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London
CANADA

May 1, 2012

His Worship the Mayor
and Members of Council

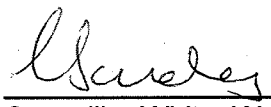
**Re: Emergent Motion – Council Meeting of May 1, 2012
Review of Council and Standing Committee Schedule**

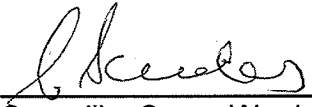
Municipal Council, at its meeting held on July 25, 2011, adopted the recommendations of the Governance Working Group with respect to the implementation of a new governance model. The new governance model increased the number of Standing Committees from 2 to 7, in addition to 2 special committees which previously existed, the latter being the Audit Committee and the Services Review Committee. The schedule that was set to accommodate the new structure provided for a number of the Standing Committees to meet approximately every three weeks and the balance to meet quarterly, with the Municipal Council to meet approximately once every three weeks. This new structure has led to concerns that:

- a) Already there has been a need to increase the frequency of meetings of two of the Standing Committees that were to meet only quarterly, in order to deal with matters that couldn't wait until the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- b) Council Members are spending more and more hours preparing for and attending meetings, making them less available to their constituents on a day to day basis.
- c) Meetings have become extraordinarily long, with recent Council meetings running as late as 2 AM, which is neither healthy, or sustainable or conducive to sound decision-making.

Moved by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Swan:

That the City Clerk, in consultation with the Senior Management Team, **BE DIRECTED** to review the current Standing Committee structure and current meeting schedule and provide possible options to address concerns with respect to the frequency and length of Standing Committee and Council Meetings.

for 
Councillor White, Ward 14

for 
Councillor Swan, Ward 3