

# Bylaw 18549

## To Amend Bylaw 18155, Council Procedures Bylaw

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### Purpose

To amend Bylaw 18155, Council Procedures Bylaw with respect to absence reporting by Councillors.

### Readings

Bylaw 18549 is ready for three readings. A majority vote of City Council on all three readings is required for passage.

If Council wishes to give three readings during a single meeting, then prior to moving third reading, Council must unanimously agree “That Bylaw 18549 be considered for third reading.”

### Position of Administration

Administration supports this Bylaw.

### Previous Council/Committee Action

At the May 28, 2018, Code of Conduct Sub-committee meeting, the following motion was passed:

That Administration bring an amendment to the Procedures Bylaw 18155, in general accordance with Attachment 3 of the May 28, 2018, Office of the City Manager report CR\_5913 to a future City Council meeting.

### Executive Summary

This report presents amendments to Bylaw 18155, Council Procedures Bylaw, in accordance with direction given at the May 28, 2018, Code of Conduct Sub-committee meeting. The proposed amendments communicate expectations with respect to absence reporting by Councillors. The rules apply to all Councillors, including the Mayor, and complement the Council Code of Conduct passed at the June 26 and 27, 2018, City Council meeting.

## Report

There are currently no formal guidelines or policies in place for managing attendance at Council and Committee meetings. It is at the discretion of each Councillor to provide notice of absence to the Chair and City Clerk. Attendance is currently recorded in the minutes for each Council and Committee meeting.

Attendance requirements for Councillors are governed by the *Municipal Government Act*. In accordance with section 174(1)(d) of the *Municipal Government Act*, a Councillor is disqualified if absent from all regular council meetings held during any period of eight consecutive weeks. Exceptions to this include absences authorized by Council motion or in accordance with Bylaw 18243, Parental Leave for Councillors Bylaw.

This report presents amendments to Bylaw 18155, Council Procedures Bylaw, in accordance with direction given at the May 28, 2018, Code of Conduct Sub-committee meeting. The proposed amendments communicate expectations with respect to absence reporting by Councillors. The rules apply to all Councillors, including the Mayor, and complement the Council Code of Conduct passed at the June 26 and 27, 2018, City Council meeting.

The bylaw amendments represent general requirements; the Office of the City Clerk will prepare a supplementary guideline on how this will be administered and how absences will be recorded.

## Public Engagement

Questions regarding the Council Code of Conduct were included in the March 2018 Mixed Topic Survey of the Edmonton Insight Community, which was open from March 20 to 27, 2018. 2,180 participants responded. The results of the engagement were presented to the Code of Conduct Sub-Committee in the April 9, 2018, Office of the City Manager report CR\_5733. The following groups were also surveyed, and their responses outlined in the same report: Members of City Council, Administration, and Chairs of the City's Advisory and Decision-Making Boards.

In addition, the public was invited to provide feedback on the draft code of conduct at the June 11, 2018, Council Services Committee meeting. Additional website advertising was placed and groups that were surveyed were advised of the meeting date.

## Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management

<b>Corporate Outcome(s):</b> Edmontonians are connected to the City in which they live, work and play			
<b>Outcome(s)</b>	<b>Measure(s)</b>	<b>Result(s)</b>	<b>Target(s)</b>
Attendance rules reinforce accountability standards for Councillors and enhance the integrity and reputation of the City.	Attendance and voting results will continue to be tracked in the minutes of Council and Committee meetings.	To be determined.	There are no targets for these measures.

## Attachment

1. Bylaw 18549

## Others Reviewing this Report

- R. Kits and S. Padbury, Acting Deputy City Managers, Financial and Corporate Services