

Request for Executive Standing Committee Consideration		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Agenda Item</b> (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least 5 working days prior to the meeting)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Added Item</b> (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least one working day prior to meeting)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Request from the Floor</b>
<b>Date of Meeting: June 27, 2022</b>		
<b>Subject: Councillor expense accounts revisions.</b>		
<b>Motion for Executive Standing Committee to Consider:</b> That Executive Standing Committee request the Chief Administrative Officer provide a staff report including recommendations and any potential policy changes to 2017-009-ADM Respecting District Discretionary Funds on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• consolidation of councillor discretionary and advertising/promotions funds;</li><li>• inclusion of community events council conference travel budgets into a single fund allocated to each councillor;</li><li>• a definition of what additional funds may need to be set aside for Deputy Mayor, NSFM board and FCM board members expenses.</li></ul>		
<b>Reason:</b> The current multiple funding envelope system is cumbersome and no longer supports the way Councillors conduct their day-to-day work. Specifically, some councillors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• have more demand for advertising or sponsorship than others</li><li>• participate regularly and routinely in NSFM and FCM and other national events, and limited funds mean some are denied access in the lottery system is used.</li><li>• Wish to travel to events or outside of annual events requiring councillors to make a case to staff, putting staff in an awkward position of approving or denying requests, and finding additional funds to cover the travel (examples – Mount Pearl Idea Camp NL, TAGs conference in USA, GMF sustainable communities conference)</li><li>• May not be incentivised to economise on travel and accommodations when it is paid not from funds, they “control” and makes decisions directly accountable to the councillors.</li><li>• Councillors have difficulty organizing community events and meet and greets.</li></ul>		
Creating an all-in-one operational expenses fund that may fund all these items makes the choice the Councillors. Including conference travel expenses and local event expenses in the fund, is more transparent as it will be included in councillor expense updates posted as a part of routine disclosure. A similar model to what is proposed has been in place in Toronto on other Ontario cities for some time.		
<b>Outcome Sought:</b> Options for ESC consideration for possible recommendation to Regional Council.		
<i>Councillor Waye Mason</i>	<i>District 7</i>	