

At the October meeting under new business I would like to table a request for a registration subsidy to attend the 2019 Zero Waste Conference, October 30-31 in Vancouver BC. Cost of registration is \$475. I would cover my costs of travel and accommodation.

A two-day program hosted by the Zero Waste Council of Canada and Metro Vancouver is bringing together thought leaders and innovators from different sectors and from across the globe to share their wisdom and insights on moving towards a waste-free economy, also known as a circular economy. The conference directly aligns with elements in the 2019-2023 City of London strategic plan to build a sustainable city and to move forward through innovation. The full conference program can be viewed at this link: <http://www.zwc.ca/details/Pages/default.aspx>.

With an ACE member in attendance at the conference, the City, Civic Administration and the ACE will get a first-hand report on the role of Cities and metropolitan regions in applying circular economy principles and approaches. Among the presentations will be a panel on approaches to waste prevention and material savings that stimulate job creation and innovation. The panel has representatives from the cities of Toronto and Guelph with panel moderation by the CEO of the Canadian Federation of Municipalities.

It will also be an opportunity to connect with representatives of the national zero waste council and learn more about their latest initiatives related to food loss and waste standards and regulatory approaches for priority waste plastics. There will be a Canadian Innovation Showcase on a new plastics economy – one where the amount of new plastics is significantly reduced and the limited amount of plastic used is reusable, recyclable or compostable.

Having worked as a policy manager with the Government of Canada, I am well equipped to provide the salient take-aways from a conference like this in a report to ACE and to city staff. The results will support the ACE deliberations and the recommendations it makes to the Planning and Environment Committee.