


Item No. 11.1.9 (i)
Halifax Regional Council
September 20, 2011

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council

SUBMITTED BY: Original signed by 

Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: September 12, 2011

SUBJECT: The Citizens' Commission on Council Remuneration

ORIGIN

The Regional Council motion of November 16, 2010 to:

Instruct the CAO to reconvene the independent review committee to review the adequacy of the formula in its present day application. The committee shall take into account the NS CPI adjustment for possible application beyond 2010. The Committee will consider other factors that, in their opinion, may have merit, including examination of fixed remuneration during the whole term of office. The report from the committee including any and all recommendations, shall be submitted directly to open Council no later than the 2nd week of September 2011, and at the same session, its recommendation be subject to a vote by Council without amendments or debate.

RECOMMENDATION

That Halifax Regional Council receives the report of the Independent Citizens' Review Commission on Council Remuneration.

BACKGROUND

As per the direction of Council, Administration contacted the three members of the original Citizen's Commission on Council Remuneration, Mr. Jon Stone, Mr. Peter Ineson, and Mr. Blair Mitchell. All three members agreed to reconvene to conduct the review as directed by Council.

In preparation for their review, Administration provided the members with information on the levels of Council remuneration since the adoption of the original report in 2004, national survey data on municipal Elected Officials compensation and historical data on Nova Scotia CPI. In addition, resources from the Total Compensation Division were made available to the Commission in order to gather any additional data deemed necessary by the members.

Subsequent to the commencement of the Commission's review the NSUARB issued a report on the size of HRM Council. A copy of this report was also provided to the Commission for their consideration.

On September 9, 2011 members of the Commission met with me, as CAO, to confirm the completion of their review and that the review had covered the areas outlined in the Council motion of November 16, 2010.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Project and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Project and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ATTACHMENTS

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Britt Wilson, Manager Total Compensation, HR
