



Report Number: TBD

Meeting: Combined Meeting of Council Chamber

Meeting Date: 2019 September 30



NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: MODERNIZATION OF MUNICIPAL EXPENSE DISCLOSURE: CITY OF CALGARY BLUE BOOK

Sponsoring Council Member(s): JEROMY FARKAS SEAN CHU JOE MAGLIOCCA

WHEREAS Alberta faces a critical financial situation that demands decisive action;

AND WHEREAS to address this challenge, the Blue Ribbon Panel on Alberta's Finances provided a framework and series of recommendations to explore new approaches and alternatives for delivering public services, improve Alberta's competitive position, and focus on achieving a sustainable financial situation and long-term results for Albertans;

AND WHEREAS the Blue Ribbon Panel on Alberta's Finances calls for the Province of Alberta to examine its legislative framework for capital funding to municipalities with the goals of establishing accountability mechanisms and performance measures to monitor the delivery of municipal programs and services, and ensuring value for money spent, enabling citizens to constructively evaluate their local government and their use of tax dollars;

AND WHEREAS if the City of Calgary does not continue to modernize its accountability mechanisms, continued citizen confidence and capital funding from other orders are at risk;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Alberta quarterly publishes a "Blue Book" showing who is doing business with government and selected payments that have been made for supplies or services purchased by departments from the General Revenue Fund;

AND WHEREAS the "Blue Book" items are listed by payee, with a reference to the department or office that made the payment, and this information is updated each quarter on a cumulative basis;

AND WHEREAS "Blue Book" data (Excel files) are provided through the Open Government Portal for grant payments made by Government of Alberta departments, and some arms-length agencies, to support programs and initiatives throughout the province, as well as Supplies and Services, Tangible Capital Assets, Procurement Card Payments, and Other Payments over \$10,000;

AND WHEREAS with the Blue Ribbon Panel's recommendations to increase accountability for municipal spending, modernizing the way Calgary discloses its expenses is an easy and effective way to demonstrate our commitment to this accountability;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

- 1. Council directs Administration to develop a proposal for a City of Calgary "Blue Book" report, modelled on similar principles as implemented by the Province of Alberta, reporting back no later than Q1 2020.**