



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

NOTICE OF MOTION

From: Councillor Jane Vermeulen

Introduced: Council Meeting – April 1st, 2019

Subject: Professional Development for Mayor and Councillor

WHEREAS: Council wishes to ensure a level of taxation that is fair and appropriate for Esquimalt residents, it is necessary to reduce expenses for the 2019 budget

AND WHEREAS: It is necessary for Council to pursue professional development to improve governance skills and facilitate relationship with other municipalities

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Council establish a professional development schedule and budget for each member of council extending a two year time period

AND THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the number of Council members permitted to attend a professional development event outside the South Island region be restricted to three members of Council at one time.

STRATEGIC RELEVANCE:

At our recent budget review meeting, it was evident that spending needed to be reduced to maintain a tax rate that is manageable for Esquimalt residents. However, it is imperative that Council members be encouraged to attend professional development events and conferences to better advocate for Esquimalt and improve our governance skills. By limiting the number of Council members attending one conference outside of the South Island region, we can ensure that the municipality is still adequately served at all times in the event of crisis.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The intent of this Notice of Motion is to align the professional development needs of Council with the budgetary requirements for 2019/2020.

BACKGROUND:

In the private sector, it is considered standard practice to establish an “allowance” and schedule for professional development and continuing education for employees. This allows for sustainable budgeting over a specific time period and also ensures that the business is well-staffed at all times.