

Canadian Capital Cities Organization - Background Information

Recommendation

That the August 27, 2019, Communications and Engagement report CR_7474, be received for information.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the July 16, 2019, City Council meeting, the following motion was passed:

That Administration provide a report outlining the background information on the Canadian Capital Cities Organization, including membership commitments and benefits, and a listing of participating member municipalities.

Executive Summary

This report provides information about the Canadian Capital Cities Organization. Should the City of Edmonton wish to re-activate its membership, it can appoint up to five City representatives, and there may be future opportunities for those representatives to be elected to the organization's Board of Directors.

Report

The Canadian Capital Cities Organization was created in 1996 to provide capital city members and other interested organizations opportunities to discuss matters of shared interest, primarily through attendance at the Annual Conference and the Annual General meeting. Some of the projects the organization has worked on include:

- 2008 - Ringing of the bells project on July 3 in recognition of Quebec City's 400th anniversary
- 2010 - Connection Vancouver 2010 Olympics and Paralympics Torch Relay
- 2011 - Traveling Photo Exhibit, in collaboration with Canadian Geographic
- 2012 - Canada 150 National Study

In previous years, the Annual Conference agendas focused on economic development and sustainable heritage preservation in Canadian capital cities.

Edmonton was previously a member and had City Council representation, but the City decided not to continue its membership after 2014.

Membership Benefits

The Canadian Capital Cities Organization provides a forum for members to build connections and collaborate on initiatives to promote and support the history, traditions and aspirations of people who live in capital cities. Membership includes political and administrative representatives from 14 provincial, territorial and federal capital cities, along with other interested stakeholders. The organization provides a platform for members to share challenges and successes and brainstorm ideas on issues related to the cultural and economic promotion of capital cities.

The annual membership cost is \$500, which supports up to five representatives from each member organization to attend events and provides member voting privileges at scheduled Board meetings and the Annual General Meeting.

Each year, the organization hosts a conference in one of the member cities. The Canadian Capital Cities Organization aims to align every second Conference with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' annual conference. Next year's conference will be in Toronto, either directly before or after the Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference.

Key Member Organizations

The Canadian Capital Cities Organization encourages participation from the federal, provincial, territorial and municipal governments, as well as public and private sectors that are interested in promoting the historic, cultural, economic and symbolic heritage of the capitals of Canada.

Currently only half of the 14 Canadian capital cities are active members. In addition to the City of Edmonton, a number of other large capital cities—Toronto, Quebec City and Halifax—do not participate. The organization continues to seek new members. For example, during the recent Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference in Quebec City, the organization hosted a reception to promote increased involvement by Canadian capital cities.

Some of the active members are:

- City of Whitehorse, Yukon
- City of Victoria, British Columbia
- City of Regina, Saskatchewan
- City of Winnipeg, Manitoba
- City of Ottawa, Ontario
- City of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island
- City of St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador
- Alberta Legislative Assembly
- Saskatchewan Provincial Capital Commission

- National Capital Commission, Ottawa/Gatineau, National Capital Region

Board of Directors

In addition to attendance opportunities at the annual conference and the Annual General Meeting, the organization's Board of Directors are required to participate in three or four conference calls per year focused on networking, common projects and information gathering and sharing.

Board member representatives include municipal Councillors, tourism and economic development officers, provincial capital commissions, representatives of Legislative Assemblies (including Alberta) and others from national, provincial and municipal public and private sectors.

The current Board of Directors:

- President: Marianne Alto, Councillor, City of Victoria
- Vice-President: Natalie Page, Executive Director, Public and Corporate Affairs, National Capital Commission
- Secretary: Sandy Hickman, Councillor, City of St. John's
- Treasurer: Bernadette McIntyre, Executive Director (Retired), Wascana Centre, Regina
- Laurel Lea, Tourism Manager, City of Charlottetown
- Gwen Jacobson, Manager of Planning and Engagement, Saskatchewan Provincial Capital Commission
- Dan Boyd, Councillor, City of Whitehorse
- Riley Brockington, Councillor, City of Ottawa
- Jerry Flegel, Councillor, City of Regina
- Jason Schreyer, Councillor, City of Winnipeg
- Al Chapman, Manager Visitor Services, Provincial Legislature of Alberta
- Daniel Feeny, Director Marketing and Partnerships, National Capital Commission

Upcoming Conference

The organization's next conference and Annual General Meeting is in Regina, Saskatchewan, September 15-17, 2019, and will include workshops and presentations across topics such as:

- the unique features and challenges of providing policing in a capital city (guest speakers are Regina City Police and RCMP);
- new and existing challenges of infrastructure development, preservation and maintenance due to extreme weather and other environmental conditions;
- recent initiatives, best practices and lessons learned; and
- future projects of common interests amongst members.

Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management

Corporate Outcome(s): Conditions of Success			
Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s)	Target(s)
The City creates an environment for innovation through its effective partnerships and collaborations.	Number of formal municipal government associations which include Council representation.	4 (i.e., FCM, BCMC, AUMA, and EMRB)	N/A