



Alternate on Regional Council

**General Committee
March 5, 2018**

Presentation Purpose

- To provide an overview of Markham City Council's ability to appoint an Alternate Member to Regional Council & provide an update on the Region of York's procedures for alternates on Regional Council.

Background

- Bill 68, Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, received Royal Assent on May 30, 2017. It includes several amendments to the Municipal Act, 2001.
- While the Bill was proclaimed in effect on May 31, 2017 there are several provisions that will come into effect at a later date.
- January 1, 2018 the provision permitting local municipalities to appoint Alternate Members to Regional Council came into effect.

Appointment of Alternate to Regional Council

- The following conditions apply to the appointment of an Alternate:
 1. There can only be one Alternate Member appointed per municipality.
 2. The appointment is for the term of Council.
 3. Municipalities cannot appoint another Alternate to act in the place of the appointed Alternate Member.
- Local municipalities have the option to appoint one of their Members to act as an Alternate when any of the Regional Councillors are unable to attend a Regional Council meeting.
 - The appointment of an Alternate does not extend to Committee of the Whole.

Appointment of an Alternate to Regional Council (Cont'd.)

- Lower tier municipalities can decide which local Councillor will be appointed as the Alternate on Regional Council.
- Upper Tier municipalities are in the process of drafting procedures for alternates on Regional Council.
- These procedures address: indemnification, remuneration, notification procedures and the powers/duties of an alternate.

The Region of York's Approach

- The Region of York recently established Procedures for Alternates to Regional Council.
- The Region is recommending that local municipalities with only 1 representative on Regional Council (Aurora, East Gwillimbury, King & Whitchurch-Stouffville) appoint an alternate first.
- This approach allows the Region to streamline the alternate process on a smaller scale before rolling it out to all York Region municipalities.

Procedures for Alternates to Regional Council

Remuneration

- Alternate Members are entitled to mileage reimbursement in accordance with the Region's policy.

Notification Process

- Local municipality to notify Regional Clerk of appointment of an Alternate.
- City Clerk, or incumbent Regional Council Member, to notify Regional Clerk (in writing) when Alternate is attending a Regional Council meeting.
- City Clerk responsible for notifying Alternate Member when they are required to attend Regional Council.
- Alternate Member will receive hard copies of all agenda materials.

Procedures for Alternates to Regional Council (Cont'd)

Meeting Administration

- No Alternate shall take their seat unless they have taken the Declaration of Office.
- Alternate Member can only attend when a Regional Council Member is unable to attend the entire Regional Council meeting.
- Alternate Member will have all the powers & duties of the Regional Council Member.
- Alternate Member's power & duties extend only to the time they are present at the Council meeting.
- Regional Council minutes will note the absence of the incumbent & the attendance of Alternate.

Recommendations

1. That the report entitled “Alternate on Regional Council” be received; &
2. That Markham City Council provide direction to staff on appointing an Alternate to Regional Council; &
3. That Staff be authorized & directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.