
TO: **Mayor & Council**

FROM: **General Manager, Finance Department**

DATE: **June 19, 2019**

FILE: **0560-01**

RE: **Federation of Canadian Municipalities Corporate Report No. 046**

On March 11, 2019, Council deferred Corporate Report No. R046, 2019 Contribution Request – Federation of Canadian Municipalities Special Advocacy Fund, to a future Council meeting after the FCM's 2019 Conference. The Conference was held from May 30-June 2, 2019. Accordingly, this report is now being brought forward to Council for consideration.

Thank you.



Kam Grewal
General Manager, Finance

cc Donna Jones, General Manager, Investment & Intergovernmental Relations
cc City Manager

NO: R046

COUNCIL DATE: March 11, 2019

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council** DATE: **March 6, 2019**

FROM: **General Manager, Finance and
General Manager, Investment &
Intergovernmental Relations** FILE: **1850-02**

SUBJECT: **Contribution Request-Federation of Canadian Municipalities Special
Advocacy Fund**

RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Department and the Investment & Intergovernmental Relations Department recommend that Council:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Approve a contribution request of \$20,685 (including GST) from the Council Initiatives Fund for the 2019 payment towards the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Special Advocacy Fund.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to request that Mayor and Council support a contribution from the Council Initiatives Fund towards the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (“FCM”) Special Advocacy Fund.

BACKGROUND

On May 16, 2018, FCM submitted a voluntary invoice to the City in the amount of \$41,3750 (including GST) with the option to make a single lump sum payment or two equal payments in 2018 and 2019 towards the FCM Special Advocacy Fund. On June 25, 2018, Council approved Corporate Report No. R142; 2018 Contribution Request – Federation of Canadian Municipalities Special Advocacy Fund, attached as Appendix “I”, authorizing the first payment of \$20,685 (including GST) to FCM.

DISCUSSION

FCM has been the national voice of municipal government since 1901. Members include Canada’s largest cities, small urban and rural communities, and 20 Provincial and territorial municipal associations. FCM carries on the tradition of actively advocating to have the needs of municipalities and their citizens reflected in Federal policies and programs. The City of Surrey is an active member of FCM.

With the Canadian Federal election taking place in October 2019, FCM is once again preparing to propel municipal priorities onto the national agenda. FCM's efforts during the 2015 Federal election yielded significant gains for municipalities, including:

- The Investing in Canada infrastructure plan: A 12-year, \$180 billion Federal investment in local infrastructure, from public transit to wastewater system upgrades;
- Canada's first-ever national housing strategy, including key commitments to repair and build affordable housing across the country;
- A predictable Federal allocation model for transit expansions that put municipalities in the driver's seat;
- Better access to high-speed broadband through the Federal Connect to Innovate program and the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission ("CRTC") decision to mandate universal broadband access; and
- New capacity-building programs on asset management and climate change led by FCM as well as a new \$125 million capital investment in FCM's Green Municipal Fund.

To build on past successes, FCM's Board of Directors has approved a two-year Special Advocacy Fund which will support an ambitious campaign to reach out to all Federal parties participating in the 2019 election. Efforts will include an intensive, multi-faceted strategy that integrates polling, detailed platform development, sustained outreach, and an innovative communications and media plan.

The Special Advocacy Fund is supported by FCM members using a fee structure that is similar to how membership fees are determined. In general, FCM's largest members will pay larger contributions. Contribution to the fund is voluntary and not tied to FCM membership. Members have the option of paying in one lump sum or in equal payments over two years.

FUNDING

Staff has evaluated the request and recommends that Council approve a funding contribution of \$20,685 (including GST) from the Council Initiatives Fund for the 2019 payment towards the FCM Special Advocacy Fund. Appendix "II" attached to this report documents the balance in the Council Initiatives Fund based on an assumption that Council will approve the recommendations of this report.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The FCM Special Advocacy Fund supports the objectives of the City's Sustainability Charter 2.0. In particular, this contribution request relates to Sustainability Charter 2.0 theme of Inclusion and Infrastructure. Specifically, this contribution supports the following Desired Outcomes ("DO"):

- Inclusion DO13: Appropriate and affordable housing is available to meet the needs of all households in Surrey;
- Public Safety DO8: The community's critical infrastructure and systems are designed to withstand climate change;
- Infrastructure DO11: An integrated and multi-modal transportation network offers affordable, convenient, accessible and safe transportation choices within the community and to regional destinations; and
- Infrastructure DO22: The city has excellent communications infrastructure that provides affordable and effective connectivity across the community.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve a contribution of \$20,685 (including GST) from the Council Initiatives Fund for the 2019 payment to the FCM Special Advocacy Fund.

Kam Grewal, CPA
General Manager, Finance

Donna Jones
General Manager, Investment
& Intergovernmental Relations

Appendix "I": Corporate Report No. R142; 2018 Contribution Request - Federation of Canadian Municipalities Special Advocacy Fund

Appendix "II": Council Initiatives Fund – Allocations for 2019



CORPORATE REPORT

NO: **R142**

COUNCIL DATE: **June 25, 2018**

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **June 20, 2018**

FROM: **General Manager, Finance
General Manager, Investment &
Intergovernmental Relations**

FILE: **1850-20**

SUBJECT: **Contribution Request – Federation of Canadian Municipalities Special
Advocacy Fund**

RECOMMENDATION

The Finance Department and the Investment & Intergovernmental Relations Department recommend that Council:

1. Receive this report for information; and
2. Approve a contribution request of \$20,685 (including GST) from the Council Initiatives Fund towards the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Special Advocacy Fund.

INTENT

The purpose of this report is to request that Mayor and Council support a contribution from the Council Initiatives Fund towards the Federation of Canadian Municipalities ("FCM") Special Advocacy Fund.

DISCUSSION

FCM has been the national voice of municipal government since 1901. Members include Canada's largest cities, small urban and rural communities, and 20 provincial and territorial municipal associations. FCM carries on the tradition of actively advocating to have the needs of municipalities and their citizens reflected in federal policies and programs. The City of Surrey is an active member of FCM.

With the Canadian federal election taking place in 2019, FCM is once again preparing to propel municipal priorities onto the national agenda. FCM's efforts during the 2015 federal election yielded significant gains for municipalities, including:

- The Investing in Canada infrastructure plan: A 12-year, \$180 billion federal investment in local infrastructure, from public transit to wastewater system upgrades;
- Canada's first-ever national housing strategy, including key commitments to repair and build affordable housing across the country;
- A predictable federal allocation model for transit expansions that put municipalities in the driver's seat;
- Better access to high-speed broadband through the federal Connect to Innovate program and the CRTC decision to mandate universal broadband access and;
- New capacity-building programs on asset management and climate change -led by FCM - as well as a new \$125 million capital investment in FCM's Green Municipal Fund.

To build on past successes, FCM's Board of Directors has approved a 2-year Special Advocacy Fund which will support an ambitious campaign to reach out to all federal parties participating in the 2019 election. Efforts will include an intensive, multi-faceted strategy that integrates polling, detailed platform development, sustained outreach, and an innovative communications and media plan.

The Special Advocacy Fund is supported by FCM members using a fee structure similar to how membership fees are determined. In general, FCM's largest members will pay larger contributions. Contribution to the fund is voluntary and not tied to FCM membership. Members have the option of paying in one lump sum or over two years. The recommended contribution in this report is based on equal payments over two years.

FUNDING

FCM has submitted a voluntary invoice to the City in the amount of \$41,370 (including GST). This voluntary contribution can be made in full through a single lump sum payment or through two equal payments. The first of the equal payments would be due immediately with the second payment due on or before April 1, 2019. Staff have evaluated the voluntary invoice and support two equal payments of \$20,685 (including GST) with disbursement of one payment each in 2018 and 2019.

Staff recommend that Council approve a contribution of \$20,685 (including GST) from the Council Initiatives Fund for the 2018 payment to the FCM Special Advocacy Fund. A separate report for the second payment to the FCM Special Advocacy Fund will be submitted for Council's consideration in 2019.

Appendix "I" attached to this report documents the balance in the Council Initiatives Fund based on an assumption that Council will approve the recommendations of this report.

SUSTAINABILITY

As FCM experienced success in advocating for municipal priorities during the 2015 federal election, it is expected that their efforts during the 2019 election will address a variety of

similar topics. Accordingly, the FCM Special Advocacy Fund should support many of the overall objectives of the City's Sustainability Charter 2.0. Based on the results of FCM's previous advocacy efforts, this contribution is expected to support the following desired outcomes (DO) under the themes of Inclusion and Infrastructure:

- Inclusion DO13: Appropriate and affordable housing is available to meet the needs of all households in Surrey.
- Public Safety DO8: The community's critical infrastructure and systems are designed to withstand climate change.
- Infrastructure DO11: An integrated and multi-modal transportation network offers affordable, convenient, accessible and safe transportation choices within the community and to regional destinations.
- Infrastructure DO22: The city has excellent communications infrastructure that provides affordable and effective connectivity across the community.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, it is recommended that Council approve a contribution of \$20,685 (including GST) from the Council Initiatives Fund for the 2018 payment to the FCM Special Advocacy Fund.



Kam Grewal, CPA
General Manager, Finance



Donna Jones
General Manager, Investment &
Intergovernmental Relations

Appendix "I": Council Initiatives Fund- Allocations for 2018

Note: Appendix available upon request

