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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: January 2, 2013
Contact: Rosemary Hagiwara
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RTS No.: 9918
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: January 15, 2013

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: City Clerk
SUBJECT: Request to Travel - FCM Sustainable Communities Conference 2013 -
Councillor Louie

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council give consideration to authorize Councillor Raymond Louie to attend the 2013 FCM Sustainable Communities Conference from February 13-15, 2013, to be held in Windsor, Ontario with expenses estimated at \$944.00, to be funded from the 2013 Councillors Travel Budget.

REPORT SUMMARY

This report seeks Council's approval for Councillor Louie to attend the 2013 FCM Sustainable Communities Conference from February 13-15, 2013, to be held in Windsor, Ontario. Councillor Louie is the Council appointed Director to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), the 3rd Vice-President of the FCM, 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

This year's conference theme, "**Building Blocks for the Next Generation**", focuses on best practices in sustainable development from a wide range of Canadian communities and regions, and highlights innovative projects. Sustainable communities are built upon sustainable infrastructure, including high-efficiency facilities; leadership to envision and implement change; the skills to manage physical and human assets; and a willingness to test and develop new technologies.

The Conference will explore three content streams:

- **The Culture of Leadership:** Share examples of how leadership can effect changes in policy, process, scope, timelines, or partners, in the pursuit of local sustainable development. We encourage profiles of leadership driven by diverse stakeholders-including mayors, councillors, municipal staff, community groups, residents, businesses, etc.-that have increased citizen engagement, reached new constituencies, improved efficiency in managing public assets, and demonstrated new approaches to sustainable development.
- **Sustainable Infrastructure:** Demonstrate viable options for building, retrofitting, repairing and maintaining infrastructure, to help it last longer while reducing its environmental impact and fostering sustainable living. We encourage examples that account for cost over the full lifecycle of the investment.
- **Innovation and Technology:** Introduce new technologies and innovative approaches to advance sustainability in changing times. We invite demonstrations of technology in action, focusing on prototypes, pilot programs and applications that have been tested in a Canadian municipality. We encourage municipal practitioners and partners to share examples of innovation through processes, technologies and approaches that advance sustainability.

This year's conference is being held in conjunction with the FCM's Green Municipal Fund Council (GMF) meeting also held in Windsor and the GMF will be covering the airfare costs and one night hotel stay.

In addition as Councillor Louie is scheduled as a moderator for the session "The Next Frontier of Waste Management" he will receive a moderator's fee reduction from \$770 to a conference fee of \$419.

Strategic Analysis

Hundreds of communities across Canada are leading the charge toward local sustainability and the shift to a green economy. Every year, they come together to share their experiences, learn from experts and discuss the latest strategies for sustainable development at the FCM.

- Gain insight into the latest trends on sustainable development
- Discover best practices for making communities more socially, ecologically and economically vibrant
- Network with other municipalities and sustainability experts from across Canada
- See leading-edge green products and services in the Trade Show

*Implications/Related Issues/Risk (if applicable)**Financial*

The estimated costs to be funded from the Councillor's 2013 Travel Budget are as follow:

| Item | Estimated Costs |
|---|-----------------|
| Airfare - return | \$0 |
| Accommodations - 3 nights @ 200.00 | 600.00 |
| Accommodations - less 1 night covered by FCM | (200.00) |
| Registration -\$770.00 discounted for moderator role | 419.00 |
| Ground Transportation | 50.00 |
| Per Diem - 3 days less meals provided (breakfasts and lunches provided by conference) | 75.00 |
| Total Estimated Costs | \$944.00 |

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