

Canadian Capital Cities Organization - Membership Update

Recommendation

That Executive Committee recommend to City Council:

That the City of Edmonton discontinue its membership with the Canadian Capital Cities Organization.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the August 27/28, 2019, City Council meeting, the following motion was passed:

That the City of Edmonton re-activate its membership with the Canadian Capital Cities Organization for one year, on a probationary basis, subject to a report back to Committee.

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on the City's one year probationary membership at the Canadian Capital Cities Organization.

Report

City Council's representative at the Canadian Capital Cities Organization has provided feedback to Administration on the value of the City's membership. Insights from the one-year probationary membership have shown that the Canadian Capital Cities Organization is not a good fit for Edmonton. The majority of the participating capital cities are smaller municipalities whose primary focus is on destination tourism and do not share many other issues in common with Edmonton.

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. In alternating years, the Canadian Capital Cities Organization Annual General Meeting is held close to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference.

Feedback from the Council representative suggests that it is not worth maintaining a membership with the Organization given the time and cost to fly and acquire

accommodation. If the Canadian Capital Cities Organization's events were consistently held around the same time and in close proximity with other relevant events, a membership would provide more value to the City. Therefore, Administration's recommendation is that the City of Edmonton discontinue its membership with the Canadian Capital Cities Organization.

Background

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.

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

Membership includes political and administrative representatives from 15 provincial, territorial and federal capital cities, along with other interested stakeholders. Edmonton was previously a member and had City Council representation, but the City decided not to continue its membership after 2014. The City's membership was reactivated in the past year following Council's direction at the August 27/28, 2019 City Council meeting. At the January 20, 2020 Council meeting, Councillor Dziadyk was appointed to the Canadian Capital Cities Organization as the City's representative. His appointment expires on December 31, 2020.

Currently, approximately half of the 14 Canadian capital cities are active members. A number of other large capital cities, such as Toronto, Quebec City and Halifax, do not participate. The organization continues to seek new members.

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
- City Of Edmonton, Alberta
- Alberta Legislative Assembly

- Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly
- Saskatchewan Provincial Capital Commission
- National Capital Commission

Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management

Corporate Outcome(s): Edmonton Region is a catalyst for industry and business growth			
Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s)	Target(s)
The City creates an environment for innovation through its effective partnerships and collaborations.	N/A as the CCCO does not appear to be an effective partnership for the City of Edmonton.	N/A	N/A