



# Appointment of Deputy Mayor

**General Committee  
March 5, 2018**

## Presentation Purpose

- To provide an overview of various options available to Markham City Council for the appointment of the Deputy Mayor position for the City.

# Background

- At the November 6, 2017 General Committee meeting Staff were requested to outline the role of the Deputy Mayor and how the position is chosen.

## Deputy Mayor - Legislative Framework

- Section 225 of the Municipal Act fully outlines the role of the Head of Council (Mayor); however, it is silent on the appointment of a Deputy Mayor.
- Section 242 of the Municipal Act identifies how municipalities conduct meetings in the absence of the Head, which includes designating someone to act on the Head's behalf if the Head is absent, with respect to the role of presiding over meetings.
- There are no requirements outlined in the Municipal Act to appoint a Deputy Mayor and the legislation is silent on how to appoint a Deputy Mayor.

## Deputy Mayor Role in Markham

- The role of the Deputy Mayor in Markham is outlined in By-law 2011-249 which states that in the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor will fulfill all obligations of the Mayor, set out in the:
  - Municipal Act (the Act);
  - Emergency Management & Civil Protection Act;
  - Any other applicable legislation; &
  - A Markham City Council resolution.
- While acting in place of the Mayor, the Member has all the powers & duties of the Mayor.

# Markham's Deputy Mayor Appointment Process

- Appointment of Markham's Deputy Mayor position is governed by By-law 2011-249, which stipulates:
  - Regional Councillor with highest number of votes in Regional Councillor election is appointed Deputy Mayor.
  - Regional Councillor with second highest number of votes appointed as an Alternate Deputy Mayor to act in place of Deputy Mayor,
  - Regional Councillor with third highest number of votes appointed as Second Alternate Deputy Mayor
  - Regional Councillor with the fourth highest number of votes appointed Third Alternate Deputy Mayor.

# Markham's Current Deputy Mayor Appointment Process

- The appointment is for the duration of the Council term
- Only the Deputy Mayor receives additional remuneration for the role.

# Jurisdictional Scan – York Region

Municipality	Process for Selection	Additional Remuneration
Aurora	Member of Council who receives the most votes	No
East Gwillumbury	Roster of Council Members	No
Georgina	The 1 Regional Councillor	No
King	Roster of Council Members appointed on a monthly basis.	No
Newmarket	The 1 Regional Councillor	No
Richmond Hill	Regional Councillor who receives the most votes	No
Vaughan	Regional Councillor who receives the most votes	Yes
Whitchurch-Stouffville	At the beginning of each term of Council, Council determines a schedule and appoints Deputy Mayor(s) and Vice-Deputy Mayor(s) for all or part of the term of Council	No



# Jurisdictional Scan – Elsewhere in Ontario

Municipality	Process for Selection	Additional Remuneration
Brampton	Acting Mayor role rotates amongst each Member of Council on a pre-determined monthly schedule.	No
Burlington	Deputy Mayor role rotates amongst each Member of Council on a pre-determined monthly schedule.	No
Oakville	Deputy Mayor role rotates amongst each Member of Council on a pre-determined monthly schedule.	No
Oshawa	Deputy Mayor is appointed on an annual basis by the Mayor.	No
Toronto	Four Deputy Mayors are appointed for the term of Council – one has the power and authority to act for the Mayor in his absence, three act as the Mayors representatives at events.	No

# Appointment Options - Overview

## Option 1: Status Quo

- Council could continue the process of appointing the Regional Councillor with the highest number of votes as Deputy Mayor. The remaining Regional Councillors are appointed as Alternate Deputy Mayors in the order they placed in the election. This Option provides consistency throughout the term of Council.

## Option 2: Rotating

- Council could choose to rotate the position of Deputy Mayor amongst Regional Council Members. At the beginning of each term of Council, Council could determine a schedule & appoint Deputy Mayor(s) for the term of Council by a By-law. The rotation could be monthly or yearly & would provide more Council Members with the opportunity to act as the Deputy Mayor.

## Review of Options Cont'd.

### Option 3: Multiple Deputy Mayors

- Council could consider appointing more than one Councillor as Deputy Mayor for the four year term of Council. This process is used in Toronto where four Councillors are appointed as Deputy Mayors by the Mayor. The First Deputy Mayor retains the authority to act on the Mayor's behalf in his/her absence, while the remaining three Deputy Mayors act as ambassadors for the Mayor at community events.

## Recommendation

That the presentation entitled “Appointment of Deputy Mayor” be received for information.