# Agenda Including Addeds **Corporate Services Committee**

22nd Meeting of the Corporate Services Committee November 19, 2019, 12:30 PM Council Chambers Members

Councillors J. Morgan (Chair), J. Helmer, P. Van Meerbergen, A. Kayabaga, S. Hillier, Mayor E. Holder

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#### 2. Consent

2019 Annual Report on Write-Off of Provincial Offences Act (POA) 2.1 Accounts Receivable

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#### 6. Confidential (Enclosed for Members only.)

6.1 Land Acquisition / Solicitor-Client Privileged Advice / Position, Plan, Procedure, Criteria or Instruction to be Applied to Any Negotiations

A matter pertaining to the proposed or pending acquisition of land by the municipality, including communications necessary for that purpose; advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege; commercial and financial information, that belongs to the municipality and has monetary value or potential monetary value and a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality.

Land Acquisition / Solicitor-Client Privileged Advice / Position, Plan, 6.2 Procedure, Criteria or Instruction to be Applied to Any Negotiations

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6.6 Labour Relations/Employee Negotiations

A matter pertaining to advice and recommendations of officers and employees of the Corporation concerning labour relations and employee negotiations in regards to one of the Corporation's unions including communications necessary for that purpose and for the purpose of providing instructions and direction to officers and employees of the Corporation.

6.7 Personal Matters/Identifiable Individual

A matter pertaining to personal matters, including information regarding an identifiable individual, including a municipal employee, with respect to employment related matters, advice or recommendations of officers and employees of the Corporation including communications necessary for that purpose and for the purpose of providing instructions and directions to officers and employees of the Corporation.

6.8 (ADDED) Trade Secret, Scientific, Technical, Commercial, Financial or Labour Relations Information Supplied to the Corporation in Confidence

Three matters pertaining to trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could

reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons or organization, as provided by Odgers Berndtson.

6.9 (ADDED) Land Acquisition / Solicitor-Client Privileged Advice / Position, Plan, Procedure, Criteria or Instruction to be Applied to Any Negotiations

A matter pertaining to the proposed or pending acquisition of land by the municipality, including communications necessary for that purpose; advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege; commercial and financial information, that belongs to the municipality and has monetary value or potential monetary value and a position, plan, procedure, criteria or instruction to be applied to any negotiations carried on or to be carried on by or on behalf of the municipality.

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# 7. Adjournment

то:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING ON NOVEMBER 19, 2019
FROM:	ANNA LISA BARBON MANAGING DIRECTOR, CORPORATE SERVICES AND CITY TREASURER, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
SUBJECT:	2019 ANNUAL REPORT ON WRITE-OFF OF PROVINCIAL OFFENCES ACT (POA) ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

# **RECOMMENDATION**

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director, Corporate Services and City Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer, Civic Administration **BE AUTHORIZED** to write-off \$52,411.25 in the outstanding Provincial Offences Act (POA) Accounts Receivable, in accordance with the Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG) Write-Off Directive and Council Policy, being the Accounts Receivable and Collections Policy.

# PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

Request for Write-Off of Provincial Offences Act (POA) Accounts Receivable (November 21, 2017 meeting of Corporate Services Committee) https://pub-london.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=38308

Amendment to Council Policy Pertaining to "Accounts Receivable and Collections Policy"

(March 7, 2017 meeting of Corporate Services Committee) <a href="https://pub-london.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=30051">https://pub-london.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=30051</a>

Amendment to Council Policy 8(5) "Uncollectible Accounts Receivable" (December 13, 2016 meeting of Corporate Services Committee) <a href="https://pub-london.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=28609">https://pub-london.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=28609</a>

Provincial Offences Act (POA) Collections – Ministry of Attorney General (MAG) Write-Off Directive

(November 26, 2008 meeting of Board of Control)

http://council.london.ca/CouncilArchives/Agendas/Board%20Of%20Control%20Agendas/Board%20of%20Control%20Agendas%202008/2008-11-26%20Agenda/Item%206.pdf

## **BACKGROUND**

On March 26, 2001, the Province of Ontario transferred the responsibility for the administration and prosecution of provincial offences in London-Middlesex to the City of London.

This transfer was part of the Province's strategy to realign provincial and municipal roles in the delivery of public services. As a result, the City was required to establish its own administration and prosecution office and courtrooms to deal with charges laid under the *Provincial Offences Act*.

# What are provincial offences?

Provincial offences are regulatory (non-criminal) offences that include, but are not limited to:

- Speeding, careless driving, or not wearing your seat belt.
- Failing to surrender your insurance card or possessing a false or invalid insurance card.
- Being intoxicated in a public place or selling alcohol to a minor.
- Trespassing or failing to leave premises after being directed to do so.
- Occupational Health and Safety Act and Ministry of Environment violations.
- Noise, taxi and animal care city bylaws.

Source (retrieved November

2019): <a href="https://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/justice-ont/tickets\_and\_fines.php">https://www.attorneygeneral.jus.gov.on.ca/english/justice-ont/tickets\_and\_fines.php</a>

This transfer allowed the City to retain the *fine* revenue associated with Part I and Part III of the charges and old Part II (parking – pre1994) charges. Part I, II and III are defined below:

- > **Part I** charges are minor offences commonly referred to as "tickets" and typically carry a maximum penalty of \$1,000.
- ➤ **Part II** charges are exclusively parking tickets (pre-1994 collected by POA and post-1994 are part of the City's Parking division).
- ➤ **Part III** charges are serious offences that require a court appearance and may result in jail time in addition to substantial fines.

A ticket charge is comprised of:

- ➤ **Fine** as legislated by the courts and various Acts
- Victim Fine Surcharge (VFS)
  - o a component of the fine but not retained by the City
  - imposed on every non-parking fine and deposited by the provincial government into a special fund to help victims of crime
  - the amount of the VFS is usually \$20 of the imposed fine but fines over \$1,000 carry a surcharge of 25%
- Cost additional charge laid if not paid within the required time limit
- ➤ Fee additional enforcement fee laid if not paid within the required time limit

If the ticket remains outstanding, additional costs may be added, such as:

- Collection agency costs costs of recovery if collected by the City's third party collection agencies
- Other collection costs certificate of default fee, writ fee, etc.

To further understand the composition of a ticket, the following numerical example has been included:

# **Example of a fine composition:**

Fine		85.00		
Victim Fine Surcharge (VFS)		20.00	В	13.33%
Total Fine		105.00		_
Fail to Respond (FTR) docket cost		5.00		
Total Cost		5.00		
Enforcement fee		40.00		
Total Fees		40.00		
				_
Total fine per MAG file		150.00		100.00%
Add Collection Agency Costs (CAC)	14.75%	22.13	Α	
Total amount collected by Collection agency		172.13	_	
Less Collection agency Commission paid	14.75%	(22.13)	Α	
Net amount collected from Collection agence	150.00	_		
Less Victim Fine Surcharge (VFS)		(20.00)	В	
Gross Revenue to City of London		130.00		
Laga Carreto Obarra	47.000/	(00.00)	_	
Less County Share	17.22%	(22.39)	С	
City Share of Cross Boyonus		107.64		71 7/10/
City Share of Gross Revenue		107.61		71.74%

- A user fee by-law allows Collection Agency Costs (CAC) to be added to the fine and included in the amount assigned to collection agencies
  - results in net effect of nil cost to City for cost of collection agencies
- B Victim Fine Surcharge is not shown as revenue
  - collected and shown as liability on balance sheet
  - remitted to MAG each quarter
- the County Share is calculated based on the annual weighted average assessment. The calculation is part of the Intermunicipal Service Agreement between the County, the City and all of the neighbouring municipalities within the County of Middlesex.

# **Collections**

As part of the transfer of responsibility for the operation of Provincial Offences Courts in 2001, the Province also downloaded responsibility for the collection of a delinquent cases portfolio containing over 74,000 cases, having a total value of approximately \$17 million.

The devolvement of defaulted POA fines from the Province immediately required Ontario Municipalities to establish effective methods for the management of court administration, support functions, collection and civil enforcement activities. The opportunity to attempt the collection of this substantial receivable portfolio required proper tools and adequate staffing resources. As the receivable balance continued to grow after devolvement, it became evident that the City would have to develop and implement a collection strategy.

# Internal collection processes

A series of processes and a number of tools were implemented in order to effect the most expeditious collection of default fines. New tools and processes are continually being developed to increase collection efforts of the service area. These processes include:

- Data received from MAG each month is "scrubbed" to correct addresses, add postal codes and telephone numbers.
- A series of collection letters have been developed and are sent out based on the default status of the POA fines.
- ➤ If mail is returned undeliverable, various skip-tracing tools are utilized to research updated addresses and telephone numbers and the appropriate collection notice is generated.
- Various enforcement activities are undertaken by the POA staff, which may include:
  - o driver's licence suspension,
  - o licence plate denial,
  - o credit bureau reporting,
  - o the filing of Certificates of Default;
  - o further civil enforcement action.

There is no relief or reprieve from a fine as the court determines the fine, not the municipality. Once a fine has been imposed by the court, options for defendants include:

- applying for an extension of time-to-pay (determined by the court) and/or
- appealing a sentence to a judge.

Collections and administration staff do not have statutory authority to reduce fines due to hardship. Collection staff may consider payment plan arrangements on a case by case basis but there must be evidence of a good faith intention to pay based on these arrangements. Payment plans are documented in the collection system and flags indicate when payments have been missed. Missed payments would result in resuming of the collection process listed above.

# **External collection processes**

As a part of its strategy to collect POA fines in default, the City also contracts with four professional collection agencies that are selected through an RFP process. If the POA collection staff are unsuccessful in collection activities through in-house activities, they then assign the receivables to the collection agencies. The collection agencies are monitored on a regular basis and will be given a portion of the receivables based on their prior months' recoveries.

It is only after the POA collection team have applied their best efforts to the collection of the debt through the various means listed above that they would recommend that a fine be deemed uncollectible and recommend to Council that collection activities cease.

It is currently POA collection's strategy to concentrate collection efforts on fines that are less than 2 years old and assign older debt to the collection agencies, after exhausting in-house collection methods.

The MAG directive and guideline (Appendix "A" attached) provides municipalities with the written authority to establish write-off criteria for those aged delinquent cases deemed uncollectible and staff have developed the required operating procedures to comply with the MAG directive. The recommendations contained in this report will allow POA collection staff to fully concentrate their efforts on the most recent delinquent cases and will assist in maximizing the effectiveness of the POA collection process. The removal of cases deemed uncollectible will reduce the size and value of the delinquent fines portfolio to a more meaningful level and assist in forecasting future potential revenue based on a more accurate database.

# **Accounts Receivable and Collections Policy**

In March 2017, the new Council Policy on Accounts Receivable and Collections (Bylaw No. CPOL.-346-337) was adopted. The policy is a statement of policies and goals relating to the procedures and collection of accounts receivable. The policy also provides authorization and guidelines for the write-off of uncollectible miscellaneous and POA receivables.

The authorization for write-off of uncollectible POA accounts receivable is as follows:

Dollar Value of POA Account	Person or Body Responsible for Deciding Further Action
\$0 to \$2,000.00	Manager III, Courts Administration or delegate and Director, Financial Services or delegate.
\$2,000.01 to \$10,000.00	City Treasurer or delegate <u>and</u> City Manager or delegate
Over \$10,000.00	City Council

# Write-offs

As set out in the Council Policy, being the Accounts Receivable and Collection Policy, after exhausting established best practices, staff are seeking Council approval to write-off a total of four (4) cases with a total value of \$52,411 (2018 – 0 cases) of the total being written off for 2019, as summarized below:

# Write-offs to be Approved by Council > \$10,000.00

<b>Enforcement Year</b>	Cases #	Total \$
2011	2	27,301.25
2012	2	25,110.00
	4	\$52,411.25

Administrative write-offs have been delegated to staff for approval as per the policy.

It should be noted that cases are written off for accounting purposes only.

Such write-offs do not absolve a convicted offender from the requirement to pay a case, as debts to the Crown are owed in perpetuity and are never forgiven.

As part of the write-off process, the electronic record will be removed, however all original source documents must be retained by the court office in accordance with the MAG directive and a separate data base containing these written-off cases will be maintained.

# **Financial Impact**

The write-off does not impact the operational results for 2019.

For accounting purposes, revenue should be recognized when the critical event occurs. Due to legislative procedures and numerous factors that could affect the timing and ultimate payment of a fine, it was determined that the appropriate time to recognize the revenue is when the fine is paid. As a result, this revenue is recorded on a cash basis.

# **Policy Assessment**

2019 is the third year of applying the amended Accounts Receivable and Collections Policy, using the new thresholds.

Staff have reviewed the amended policy and are not recommending any amendments to the policy at this time. The policy will be reviewed on an annual basis when the annual write-off report is brought forward to Council for approval in order to ensure it continues to meet the business needs of the Corporation in an effective manner.

# **Summary**

This report recommends that the delinquent cases listed in this report, be approved for write-off and removed from the electronic POA system, as they meet the MAG's approved criteria for write-off.

This report was prepared with the assistance of Shannon Manders, Accounts Receivables Collection Officer of Financial Services.

SUBMITTED BY:	CONCURRED BY:
SHARON SWANCE, CPA, CGA MANAGER, ACCOUNTING FINANCIAL SERVICES	CHRIS HEPPLE MANAGER, PROVINCIAL OFFENCES COURTS ADMINISTRATION
CONCURRED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
IAN COLLINS, CPA, CMA	ANNA LISA BARBON, CPA, CGA
DIRECTOR, FINANCIAL SERVICES	MANAGING DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES AND CITY TREASURER, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

Attach.

# **Provincial Offences Act**

# Write-Off Directive and Operating Guideline

Provincial Offences Act Unit POA and Strategic Planning Branch Court Services Division Ministry of the Attorney General

February 25, 2008

# PROVINCIAL OFFENCES ACT

# WRITE-OFF DIRECTIVE AND OPERATING GUIDELINE

## **PURPOSE:**

- To ensure that Municipal Partners administering the *Provincial Offences Act* (POA) courts can demonstrate that they have exercised due diligence with respect to the write-off of POA accounts receivable and made all reasonable efforts to minimize the value of POA accounts receivable recommended for write-off.
- To provide guidance with respect to best practices regarding the write-off of POA accounts receivable that have been deemed uncollectible.

# SCOPE AND APPLICATION:

- 1. This Directive and Operating Guideline applies to all Municipal Partners that are subject to a POA Transfer Agreement and the related Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Attorney General.
- 2 This document has been developed to provide Municipal Partners with guidance as to the minimum requirements they are expected to meet in order to write-off POA accounts receivable. While the decision to write-off POA accounts receivable that have been deemed uncollectible is a local decision to be made by a Municipal Partner once all reasonable efforts to collect unpaid, defaulted fines have been exhausted, a Municipal Partner must follow the directives contained herein in order to ensure that the Province of Ontario, its Ministries and Agencies will not attempt to collect any portion of the written off funds from the Municipal Partner, including funds related to dedicated fines, fees or surcharges, subject to clause 4 below.
- The Recommended Best Practices contained in this document have been developed to provide Municipal Partners with guidance with respect to best practices regarding the write-off of POA accounts receivable that have been deemed uncollectible.
- 4. Where a Municipal Partner has written off POA accounts receivable and any portion of those accounts receivable are subsequently paid, the requirements of the POA Transfer Agreements and the *Provincial Offences Act*, including requirements with respect to the remittance of certain funds to the Province of Ontario upon collection, continue to apply.

## PRINCIPLES:

- 1. All reasonable effort to collect fines imposed under the POA must be made before any consideration for write-off is made. For purposes of this policy, "write-off" means the cessation of active collection.
- 2. In accordance with the requirements of the MOU, an equal effort to collect unpaid fines, regardless as to whether they are retained by the municipality or paid to a third party, must be demonstrated.
- 3. POA accounts receivable may be written off for accounting purposes only and do not absolve a convicted offender from the requirement to pay a fine, as debts to the Crown are owed in perpetuity and are never forgiven.
- 4. Collection activities of written-off accounts can be resumed when conditions change, as fines imposed by POA Courts are debts owed to the Crown and therefore are not subject to the *Limitations Act*.
- 5. Municipalities must retain adequate records after an account is written-off in order to support the possible future reinstatement of collection efforts.

# **MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS:**

# General

- Each Municipal Partner shall create a formal Write-off Policy establishing protocols and thresholds under which POA accounts receivable shall be deemed to be uncollectible and therefore eligible for write-off.
- 2. Equal treatment and effort regarding the collection of all POA fines must be applied, without regard to whether the resulting revenue will be retained by the Municipal Partner or remitted to another third party.
- With the exception of minor underpayments (i.e., less than \$25 outstanding), POA accounts receivable marked for write-off must have been in default for a minimum of 2 years.
- 4. Action to collect accounts receivable outstanding less than 2 years from individuals for whom a death certificate has been received may be undertaken should the Municipal Partner's Collections Policy and Protocol specifically require recoveries from Estates.
- 5. Where a Municipal Partner decides to write-off POA accounts receivable, the reasons for the write-off must be transparent and justifiable and must not place the administration of justice into disrepute.

- 6. Each Municipal Partner must have exhausted all reasonable and appropriate measures and efforts to collect unpaid, defaulted fines prior to the consideration of recommending a write-off.
- 7. The documentation in support of a Write-off recommendation must, at <u>a minimum</u>, include the following:
  - Copy of original Certificate of Offence or Part III information;
  - Record of additional costs and fees included in the outstanding amount;
  - Documentation as to all collection activities undertaken; and
  - Reason the write-off is recommended

# **Ongoing Administration**

- Where a Municipal Partner has written off POA accounts receivable and any portion of those accounts receivable are subsequently paid, the Municipal Partner must remit to Ontario, in a timely manner, all monies received in respect of fines, surcharges and fees that are payable to Ontario pursuant to subsection 165(5) of the *Provincial Offences Act*.
- Where a Municipal Partner has written off POA accounts receivable and the related case(s) have been purged from ICON and any portion of those accounts receivable are subsequently paid, the case(s) related to the payment received must be re-entered into ICON (see related ICON instructions in Appendix A) and the payment must be recorded as revenue, with supporting documents, and distributed in accordance with the MOU.
- Where, under the terms of the POA Transfer Agreement, a Municipal Partner proposes the contracting out of any services related to the performance of its obligations under the POA Transfer Agreement, the Municipal Partner must ensure that the contract provides that the person or organization performing the contract will meet the mandatory requirements and have due regard for the recommended best practices contained within this directive and operating guideline.
- 4. On an annual basis, each Municipal Partner must provide the POA Unit of the Ministry of the Attorney General with information regarding the total value of all fines deemed uncollectible and written-off during the previous municipal fiscal year (i.e., January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>) as part of the Annual Performance & Progress Report to be submitted no later than June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.

### **RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES:**

- 1. The Municipal Partner should have its written policy and protocol for the collection of unpaid, defaulted POA fines and criteria for write-off of uncollectible amounts approved by Council or by the Council committee responsible for the administration of the POA courts via a municipal By-Law.
- Examples of reasonable and appropriate measures and efforts to collect unpaid fines prior to the consideration of recommending a write-off include the following collection activities, applied progressively. While the actual measures and efforts to be employed by a Municipal Partner should be documented in its Write-off Policy, the following steps provide guidance as to what is reasonable and appropriate:
  - Timely creation and distribution of all notices and communications;
  - Progressively severe delinquency notices, including letters via registered mail;
  - · Consideration of extended payment plan;
  - Application of available administrative sanctions;
  - · Specialized collection assistance; and
  - Civil fine enforcement mechanisms.
- 3. Accounts receivable should be reviewed semi-annually to identify potential write-offs and annually to identify accounts deemed uncollectible and to be recommended for write-off.

# **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

# **Municipal Partners:**

- Setting thresholds and formalization of own write-off policy based on the principals and requirements of this document;
- Specifying the format and reporting detail for write-offs recommendation submissions; and
- Final approval to cease active collection and write-off a fine.

# **Court Managers:**

Coding and processing in ICON;

- Document collection efforts made prior to the recommendation of a writeoff; and
- Monitor outstanding accounts receivable on a semi-annual basis for potential write-offs.

# **Ministry of the Attorney General:**

- Provision of continued access to ICON or its successor;
- Timely and regular scheduling of ICON purges; and
- Assistance to municipalities in dealing with other Provincial Ministries

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

If you have any questions or require further information regarding this document, please contact Pam Elliott, Provincial Offences Act Unit, at (416) 326-2590 or Pamela. Elliott@ontario.ca.

# Appendix "A" Appendix A

# **Process for Re-Entering Cases into ICON**

- 1. Access the IACVH (conversion) screen with the case number.
- 2. The IIOFE (entry) screen will appear, allowing for entry of the case information. Please note that ICON will only allow dates prior to December 31, 1994 to be entered into the court date field. It is suggested that, in order to identify these cases, all cases being re-entered after write-off and subsequent payment should be keyed with a common court date (e.g., 010194). Once you hit the enter key, the ISCDS (update) screen will automatically appear.
- 3. Update the case information on the ISCDS (update) screen with the disposition information, including entering the same date in the conviction date field as was entered in the court date field on the previous IIOFE (entry) screen (e.g., 010194 as noted above). Update the fine and cost information and hit the enter key. The case has now been re-entered into ICON and payment can be processed through the IFCR (cash) screen.

The payment information related to the case should appear on the daily RICO reports.

Please note that access to the IACVH (conversion) screen is limited to Court Manager's.

то:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING ON NOVEMBER 5, 2019
FROM:	WILLIAM C. COXHEAD ACTING DIRECTOR, HUMAN RESOURCES
SUBJECT:	RECOGNITION EVENT FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

# **RECOMMENDATION**

That, on the recommendation of the Acting Director, Human Resources the following report regarding an event to recognize Black History Month:

a) **BE RECIEVED** and that any decision **BE DEFERRED** until a review of the Issuance of Proclamation Policy is completed and a report is submitted at a future date.

# PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

None

# BACKGROUND

Council approved the following resolutions on June 11, 2019:

That on the recommendation of the City Clerk, the following actions be taken with respect to the "Policy for the Establishment and Maintenance of Council Polices...

...d) the Civic Administration **BE DIRECTED** to report back to the Corporate Services Committee with respect to the potential for a new policy whereby the City of London would host an annual event to recognize Black History month."

The purpose of this report is to provide information in regards to what events have been undertaken in the past at the City of London in support of Black History Month, as well as outline what future events are planned for 2020, and to seek direction regarding other potential events and associated policy development.

# **Black History Month**

Black History Month is celebrated across North America in the month of February; it was established in 1975 in the USA and in Canada, provincially in Ontario in 1995, and it was proclaimed federally in 2008.

Follow the link for information on Black History Month in Canada here: <a href="https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month.html">https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month.html</a>

London Black History Month Coordinating Committee has been leading the work on establishment of Black History Month in London since 2002, out of a desire to increase awareness of Black History Month activities in the London area. The Committee dedicates itself to providing programs and services that increase public understanding of the diversity and history of London's Black community.

Follow the link for information on the Coordinating Committee and its history and activities: http://lcclc.org/index.php/black-history-month

# **Historical Overview of City of London Employee Black History Events**

The first City of London Black History Month Celebration was hosted in February of 2018 where then Mayor had welcomed the attendees to the 90 minute program that was hosted on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor at City Hall. Approximately 75 people attended this event including City of London employees, members of council as well as members of the public. The event incorporated a panel of Black professionals from education, finance, legal, and policing sectors who presented on the resilience and success of black family in London area.

Between the fall of 2018 and early 2019, a new Employee Resource Group ('ERG') called ABC (African, Black and Caribbean identifying employees and their Allies) was established. One of their first action items was to host a Black History Month event at the Dearness Homes. This event was held in February 2019 and included information on Black History Month in Canada as well as presentation on significant historical figures and events pertaining to the Black communities residing in Southwestern Ontario. The same ERG also hosted the first Emancipation Day Recognition event at the City of London in August of 2019. The program included key note presentation by Dr. Christopher Taylor on impact of colonization and slavery on the Black community as well as discussion around the historical meaning of emancipation on the current status of Black communities living in Canada. The event also showcased steel pan music and Caribbean food for the attendees.

On November 20, 2018 the Community Emancipation Day, sponsored by the City's Culture Office was the recipient of the London, Diversity, Race Relations and Inclusivity Award. The first Emancipation Day Celebration was held in Springbank Park in August of 1948 and continued for 38 consecutive years. In 2013 the event was brought to its new location at the Heritage Meeting Tree at Westminster Ponds and is held every year the second last week of September as the launch of National Forest Week.

# **Future City of London Employee Events Black History Month Events**

The City of London is looking to build upon the success of events over the past years. The following events are planned for February 2020.

- The ABC Employee Resources Group will be hosting an event that will feature a
  keynote speaker. This event will be open to City of London employees, members
  of Council as well as members of the public. This event will be advertised on the
  Black History Month calendar.
- The City of London will be hosting art work celebrating Black History Month at the Celebration Space at City Hall.
- The City of London will be showcasing screen savers on all City of London computers for the month of February celebrating Black History.

## Stakeholder Feedback

After individual discussions with both the organizers of Black History Month and the requesting Council member it was determined that both were supportive of the City of London employee events held in the past as well as those scheduled for the future and were not seeking any changes in that regard. They did indicate however a desire to have this month more formally recognized in February at Council in the form of a proclamation.

As a result Civic Administration has reviewed Council policies as well as considered other options that Council might consider to formally recognize Black History Month.

a) Proclamation at City of London

The City of London currently has an 'Issuance of Proclamation Policy' (Appendix A) that sets out the corporate position with respect to the issuance of proclamations. This policy applies to any request for the issuance of proclamations on behalf of the City of London. According to this policy, no proclamations shall be issued on behalf of the City of London, except those required by law to be issued.

Council has recently directed Civic Administration to review and report back to the Corporate Services Committee with respect to the City of London Issuance of Proclamation Policy, specifically in terms of acknowledging nationally recognized proclamations.

b) Delegation Before Council
Arrangements could be made through the City Clerk's Office to invite a delegation from the Black History Month Coordinating Committee to attend the first Council meeting in February of each year to share information about Black History and the events planned for the month. This would be similar to recognitions received at Council in the past such as the Emancipation Day Recognition.

CONCLUCION
CONCLUSION

Given the request for a review and report back regarding the Councils existing Issuance of Proclamations Policy, Civic Administration recommends that this matter be deferred until a report on that matter is received and direction given at a future meeting.

PREPARED BY:	REVIEWED BY:
SALEHA KHAN,	GARY BRIDGE
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION	MANAGER, HUMAN RESOURCES AND
SPECIALIST	CORPORATE SERVICES
RECOMMENDED BY:	
WILLIAM C. COXHEAD	
ACTING DIRECTOR HUMAN RESOUR	RCES

# **APPENDIX A**

# **Issuance of Proclamations Policy**

Policy Name: Issuance of Proclamations Policy

Legislative History: Adopted September 19, 2017 (By-law No. CPOL.-115-367); Amended July 24, 2018 (By-law No. CPOL.-115(a)-418)
Last Review Date: April 15, 2019

Service Area Lead: City Clerk

# 1. Policy Statement

1.1 This policy sets out the corporate position with respect to the issuance of proclamations.

# 2. Definitions

2.1 Not applicable.

# 3. Applicability

3.1 This policy shall apply to any request for the issuance of proclamations on behalf of the City of London.

# 4. The Policy

4.1 No proclamations shall be issued on behalf of the City of London, except those required by law to be issued.

# CITY MANAGER SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

1st Meeting of the City Manager Search Committee November 14, 2019

PRESENT: Mayor E. Holder (Chair), Councillors J. Morgan, J. Helmer,

P. Van Meerbergen and A. Kayabaga

ALSO PRESENT: M. Barnes, M. Campbell (Odgers), J. Robarts (Odgers), C.

Saunders and B. Westlake-Power

The meeting is called to order at 11:08 AM.

### 1. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests are disclosed.

1.2 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

That Mayor E. Holder BE ELECTED as Chair and Councillor J. Morgan BE ELECTED as Vice-Chair of the City Manager Search Committee, for the term of the Committee.

# 2. CONSENT

None.

# 3. SCHEDULED ITEMS

None.

# 4. ITEMS FOR DIRECTION

4.1 Schedule future meeting dates and location(s)

That the following actions be taken with respect to future meeting dates for the City Manager Search Committee:

a) the following meeting dates and times BE NOTED:

December 16, 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM January 22, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM February 5, 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM February 12, 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM,

b) the January 22, February 5 and February 12 meetings BE APPROVED to be held at a location other than City Hall; it being noted that Windermere Manor is the preferred meeting location, subject to availability.

# 4.2 Bias Free Training

That the Bias Free Hiring Training BE ARRANGED for the City Manager Search Committee; it being noted that this training will be a part of a meeting noted in Item 4.1.

# 5. DEFERRED MATTERS/ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

None.

# 6. CONFIDENTIAL (Enclosed for Members only.)

That the City Manager Search Committee convene, In Closed Session, for consideration of the following:

- 6.1- Trade Secret, Scientific, Technical, Commercial, Financial or Labour
- 6.3 Relations Information Supplied to the Corporation in Confidence

Three matters pertaining to trade secret or scientific, technical, commercial, financial or labour relations information, supplied in confidence to the municipality or local board, which, if disclosed, could reasonably be expected to prejudice significantly the competitive position or interfere significantly with the contractual or other negotiations of a person, group of persons or organization, as provided by Odgers Berndtson.

The City Manager Search Committee convenes, In Closed Session, from 11:15 AM to 12:13 PM.

# 7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:32 PM.



300 Dufferin Avenue P.O. Box 5035 London, ON N6A 4L9

November 15, 2019

Chair and Members of the Corporate Services Committee

Re: Proposed Change to Municipal Council Meeting to Adopt Budget

March 3, 2020 to March 2, 2020

As you are aware, I represent the City of London as a Board member of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). The March board meeting (and the FCM committee that I am Vice-Chair of) is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020.

In order to accommodate my attendance at the above-noted FCM Committee Meeting and my ability to participate in the Municipal Council Meeting where consideration of the Multi-Year Budget is to occur, I respectfully request that the Municipal Council Meeting scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 be rescheduled to be held on Monday, March 2, 2020.

It is my understanding that based on the review of Council Members current calendar schedules that this change could be accommodated. I am also advised that the Civic Administration can accommodate the change in date.

I respectfully request support of the following recommendation:

That the Annual Council and Standing Committee Meeting Calendar be amended by changing the Municipal Council Meeting currently scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 4:00 PM to instead be held on Monday, March 2, 2020 at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Josh Morgan, Councillor, Ward 7

The Corporation of the City of London Office 519.661.5095 Fax 519.661.5933 www.london.ca