

To:	Warden Halliday and Members of Grey County Council
Committee Date:	June 28, 2018
Subject / Report No:	ITR-CW-03-2018
Title:	Municipal Chief Information Officer Conference Attendance
Prepared by:	Jody MacEachern, Acting Director of IT
Reviewed by:	Kevin Wepler, Director of Corporate Services
Lower Tier(s) Affected:	None
Status:	Recommendation adopted by Committee of the Whole as presented as per Resolution CW166-18; Endorsed by County Council on July 12, 2018.

Recommendation

1. That report ITR-CW-03-2018 be received; and
2. That the Acting Director of the Information Technology Department be granted permission to attend the Municipal Information Systems Association's annual Municipal Chief Information Officer summit in Kelowna, British Columbia; and
3. That the annual Municipal Chief Information Officer Conference be an annual conference that a senior IT staff member has approval to attend on behalf of the County of Grey subject to budget availability.

Executive Summary

The Municipal Information Systems Association (MISA) organizes an annual conference for the heads of IT departments across Canada (Municipal Chief Information Officer Conference), which is to be held this year in Kelowna, BC.

This conference provides opportunities for senior managers in IT departments to discuss trends and challenges, and learn about the latest technology from leaders in the field.

The Acting Director of Information Technology is seeking permission for out-of-province travel to attend this conference.

Background and Discussion

The County's Human Resources Conference, Convention and Education Reimbursement Policy states: "While out-of-province conferences are not specifically prohibited, the County's first priority is to attend, participate in and strengthen municipal associations within the Province of

Ontario. Requests to attend out-of-province conferences must identify the rationale for attending out-of-province, rather than an in-province opportunity.”

The Municipal CIO (Chief Information Officer) conference is held annually by MISA/ASIM Canada. The conference alternates each year between western and eastern Canada locations.

The event is open to the heads of IT departments across Canada, and the agenda is tailored for their positions. Topics in prior agendas included emerging technologies and their impact on municipal governments, leading IT departments, and IT challenges faced by municipal IT departments.

This event is highly recommended by those who attended in the past, as a key learning and networking experience for IT managers.

Staff is recommending that a senior IT Staff member be approved to attend annually the Municipal CIO conference, if sufficient funding has been approved in the annual operating budget.

Conference attendance is an effective tool for networking and learning from others best practices in municipal government.

Legal and Legislated Requirements - None

Financial and Resource Implications

Estimated costs for this conference, including conference registration, travel, and hotel is estimated at \$2,500. This price could vary depending on the confirmed price of air fares. Sufficient funding has been included in the 2018 IT operating budget in order to fund this conference.

Relevant Consultation

- Internal – Director of Corporate Services
- External

Appendices and Attachments