

P.O. Box 1749 Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5 Canada

Item No. Halifax Regional Council January 27, 2015 February 3, 2015

TO:	Members of Halifax Regional Council	
SUBMITTED BY:	Original Signed Mayor Savage, Chair of Executive Standing Committee	_
DATE:	November 24, 2014	꽃
SUBJECT:	Campaign Finance Reform	

<u>ORIGIN</u>

Executive Standing Committee November 24, 2014 meeting.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

The mandate of the Executive Standing Committee, as adopted by Regional Council is to fulfill the selfgovernance role of Regional Council including:

3.6 General Council Governance

3.6.1 The Executive Standing Committee shall act as a review committee for matters related to the general self-governance and administration of Council as directed by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report examining the legislative options and implications of campaign finance reform for municipal government in Halifax, as identified in the discussion section of this report.

BACKGROUND

The Executive Standing Committee received a Request for Consideration form from Mayor Savage at their November 24, 2014 outlining the reasons for examining the legislative options and implications of campaign finance reform for municipal government.

Additional information can be reviewed in Mayor Savage's Request for Executive Standing Committee Consideration form attached hereto.

DISCUSSION

The Executive Standing Committee considered Mayor Savage's request, with discussion being held on the limited rules within the Municipal Elections Act that govern municipal campaign finance. The need to engage UNSM on municipal campaign finance reform was also raised. The Standing Committee put forward a recommendation to Council to request a staff report that examines the legislative options and implications of campaign finance reform for municipal government in Halifax.

As identified in Mayor Savage's Request for Executive Standing Committee Consideration form, the report should include a review of practice in other jurisdictions, and address administrative, intergovernmental, legislative, and procedural implications. The scope of the report should include, but not be limited to donation and spending limits, further disclosure of campaign spending, when money can be raised, and options, if any, for possible sanctions when rules are not followed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications associated with the recommended course of action.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Executive Standing Committee meetings are open to the public.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with the recommended course of action.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives were provided by the Executive Stranding Committee.

ATTACHMENTS

Mayor Savage - Request for Executive Stranding Committee Consideration form

A copy of this report can be obtained online at http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

Report Prepared by: Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant, Office of the Municipal Clerk, 902-490-6519

Attachment 1



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Item No.

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