Minutes – Council – January 29, 2026

Minute No. 135
Executive Policy Committee – Notice of Motion

Item No. 2 **North American Strategy for Competitiveness (NASCO) Membership and Expenses Related to the Red River Basin Commission**

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council did not concur in the Notice of Motion, and as such, the item was not adopted.

Executive Policy Committee – Notice of Motion

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,

That Rule 19 of the Procedure By-law No. 50/2007 be suspended in order to allow the Notice of Motion to be considered in the absence of the seconder.

Councillor Eadie called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea:	His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Allard, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Eadie, Lukes, Rollins, Santos, Wyatt and Sharma	11
Nay:	Councillors Durand-Wood, Gilroy and Mayes	3

Carried

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,

WHEREAS with Canadians standing strong and saying no to a voluntary embargo on personal and business travel into the United States of America, since the outrageous comments by President Donald Trump, who called for the Annexation of Canada, to make Canada the 51st State of the USA;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian people have implemented their own ban on travel into America also due to the Canadian economy being dramatically and negatively impacted by President Trumps decision to abandon our historic relationship, including, for all intents and purposes, attacking the fabric and the spirit of all trade agreements with the United States, both bilateral agreements (Canada/USA Free Trade Agreement) and multilateral agreements (Canada/Mexico/USA Free Trade Agreement) by placing tariffs on Canadian made goods in an attempt to drive up the cost of goods produced in Canada and supplied to the American Consumer;

AND WHEREAS Winnipeg City Council has been completely out of step with the Canadian people, as Council continues its membership within the American Free Trade Organization, known the North American Strategy for Competitiveness (NASCO) which is based in Dallas, Texas, and costs the City of Winnipeg a minimum of $30,000 a year in membership costs, plus all related travel costs and expense relating to the Councillor appointed to the NASCO committee, Councillor Marcus Chambers, and;

Executive Policy Committee – Notice of Motion

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg is also a member of the Red River Basin Commission, which involves the ratepayers of Winnipeg having to pay for the Councillor representatives, namely Councillor Chambers and Councillor Browaty, for trips into the states within the USA located just south of the Manitoba border, again, representing an insult to all the hardworking Canadians who have implemented their own embargo on travel into the United States.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Membership in NASCO be immediately cancelled by Winnipeg City Council.

2. That Winnipeg City Council cease compensating for any and all travel expenses and related expenses for travel into the United States, in relation to the Red River Basin Commission.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

Councillor Rollins called for the yeas and nays, which were as follows:

Yea:	Councillor Wyatt	1
Nay:	His Worship Mayor Gillingham, Councillors Allard, Chambers, Dobson, Duncan, Durand-Wood, Eadie, Gilroy, Lukes, Mayes, Rollins, Santos and Sharma	13

Lost

Vicki Poirier submitted a communication in opposition to the matter.

Executive Policy Committee – Notice of Motion

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION:

On December 18, 2025, the following Notice of Motion was filed with the Clerk, in accordance with section 17(1) of the Procedure By-law No. 50/2007.

Moved by Councillor Wyatt,
Seconded by Councillor Orlikow,

WHEREAS with Canadians standing strong and saying no to a voluntary embargo on personal and business travel into the United States of America, since the outrageous comments by President Donald Trump, who called for the Annexation of Canada, to make Canada the 51st State of the USA;

AND WHEREAS the Canadian people have implemented their own ban on travel into America also due to the Canadian economy being dramatically and negatively impacted by President Trumps decision to abandon our historic relationship, including, for all intents and purposes, attacking the fabric and the spirit of all trade agreements with the United States, both bilateral agreements (Canada/USA Free Trade Agreement) and multilateral agreements (Canada/Mexico/USA Free Trade Agreement) by placing tariffs on Canadian made goods in an attempt to drive up the cost of goods produced in Canada and supplied to the American Consumer;

AND WHEREAS Winnipeg City Council has been completely out of step with the Canadian people, as Council continues its membership within the American Free Trade Organization, known the North American Strategy for Competitiveness (NASCO) which is based in Dallas, Texas, and costs the City of Winnipeg a minimum of $30,000 a year in membership costs, plus all related travel costs and expense relating to the Councillor appointed to the NASCO committee, Councillor Marcus Chambers, and;

AND WHEREAS the City of Winnipeg is also a member of the Red River Basin Commission, which involves the ratepayers of Winnipeg having to pay for the Councillor representatives, namely Councillor Chambers and Councillor Browaty, for trips into the states within the USA located just south of the Manitoba border, again, representing an insult to all the hardworking Canadians who have implemented their own embargo on travel into the United States.

Executive Policy Committee – Notice of Motion

DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That Membership in NASCO be immediately cancelled by Winnipeg City Council.

2. That Winnipeg City Council cease compensating for any and all travel expenses and related expenses for travel into the United States, in relation to the Red River Basin Commission.

3. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.