



**SUBJECT: Mayor's conferences for 2022**

**TO: Corporate Services, Strategy, Risk & Accountability Cttee.**

**FROM: Office of the Mayor**

Report Number: MO-02-22

Wards Affected: Not Applicable

File Numbers: 155-03-8

Date to Committee: March 2, 2022

Date to Council: March 22, 2022

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**Recommendation:**

Receive and file office of the Mayor report MO-02-22 as information on the Mayor's planned conference attendance and potential travel in 2022 on behalf of the City of Burlington.

**PURPOSE:**

**Vision to Focus Alignment:**

- Increase economic prosperity and community responsive city growth
- Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture

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**Background and Discussion:**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and related travel restrictions and precautions, the Mayor has no physical travel yet planned for 2022. Given the evolving nature of the pandemic, we will look to be flexible if the situation improves and provides an opportunity to attend any key conferences or events in person outside of Burlington.

At present, the following are conferences the Mayor intends to attend virtually (or otherwise if circumstances permit):

### **January 23-25, 2022: Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Conference**

Each year ROMA hosts a conference where municipal leaders have the opportunity to connect with colleagues and the province and learn from experts on important and timely rural issues. The 2022 event takes place again virtually, and the registration fee of \$450 is paid for via the Mayor's budget.

### **June 2-5, 2022: Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Conference**

Each year the Federation of Canadian Municipalities hosts a conference where municipal elected officials and staff are invited to attend from across the country. FCM provides an opportunity to shape and vote on advocacy items for the federal government which has, in the past, succeeded in federal commitments to significant municipal infrastructure funding and support for municipal initiatives. There are also professional development sessions and "study tours" where information and learnings are gained and brought back to share with colleagues and the community. The Ontario Big City Mayors (OBCM) meet as a group and with other groups during this event as well and the Mayor attends those meetings as an OBCM member.

This year's event is planned to take place in Regina, SK but may need to be fully virtual due to the pandemic. Registration, estimated at approximately \$900, (with potential travel and hotel costs TBD if applicable) will be paid for via the Halton Region budget as per precedent.

The cost of one staff member potentially attending with the Mayor to provide support for the Mayor's activities as well as for their own professional development will be approximately \$900 for registration plus potential travel costs.

### **August 14-17: Association of Ontario Municipalities Conference (AMO)**

The purpose of this conference is to bring together municipal governments from across Ontario to work together on issues of shared importance and to provide an opportunity to meet with provincial ministers and advocate on behalf of Burlington and Halton Region. The Mayor is now a member of the [AMO Board of Directors](#), sitting on the Large Urban Caucus and will be attending Board meetings as part of AMO as well.

This year's event is slated to take place in person in Ottawa, with the Mayor's registration fee (approximately \$650 but as of this report not yet confirmed) being paid for via the Halton Region budget as per precedent.

One staff member will potentially attend with the Mayor to support the Mayor's activities as well as for their own professional development and awareness, and the cost of their registration will be approximately \$650, along with possible travel expenses.

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## Financial Matters:

Estimated costs and allocations for the Mayor and team at this time are as follows:

Event	Estimated Cost	Allocation Budget
ROMA – Mayor expenses	\$450	Mayor's Budget
FCM – Mayor registration and travel expenses	\$900+TBD	Halton Region Budget
FCM – Staffer registration	\$900	City Manager's Budget
FCM – Staffer travel fees	TBD	Mayor's Office Budget
AMO – Mayor registration and travel expenses	\$650 (estimated) +TBD	Halton Region Budget
AMO – Staffer registration	\$650 (estimated)	City Manager's Budget
AMO – Staffer travel fees	TBD	Mayor's Office Budget

## Total Financial Impact

As per chart above – total amount is TBD due to unknown potential travel costs.

## Source of Funding

As per table above.

## Other Resource Impacts

Not applicable.

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## Climate Implications

N/A

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## Engagement Matters:

N/A

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**Conclusion:**

Report MO-02-22 is to provide transparency to the community on the Mayor's travel plans in 2022 while representing the City of Burlington at relevant conferences and events.

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Respectfully submitted,

Mayor Marianne Meed Ward

**Report Approval:**

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the Executive Director of Legal Services & Corporation Counsel.