REPORTS

Item No. 14 Remote Participation at Council Seminars for Members of Council

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee recommended to Council:

1. That the Council Motion of June 27, 2024, be received as information.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Duncan,
That the Council Motion of June 27, 2024, be received as information, and forwarded to Council.

Carried

Councillors Mayes asked to be recorded as having voted against the above motion, in accordance with Rule 47(7) of The Procedure By-law No. 50/2007.

David Grant submitted a communication with respect to the matter.

COUNCIL DECISION:

On June 27, 2024, Council ruled automatic referral of the following motion to the Executive Policy Committee:

Moved by Councillor Gilroy,
Seconded by Councillor Allard,

WHEREAS Council Seminars provide important information to Members of Council and allow for questions on important items and issues prior to public debate;

AND WHEREAS it can be hard for the public service to find time slots that work for all Members of Council;

AND WHEREAS many Councillors schedule meetings in their wards or work from their community offices and it can be difficult to find time in their busy schedules for travel time to and from City Hall;

AND WHEREAS seminars allowed for remote participate during COVID;

AND WHEREAS confidentiality is an important aspect of the Council Seminar process and remote participation has been eliminated, in part due to a lack of trust between administration and Councillors surrounding this aspect;

AND WHEREAS in the past Councillors have signed a confidentiality agreement prior to participating in the seminar and this could be an appropriate solution going forward;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Chief Administrative Officer be directed to implement remote participation at Council Seminars for all Members of Council.