



# REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: **Crime Severity Index Conference**

File #: 0110.00

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From: Francis Cheung, P. Eng.  
Chief Administrative Officer

Date: January 10, 2024

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## RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT City Council approve Councillors Paul Albrecht and Delaney Mack to attend the Crime Severity Index Conference in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan from February 28, 2024 to February 29, 2024.
2. THAT City Council approve to pay for the costs, including conference fee, travel, meals, and accommodation, for Councillors Paul Albrecht and Delaney Mack to attend the Crime Severity Index Conference from the Enterprise Fund.

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## PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from City Council to allow Councillors Paul Albrecht and Delaney Mack to attend the Crime Severity Index Conference in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan from February 28, 2024 to February 29, 2024 and pay for associated costs to attend this conference.

## POLICY:

Travel and Expense Policy No. GE-10 establishes guidance on the reimbursement of travel and other training expenses for City Council members, City employees and other Organization Members authorized by City Council such as a committee member, commission member, a paid on call firefighter or a volunteer.

## **COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:**

The Crime Severity Index (CSI) measures changes in the level of severity of crime in Canada from year to year. In the index, all crimes are assigned a weight based on their seriousness. The more serious offences will render more serious punishments. The weight of each offence is based on sentences in terms of both the incarceration rate and the length of imprisonment for each individual offence type. The more serious the crime, the higher the weight the offence is assigned on the Index scale. To calculate the actual Crime Severity Index, the number of police-reported incidents for each offence is multiplied by the weight for that offence. All weighted offences are then added together and divided by the corresponding population total.

Over the years, Langley City has been statistically ranked higher in the annual CSI ranking with populations of more than 10,000 people due to its crime rates and population. One major crime such as one homicide will result in a significant high CSI for Langley City whereas a similar crime in a large community may not result in a high CSI. Additionally, there could be other factors which could affect the CSI such as mis-categorizing the type of crime or misidentification of the location of the crime.

Langley City shares some of the same sentiments as referenced in Mayor David Gillan's, Mayor of North Battleford, letter and current and previous Langley City Councils and Officer In Charges have expressed some of our challenges with the CSI, how it is derived and how it is interpreted in the community. Therefore, the CSI conference is a good opportunity for representatives from Langley City to attend to learn more about the CSI from experts and share our experiences with other communities.

To this end, it is recommended that the Chair and Co-Chair of the Crime Prevention Committee, Councillors Paul Albrecht and Delaney Mack, be authorized to attend the Crime Severity Index Conference in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan from February 28, 2024 to February 29, 2024 and that the costs associated with attending this conference be allocated from the Enterprise Fund.

## **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

The estimated cost for each participant to attend this conference is approximately \$1,500.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

That the City does not send representatives to attend the Crime Severity Index Conference in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan from February 28, 2024 to February 29, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Francis Cheung, P. Eng.  
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment:

1. Letter from Mayor David Gillan, City of North Battleford, dated December 8, 2024.