

Memorandum to the Council of Corporation of the Municipality of Temagami

Subject: Annual Council Remuneration and Expense Report

Memo No: 2025-M-051

Date: March 13, 2025

Attachment: Appendix A - Council 2024 Expense Breakdown

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Recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council receives Memo 2025-M-051 as presented, in compliance with Section 284(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, regarding the remuneration and expenses paid to each member of Council for the 2024 fiscal year, as outlined in Appendix A attached hereto as part of this report.

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Executive Summary

In accordance with the Municipal Act, this report provides a detailed breakdown of remuneration and expenses paid to members of Council. The attached spreadsheet outlines compensation, benefits, and other reimbursed expenses, including conference attendance. The purpose of this report is to ensure transparency and accountability in the financial management of municipal resources.

A review of expenditures related to conference attendance reveals an opportunity to enhance advocacy efforts while achieving cost savings. Council may wish to consider reallocating funds from attending multiple conferences to a more targeted lobbying effort in Toronto, which could provide better engagement opportunities at a lower cost.

Background

The *Municipal Act, 2001*, requires the submission an annual itemized statement of remuneration and expenses paid to Council members. The attached spreadsheet details the following:

- Base Remuneration: Annual salary as determined by municipal by-law.
- Benefits: Including health, dental, and other insured benefits.
- Conference and Seminar Expenses: Including attendance at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) conferences.
- Other Expenses: Any additional costs incurred in the execution of official duties.

Rationale

While attendance at these conferences provides networking opportunities and limited ministerial meetings, the costs associated with participation are significant; approximately \$20,000 when we include the cost of a senior staff member to attend. At these conferences, municipal delegations typically receive 15-minute meetings with up to three ministers (and or Ministerial Staff), where representatives from 444 other municipalities are doing the same.

A cost-effective alternative could involve a strategic visit to Toronto for one or two nights, where Council members could directly engage ministers in extended meetings tailored to municipal priorities. This approach would:

- Enhance Advocacy Efforts: Allow for dedicated time with ministers relevant to Temagami's concerns.
- Increase Efficiency: Provide deeper discussions rather than brief, high-traffic meetings at conferences.
- Reduce Costs: Potentially cut conference-related expenditures while achieving greater impact.

Legal Compliance

This report fulfills the annual reporting requirement under Section 284(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*. Any changes to conference attendance and advocacy approaches must align with existing municipal policies and budget allocations.

Alternative Options

Should Council wish, an alternative approach could be considered. Council could bring forward a resolution to forgo attendance at AMO, ROMA, and FONOM conferences and instead plan an annual trip to Toronto. This would allow for:

- Direct engagement with provincial ministers and key decision-makers in a more focused setting.
- Increased flexibility in scheduling meetings without the constraints of conference timelines.
- Cost savings by eliminating conference registration fees and related travel expenses.
- This approach would ensure that Council remains proactive in its advocacy efforts while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

Conclusion

The Municipality of Temagami remains committed to transparent financial reporting and prudent fiscal management. Council is encouraged to review this remuneration report and consider alternative advocacy strategies that maximize engagement with provincial decision-makers while optimizing costs.

Appendix A - 025-M-051

Column1	Column2	Column3	Column4	Column5	Column6	Column7	Column8	Column9	Column10
		Dan O'Mara	Jamie Koistinen	Margaret Youngs	Carol Lower	Brian Koski	Joanne Platts	Wendell Gustavson	General Costs
Honorariums		21,116.87	12,375.14	12,375.14	12,375.14	12,375.14	12,375.14	12,375.14	
Cell Phone		264.00							
DNSSAB Renumeration		6,808.72							
Other Meetings	Accomodation	524.86							
	Mileage	1,764.98							
	Meals	313.77							983.75
	Parking	15.75							
AMO Conference	Mileage	615.12		599.28					
	Meals	200.00		84.27					
	Registration	795.00		795.00					
	Taxi	94.40		-					
	Accomodation	1,210.00		647.38					
FONOM Conference	Mileage	233.64		588.10			242.88		
	Meals	40.00		26.36			28.30		
	Registration	452.00		452.00			452.00		
	Accomodation	280.87		561.74			420.72		
ROMA Conference	Mileage	604.56	596.64		598.22				
	Meals	77.66	235.00		61.31				
	Registration	824.90	824.90		824.90				
	Parking	69.00	-		69.00				
	Accomodation	736.65	738.71		736.65				
TOTALS		37,042.75	14,770.39	16,129.27	14,665.22	12,375.14	13,519.04	12,375.14	983.75