

Deputy City Manager's Office Report to
Intergovernmental Affairs Committee
2019 October 17

ISC: UNRESTRICTED
IGA2019-1270

Calgary Metropolitan Region Board – Governance Committee Representation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to nominate a Council representative and alternate to the Governance Committee of the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board (CMRB). Since inception of the CMRB, The City of Calgary has been represented by elected officials on all committee/sub committees, except for the Governance Committee. The purpose of the Governance Committee is to provide a focus and recommendations to enhance the Board's performance.

It is important for the CMRB Committees to be represented by City of Calgary officials to ensure that the interests of The City are articulated and to participate in shaping the recommendations that are referred to the Board for decision.

ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION:

That Intergovernmental Affairs Committee recommends that Council at the 2019 Organizational Council Meeting nominate a Council representative and alternate to the Governance Committee of the CMRB.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

2019 September 16 at the Strategic Meeting of Council, (C2019-0903), Council appointed Councillor Farkas to the CMRB Voluntary Policing Services Subcommittee and requested that the Calgary Police Commission/Calgary Police Services appoint a member and that administration from Intergovernmental and Corporate Strategy attend as observers.

2018 October 22 at the Organizational Meeting of Council, City of Calgary elected official representatives and alternates were appointed to the CMR Board and to three of the four CMR Committees with terms set to expire at the 2019 Organizational Meeting of Council. (The details of Council representation at the CMRB are found in Attachment 1 of this report).

2018 July 26 (IGA2018-0846) Council appointed a representative (Councillor Chahal) and alternate (Councillor Gondeck) to the newly formed CMRB Advocacy Committee.

BACKGROUND

The CMRB's governance structure is based on elected official participation at the Board and committees. There are four elected official committees that make recommendations to the Board. There is one voluntary subcommittee that will make recommendations to the Intermunicipal Services Committee and then to the Board. Attachment 1 provides an overview of the elected official committees of the CMRB.

The Terms of Reference of the Governance Committee are found in Attachment 2. The responsibility of the Governance Committee is to provide oversight and recommendations on three primary topics:

- I. Board governance and operations
- II. Finance
- III. Human Resources

Like other committees of the CMRB, the Governance Committee is a recommending body with a simple majority voting structure. Each member has one vote.

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Although the Terms of Reference state that the Committee membership is comprised of three Board members as selected by the Board, the Committee currently has five members. Membership includes City of Chestermere, Foothills County, Town of High River, Town of Okotoks and Wheatland County. This membership anomaly should be addressed by CMR administration.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

Since inception of the CMRB, The City of Calgary has not been represented on the Governance Committee. To date, much of the work on this Committee has focused on matters of finance and operational policies of CMRB Administration. As the organization matures more complex matters such as dispute resolutions and requisition formulas will continue to be discussed by the Committee.

The alternative to nominating an elected official to this Committee is to either not attend or to send an administrative representative to observe proceedings. The risks of these alternatives are further discussed in the Risk Assessment section of this report.

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

No external engagement was undertaken with this report.

Strategic Alignment

Although now out of date, the Municipal Development Plan states in Policy 1.3.2 and Policy 5.C.5 that The City is aligned with the aspirations of the Calgary Regional Partnership and the Calgary Metropolitan Plan.

The Triple Bottom Line Policy Framework (Oct 2011) under the heading Smart Growth Framework states that "The City works with its regional partners to ensure that growth is managed effectively to achieve the goal of long-term urban sustainability.

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

The Regulation requires that the Calgary Metropolitan Region Board will promote the long-term sustainability of the Calgary Metropolitan Region, ensure environmentally responsible land-use planning, growth management and efficient use of land, and promote the economic well-being and competitiveness of the Calgary Metropolitan Region.

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

Involvement in the Governance Committee was not anticipated in the 2019 work program. Administration from Intergovernmental and Corporate Strategy will accommodate this work with existing resources. Administrative activities associated with the CMRB continue to grow and could impact the delivery of other priorities.

Current and Future Capital Budget:

No implications to the Capital Budget are associated with this report.

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Risk Assessment

It is important for the CMRB Committees to be represented by City of Calgary officials to ensure that the interests of The City are articulated and to participate in shaping the recommendations referred to the Board for decision. This is especially relevant as the matters reviewed by the Governance Committee are likely to become increasingly significant this term. The City may choose not to participate and react to Governance Committee recommendations at the Board level only. This option leaves The City in a more reactive position and unable to positively influence recommendations.

The alternative of sending an administrative representative to observe is not sufficient as administration are not permitted to contribute to Committee conversations.

REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S):

Since inception of the CMRB, The City of Calgary has not been represented on the Governance Committee. Much of the Committee work, to date, has focused on matters of finance and operational policies of CMRB Administration. As the organization matures, more complex matters such as dispute resolutions and requisition formulas will continue to be discussed by the Committee. It is important for The City to be represented and to positively assist in shaping recommendations to the Board.

ATTACHMENTS

1. City of Calgary 2018-2019 Representation to Calgary Metropolitan Region Board and Committees
2. Governance Committee Approved Terms of Reference