

**From:** Jim Kogelheide  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 30, 2014 1:26 PM  
**To:** Rowe, Linda  
**Subject:** Re: Council Expense Funds Guidelines Request For Amendment

Dear Corporate Services Committee, Chair and Members c/o Linda Rowe:

A short while ago, I became aware of two different ways that the London City Councillors are using taxpayers dollars – through their Councillor Expense Funds – that I totally disagree with and want to see changed... for the better.

First, I must formally request that the way Councillors' use their expense fund for fuel be amended. Presently, there are no restrictions to the limit of their fuel expense and Dale Henderson's monthly expenses reaching close to \$500.00 each month is a blatant abuse of the system.

I totally understand the need for City Councillors to attend meetings and events throughout London and I have absolutely no problem with them claiming these costs using their expense accounts. To make this process completely fair, Councillors should have simple fuel expense forms that are filled out each month, stating the date of a meeting, the location of the meeting, reason for the meeting and the distance traveled to and from that meeting with a set ratio to make calculations easier (something like \$00.23 per Km traveled). This is the way that most business deal with this issue. I am interested in setting precedence so that situations of this nature do not continue into the future.

The second item that needs a radical change is how Councillors are allowed to use taxpayers' money to make donations or sponsorships to community organizations.

I was recently at a Canada Day event at the West Park Community Church, near Hyde Park Road and Gainsborough Road. Both Matt Brown and Paul Hubert had sponsored this event. They were both thanked for their contributions and then an added tidbit concerning Matt Brown's mayoral candidacy was announced over loudspeakers to a crowd of +3000 voters! I am positive that had Matt Brown not sponsored this event that his mayoral candidacy would never have been mentioned... but this is not the case.

The fact remains that Matt Brown did use taxpayers' money to sponsor this event and the result was that his mayoral candidacy was announced, leading anyone to conclude that quite simply Matt Brown used tax payers' money to further his own personal political goals. This is against Municipal Act regulations and Matt Brown's candidacy should be reviewed to determine if he can be allowed to continue with his bid to become mayor.

Community organizations should be allowed to request City support and I fully support the use of taxpayers dollars within a forum where all Councillors are allowed to make these decisions. However, allowing City Councillors to support or sponsor community events of their choice creates a battlefield based on favouritism and this is just wrong in so many ways. I request that it be amended so that Councillors cannot use taxpayers' money to support community events.

I am requesting that this letter be placed on the CSC agenda. Should it become necessary, I would be willing to state these concerns to the appropriate panel of committee members in person.

Please acknowledge the receipt of this letter and please keep me updated with both of these issues as they become investigated.

Thank you,

Jim Kogelheide