

To:	Warden Hicks and Members of Grey County Council
Committee Date:	July 25, 2019
Subject / Report No:	CCR-CW-13-19
Title:	Compensation for Attendance at Events on Warden's Behalf
Prepared by:	Heather Morrison
Reviewed by:	Kim Wingrove
Lower Tier(s) Affected:	None
Status:	Recommendation adopted by Committee of the Whole as presented as per Resolution <i>CW165-19</i> ; Endorsed by County Council on August 8, 2019 as per Resolution <i>CC63-19</i> .

Recommendation

1. **That Report CCR-CW-13-19 regarding compensation for attendance at events on the Warden's behalf be received; and**
2. **That retroactive to December 5, 2018, members of Council who attend events outside of their home municipality on the Warden's behalf receive a half day per diem of \$118.82 per event.**

Executive Summary

Grey County receives many requests for the Warden to attend special events held throughout the County. When the Warden is unable to attend he/she requests the Deputy Warden or other members of Council attend on his/her behalf. It is recommended that Council members who attend events outside of their own municipality on the Warden's behalf be compensated with a half day per diem of \$118.82 plus mileage on these occasions.

Background and Discussion

Currently, if the Warden is unable to attend any event, he/she first requests the Deputy Warden attend on his/her behalf followed by other members of Council if the Deputy

Warden is also unavailable. The event can amount to several hours depending on the distance travelled and the type of event. Council members attending these events on the Warden's behalf receive mileage to and from the event. Currently, no other compensation is provided. Council salary began in 2008 as recommended by the Council Remuneration Committee and includes attendance at council meetings, committee meetings (was Standing Committee, now Committee of the Whole), and social obligations. Per diems are still paid for attendance at sub-committee or advisory committee meetings.

A survey of other counties completed in 2017 notes that most duties of the Deputy Warden are ceremonial in nature, consistent with Grey County. The survey also noted that the notion of compensation for this attendance is split, with some counties providing additional compensation while others do not.

Requests and queries have been received regarding compensation when members of Council attend an event, outside of their home municipality on behalf of the Warden when he/she is unable.

The below chart outlines the number of Council members who have represented the Warden at different events over the past five years.

Year	Number of Alternates Attending Events
2014	10
2015	16
2016	8
2017	9
2018	8
2019 to date	11

Legal and Legislated Requirements

There are no legal or legislative requirements related to this request.

Financial and Resource Implications

The financial implications of this proposed change will depend on the number of events annually and the number of events members of Council are requested to attend on the Warden's behalf. As event requests seem to be increasing this will translate into an increase in costs annually. The current half day per diem rate is \$118.82. If there is an average of 15 or 20 events per year other Council members attend, outside of their own municipality, on the Warden's behalf, the costs could range from \$1,782.30 to \$2,376.40 annually.

As this expense was not included in the current 2019 council operating budget, and to provide compensation retroactively to December 5, 2018, there may be a small deficit at the end of the year in the 2019 council operating budget.

Relevant Consultation

Warden Hicks, CAO Kim Wingrove

Appendices and Attachments

None