

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS CORPORATE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING OF JANUARY 10, 2017
FROM:	KATE GRAHAM, DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC INNOVATION
SUBJECT:	BI-ANNUAL MEETINGS WITH MPs AND MPPs – PROPOSAL AND UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Director of Community and Economic Innovation, the following report on Bi-annual meetings with MPs and MPPs **BE RECEIVED** for information.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER
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Corporate Services Committee - December 15, 2015: Standing Committee Meetings with MPs and MPPs

Corporate Services Committee – August 23, 2016: Update on Standing Committee Meetings with MPs and MPPs

BACKGROUND

Acting upon the direction from City Council on January 4, 2016, Civic Administration worked with Council and the offices of local MPs and MPPs to arrange a new intergovernmental process which revolves around regular meetings between elected representatives of all orders of government. These meetings have been facilitated through the Corporate Services Committee.

On September 6, 2016 and October 11, 2016, the Corporate Services Committee help its first MPP and MP meeting, respectively, under the new intergovernmental framework. These meetings were well attended with the majority of Council members and every MP and MPP attending. The focus of these meetings was on identifying tangible, innovative ways to share information, identify opportunities and communicate local and regional issues between all governments.

During these meetings, members of the Committee as well as MPs and MPPs agreed to explore moving to a bi-annual model for these meetings in the future.

In response, Civic Administration has prepared this report to provide an update to the Corporate Services Committee on matters of ideal timing and meeting design for bi-annual meetings with local MPs and MPPs.

Timing

Civic Administration is recommending that the bi-annual meetings with MPs and MPPs take place in the Spring and Fall 2017 respectively. The Spring and Fall periods provide the greatest opportunity to identify dates that work at the municipal, provincial and federal levels. Staff is further recommending that the Committee explore calling a special meeting of CSC to facilitate these meetings. This would have the primary benefit of removing the competition of timing with other Committee business.

Staff will also explore combining the federal and provincial meetings into one day with one set of meetings occurring in the morning followed by the other set of meetings occurring in the early afternoon. This would cut down on the administrative challenges inherent in organizing two special meetings of CSC twice per year.

Scope

Facilitating meetings in the Spring and Fall of each year works particularly well with the various budget cycles at all levels of government. The City of London's budget process historically concludes in March at the latest – sooner for incremental years within the new multi-year budget process. Federal and provincial budgets are also historically tabled between February and March

Formal agendas will be developed and circulated to Committee members closer to the meeting dates. The agenda will be flexible, in order to best meet the needs of Council and the MP/MPPs. The meetings will feature a City of London update on key priorities, opportunities for updates from individual MPs and MPPs, followed by an open forum discussion between members.

This report has been developed in partnership with the City Clerks office, whose input on organizational logistics and timing has been invaluable.

PREPARED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
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