



**Committee of the Whole Report
Council Member Motion – For the Meeting of June 13, 2024**

To: Committee of the Whole **Date:** June 6, 2023
From: Councillor Krista Loughton and Councillor Dave Thompson
Subject: UBCM Resolution: Request for the Province to Set Standards for Municipal Council Remuneration

Background:

The Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) published the [Council and Board Remuneration Guide](#) in response to a resolution that called for support to set remuneration for local government elected officials in 2019. This is an excellent resource for local governments; however, the issue remains challenging as Councils still required to vote on their own remuneration despite the establishment of best practices in the guide. This often creates political pressure over perceived conflict of interest by the public. This can result in prolonged periods of time between reviews, such as the case in Victoria where Council remuneration has not been reviewed with changes adopted since 2008.

Due to this system, remuneration rates can end up not adequately compensating for the time commitment of municipal elected officials. Having a standardized system set up by the provincial government would help improve the system by removing the need for Councils to vote on their own salaries, which will help ensure compensation remains aligned to the workload. Once this is achieved, accurate compensation will help to reduce barriers to running for local office and attract diverse candidates.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorses the following resolution, and that staff submit it for consideration at the Union of BC Municipalities Conference by June 15, 2024, and that this motion be forwarded to daytime council for consideration.

Whereas UBCM has developed a Council and Board Remuneration Guide and despite excellent best practice suggestions Councils are still required to vote on their remuneration; And whereas this system creates political pressure due to perceived conflict of interest by the public, which often results in remuneration rates not adequately compensating the workload; And whereas accurate compensation for time commitment could help to reduce barriers to running for local office and attract diverse candidates: Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request

that the province work with the union to set a standardized rates grid based on transparent criteria for local government elected-official remuneration.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Krista Loughton in black ink.

Councillor Loughton

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Dan Thompson in blue ink.

Councillor Thompson