

REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and Councillors

Subject: Out of Province Travel Request, Ottawa File #: 0110.00

Mission, April 16 to April 19, 2024

Doc #: 193766

From: Francis Cheung, P. Eng.

Chief Administrative Officer

Date: March 25, 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. THAT City Council approve Mayor Nathan Pachal, Councillor Paul Albrecht, Councillor Mike Solyom, Councillor Leith White, and Francis Cheung to travel to Ottawa from April 16 to April 19, 2024, as a delegation to meet with Members of Parliament to lobby and advance Langley City's positions with respect to housing, infrastructure, transportation, culture, immigration, and refugee issues.
- 2. THAT the travel expenses for the trip to Ottawa under Recommendation No. 1 be allocated from the Enterprise Fund.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the report is to request approval to send a delegation to Ottawa to meet with Members of Parliament to lobby and advance Langley City's position with respect to housing, infrastructure, transportation, culture, immigration, and refugee issues from April 16, 2024, to April 19, 2024.

POLICY:

The City's Travel and Expense Policy GE-10 requires Council members and City employees to receive Council approval to attend events outside of the Province of British Columbia.



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COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

There are many initiatives and issues that Langley City is working on that require support and partnership from the Federal government. Given the variety of issues that Langley City Council wish to discuss with different Ministers and Member of Parliaments (MPs) and to accommodate their busy schedule, the most effective way to express their intention is to send a delegation to Ottawa to meet with them directly.

The delegation has scheduled meetings with MPs from the Liberal and Progressive Conservative parties from April 17 to April 18, 2024, to discuss various topics such as:

- Housing Accelerator Fund
- Langley City's infrastructure needs
- Building height restrictions within the Langley air zone
- Funding for the Langley City Performing Arts and Culture Centre
- Funding based on immigration settlement numbers.

By traveling to Ottawa, the delegation will have a captive audience and thereby be able to engage in fulsome discussions to advance Langley City's position on these topics.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

The travel expenses will include transportation, accommodation and meals for the delegation travelling to Ottawa. It is estimated that the travel expenses for each member of the delegation travelling to Ottawa is approximately \$2,000.00.

ALTERNATIVES:

None provided.

Respectfully Submitted,

Francis Cheung, P. Eng.

Chief Administrative Officer

