## EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

## QUESTION PERIOD

**Minute No. 142**
Councillor Gillingham asked if His Worship Mayor Bowman would provide an update on the discussions he had with the Prime Minister of Canada while in Ottawa recently for the Big City Mayors' Conference; to which His Worship Mayor Bowman advised the meeting included such topics as the fentanyl crisis and keeping the border between Canada and the United States of America open for trade. His Worship invited all members of Council to speak with him if they wanted additional information.

Councillor Eadie inquired if the Mayor would consider amending the Employee Code of Conduct or create a by-law that ensured that the City's Administration would not engage in business deals with Council; to which His Worship Mayor Bowman replied he would be open to working with the Councillor on this discussion.

Councillor Dobson asked if His Worship Mayor Bowman had planned on changing the ways Councillors access information so that they don't receive it from Press Releases; to which His Worship Mayor Bowman replied this was a question for the Chief Administrative Officer.

Councillor Dobson inquired if His Worship Mayor Bowman would ever allow Councillors to be part of the draft budget process from the very beginning; to which His Worship Mayor Bowman advised that improvements could be made to the budget process and that the Chair of the Standing Policy Committee on Finance, Councillor Gillingham, had begun the process of meeting one-on-one with Councillors.

Councillor Lukes asked if His Worship Mayor Bowman intended to engage the Public Service and Council in reviewing road construction priorities to prepare for the Federal Government's trade corridor funding; to which His Worship Mayor Bowman replied he would meet with the Chief Administrative Officer on the matter and report back.

Councillor Lukes cited the P3 model and the Southwest Transit Corridor coming in under budget and advised that the City was still collecting taxes based on the initial estimate. She asked His Worship Mayor Bowman when the discussions with Council would take place on adjusting the taxes based on the savings found; to which His Worship Mayor Bowman replied the City's 0.333% property tax increase goes into a dedicated fund. His Worship Mayor Bowman advised the City would continue discussions with the other levels of government and that he would report back on those discussions in due course.