

MOTION ON NOTICE

4. Proactive Disclosure and Release of City Councillor Calendars

Submitted by: Councillor Dominato

WHEREAS

1. The purposes of the Province of British Columbia's *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* are "to make public bodies more accountable to the public and to protect personal privacy", including "giving the public a right of access to records.";
2. The City of Vancouver is committed to an open and transparent government and has strived conscientiously to develop a robust proactive information release program to provide equal access to frequently requested City records for citizens and the media alike in support of the City's goal to foster public understanding of City processes through openness and transparency;
3. At the Tuesday, May 3, 2016, Regular Council Meeting, Council unanimously supported a motion submitted by Councillor Affleck calling on Vancouver City Council to "demonstrate a commitment to openness and transparency by directing that all expenses from the Mayor's Office budget, including expenses from the Mayor's discretionary fund, and expenses from the corresponding office budget for City Councillors, be released proactively to the public on a quarterly basis through the City's online Open Data Catalogue, including copies of all contractor and supplier invoices (consistent with appropriate privacy protection legislation), beginning with expenses for the current 2016 Budget year.";
4. Consistent with Council's direction and the City of Vancouver's commitment to an open and transparent government, the annual office budget for the Mayor and the annual office budget for City Councillors, as well as their respective expenses incurred while conducting business on behalf of the City, are proactively posted on the City's Open Data Catalogue and updated quarterly;
5. Beginning in 2016, and with monthly updates thereafter, the City of Vancouver has taken steps to post all Freedom of Information responses online, with the exception of those that contain personal, third party, or City confidential information, including a notation of the original request for records in the response letter;
6. In compliance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* of British Columbia, information contained in the records released by the City which falls under an exception or exemption in the *Act*, such as personal and confidential information, is redacted as appropriate;
7. The City of Vancouver took steps to proactively release the Mayor's Calendar, making it available to the public without a Freedom Information access request on a quarterly basis;

8. Current Mayor Kennedy Stewart has directed that his calendar be proactively disclosed and released on a monthly basis;
9. The calendars of Vancouver City Councillors are not currently released proactively;
10. Proactive, routine disclosure of information builds public trust and makes it easier for citizens to participate in the political process and scrutinize government behaviour.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Council direct staff to proactively release the calendars of Vancouver City Councillors with such releases being done in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and, further that staff consult with the City's Corporate Security team regarding personal safety and security considerations prior to implementation;

FURTHER THAT the calendars of Vancouver City Councillors shall be disclosed and released on a monthly basis upon implementation and in concert with the disclosure and release of the Mayor's calendar;

AND FURTHER THAT Council direct staff to consider and report back on the establishment of a formal policy for proactive disclosure which is consistent with the principles and requirements of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

* * * * *