues and Sustainable Development.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS *

The City's Mayor and Council Members' Expenses By-law No 8904 requires Council approval for Council member reimbursement of expenses incurred while on city business.

*CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS **

The City Manager submits this report for Council's consideration.

REPORT

*Background/Context **

The Municipal Infrastructure Forum is part of the formal engagement process that will bring together the Government of Canada, provinces, territories, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and others to develop a new long-term plan for public infrastructure beyond the expiry of the Building Canada Plan in 2014. This a critical time, as all governments and all infrastructure stakeholders seek longer-term, common-sense solutions to address Canada's infrastructure challenge.

The FCM National Board of Directors has appointed Councillor Louie as the British Columbia regional representative to Municipal Infrastructure Forum.

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Sustainable Communities Conference connects municipal decision-makers to leading examples of sustainable development, training opportunities and resources for greening local communities.

Cities and communities must adapt to ongoing changes in their natural, economic, political, social and cultural environments. A willingness to embrace new behaviours, technology, business models and governance is essential for a municipality to move towards sustainability.

As our understanding of sustainability evolves, municipalities and their local partners are leading the way. Municipalities are taking innovative, integrated approaches to reduce environmental impacts, build social cohesion, and create economic opportunities in their communities.

In addition, Councillor Louie will be a session host and award presenter at the FCM's Sustainable Communities Conference.

*Strategic Analysis **

The Municipal Infrastructure Forum is part of the formal engagement process that will bring together the Government of Canada, provinces, territories, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and others to develop a new long-term plan for public infrastructure beyond the expiry of the Building Canada Plan in 2014. This a critical time, as all governments and all infrastructure stakeholders seek longer-term, common-sense solutions to address Canada's infrastructure challenge.

The Sustainable Communities Conference is an opportunity to share our experience and learn from peers.

Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)

*Financial **

The estimated costs to be funded from the Councillor's 2012 Travel Budget are as follows:

Item	Estimated Costs
Airfare - return	\$855.00
Accommodations - 4 nights @ 197.75	791.00
Accommodations - less 1 night covered by FCM	(197.75)
Registration -discount for moderator role	409.00
Ground Transportation	50.00
Per Diem - 4 1/2 days @ \$60/day less meals provided	175.00
Total Estimated Costs	\$2,082.25

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