



**Report
Number:** C2019-0795

Meeting: Combined Meeting of Council

Meeting Date: 2019 June 17

NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: KEEPING TABS ON CITY COUNCIL

Sponsoring Council Member(s): JEROMY FARKAS

WHEREAS Calgarians' interest in knowing how their tax dollars are invested is on the rise and nearly half of Calgarians express that they receive 'too' little information from the City, as per the Citizen Satisfaction Survey;

AND WHEREAS through the course of a term of Council, many thousands of pages of documentation, records, and minutes are produced, but prove difficult for Calgarians to access and navigate;

AND WHEREAS a closed captioning transcript of Council proceedings is created for accessibility purposes, and deleted after the end of every meeting;

AND WHEREAS the uploading of popular content to social media sites such as Facebook and YouTube may unlock benefits to the City such as increased engagement, outreach, and new advertising revenue streams,

AND WHEREAS there continues to be a need for a clear accounting for how Calgary Council members have exercised their duties;

AND WHEREAS it is in the interest of Calgarians to have additional tools to monitor the effectiveness of the representation they receive;

AND WHEREAS recent investments in City technology and infrastructure have enabled significant opportunities for the public to better track the substance of what is being discussed by City Council, both in public session and behind closed doors;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs administration to:

1. Publish, upon request by a member of Council, the text and results of a motion that they deem to be of exceptional public interest on the City of Calgary front webpage for a period of one week after the vote;
2. Compile such exceptional votes on a separate webpage, including a verbatim explanation by each member of Council if they so wish;
3. Provide this record of votes alongside candidate biographical profiles if any member of Council stands as a candidate for the 2021 municipal election.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs Administration, as part of the on-going exploration of electronic voting, to consider the tagging and categorizing of all votes so that in the long-term, the complete record of any member of Council may be easily recalled based on issue and a citizen's topic of interest;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs administration to explore the viability and potential costs of retaining a transcript of what is said in Council meetings;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs administration to retain and provide for the public the video recordings of Council and Committee meetings for two Council terms (eight years), and explore the viability and costs of uploading the video of Council meetings to platforms such as YouTube and Facebook;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs administration to endeavor to provide the aforementioned as part of the City's Open Data Catalogue, for free use by citizens;

AND LASTLY BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs administration to report back to Council through the Priorities and Finance Committee as needed.