

April 4, 2019

Chair and Members of
the Corporate Services Committee

Re: Council Member's Expense Account Policy

The Governance Working Group is currently reviewing the Council Member's Expense Account Policy. Given that this Policy is under review, I respectfully request that the following recommendation be supported:

“That the Governance Working Group BE REQUESTED to include in their review of the Council Member's Expense Account Policy, the removal of home internet as a an eligible expense under the Policy.”

In support of this recommendation, when the Policy was initially implemented, household internet was considered a “luxury”. In 2013, 87% of Canadians reported having home internet and I would suggest that most households in London have internet service in their home, including the homes of Members of Council.

Members of Council are also provided with City issued smart phones that can be used as a ‘hot spot’ should internet services be required. In order to be accountable to the residents of the city with the respect to the appropriate use of taxpayers' money, and be responsible stewards of public funds, home internet should be removed as an eligible expense under the Council Member's Expense Account Policy.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Pelozo
Councillor, Ward 12