



## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: January 7, 2014  
Contact: Rosemary Hagiwara  
Contact No.: 604.873.7177  
RTS No.: 10424  
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20  
Meeting Date: January 21, 2014

TO: Vancouver City Council  
FROM: City Clerk  
SUBJECT: FCM Sustainable Communities Conference - February 2014 -  
Councillor Reimer

### *RECOMMENDATION*

THAT Council give consideration to authorize Councillor Andrea Reimer to attend the 2014 FCM Sustainable Communities Conference from February 11-13, 2014, to be held in Charlottetown, PEI, with expenses estimated at \$2,303.00, to be funded from the 2014 Councillors Travel Budget.

### *REPORT SUMMARY*

The Chair of the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment, under the City's Mayor and Council Members' Expense By-law No. 8904, requests to represent the City of Vancouver at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2014 FCM Sustainable Communities Conference (FCM-SCC). The FCM-SCC brings together municipal leaders from across the country to share experiences and learn from peers on the innovative, integrated approaches to reduce environmental impacts, build social cohesion and create economic opportunities that municipalities are undertaking across the country.

### *COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS*

The City's Mayor and Council Members' Expense 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 under the theme, "Sink or Swim: New Approaches to Adaptation and Resilience", will deliver a packed three-day learning experience, complete with a full day of advanced training, study tours and networking opportunities. Also, there will be all new content organized under three main streams:

- Building resilient, adaptive communities;
- Optimizing our assets and infrastructure; and
- Collaboration and innovation.

After devastating flooding, fires and other extreme weather events, participants will share information on how Canadian communities from coast to coast intend on becoming more resilient and sustainable.

This is particularly relevant to Vancouver as one of the few cities in the country with a formally adopted Climate Adaptation Strategy and the only major coastal city with heightened concerns about sea level rise and flooding. In addition, Mayor and Council's focus on emergency planning will benefit from connecting with other cities working on these issues.

### *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.

Areas of interest include:

- 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; and
- 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 2014 Councillors Travel Budget are as follows:

Item	Estimated Costs
Airfare - return - Vancouver to Charlottetown	\$1100.00
Accommodation - 3 nights @ 111.00	\$ 333.00
Registration	\$ 870.00
<b>Total Estimated Costs</b>	<b>\$2303.00</b>

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