

Urgent 1



ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: November 9, 2018
Contact: Rosemary Hagiwara
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RTS No.: RTS 12843
VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20
Meeting Date: November 14, 2018

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Deputy City Clerk
SUBJECT: Travel Approval Request – Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Maytree's Urban Project Launch – November 15-16, 2018

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council authorize Councillor Rebecca Bligh to attend Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) and Maytree's Urban Project Launch November 15-16, 2018, to be held in Edmonton, AB with expenses estimated to be \$1,285.00 funded from the 2018 Councillors' Travel Budget.

REPORT SUMMARY

The City Councillor, under the City's Mayor and Councillor Expenses Bylaw No. 11529, requests to represent the City of Vancouver at FCM and Maytree's Urban Project Launch.

The Urban Project Launch event will bring together leaders from cities across Canada, including those in government, civil society, academia and the private sector in its inaugural meeting in Edmonton, Alberta. The event will consist of discussions, debates and roundtables that will help tackle the urban problems of our time.

COUNCIL AUTHORITY/PREVIOUS DECISIONS

The Mayor and Councillors Expenses Bylaw No. 11529 requires Council approval for Council members' reimbursement of expenses incurred while on City business.

CITY MANAGER'S/GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

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

REPORT

Background/Context

The Urban Project Launch will be a full day event aimed at generating the ideas Canada needs to boost innovation at the local level – with national impact. Key questions that will be discussed at this event include:

- What are 'innovative economies'?
- What is innovative economy in the urban context?
- How do current finance and governance arrangements support or hinder innovation in cities?
- How do we work together to ensure more good ideas are driving the future of Canadian cities?
- How do Canada's cities innovate in our increasingly knowledge and technology-based world?
- What can policy makers, civil society and private sector actors be doing together to ensure that Canada remains an innovation leader in the global economy?

Strategic Analysis

The Federation of Canadian Municipalities is convening this event to advance the support and creation of innovative economies in Canadian cities. This event provides the opportunity for Councillor Bligh, newly-appointed representative to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, to bring Vancouver's voice and perspective to this meeting, and to establish relationships across Canada's urban municipalities that will serve in the collaborative work ahead.

The event will lead to further research to support future action through the Urban Project over the next three years. Having a City of Vancouver Councillor engage in the process from the outset will allow Vancouver to bring the critical perspective of Canada's third largest city to the work that the Urban Project will be doing to empower municipalities to boost innovation at a municipal level. This event and subsequent research have the potential to benefit the City's work as well as that of the Vancouver Economic Commission in leading innovation.

Financial

The estimated costs to be funded from the Councillors' 2018 Travel Budget are as follows:

Item	Estimated Costs
Airfare: Vancouver – Edmonton	\$845.00
Ground Transportation	\$100.00
Accommodation: 1 night at \$250 per night	\$250.00
Per Diem: \$60 per day	\$90.00
Total Estimated Costs	\$1,285.00