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Town of Aurora

## Member Motion

Councillor Gallo

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**Re:** Reporting Framework for Members attending Conferences, Seminars and External Events

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**From:** Councillor John Gallo

**Date:** April 14, 2026

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Whereas Members of Council attend conferences, seminars, and external events at the expense of the Town of Aurora, either through direct funding, conference budgets, or reimbursements in accordance with the Compensation and Support for Members of Council Policy; and

Whereas these events are intended to provide professional development, enhance municipal knowledge, and bring forward best practices that can benefit the Town and its residents; and

Whereas there is currently no formal, standardized requirement for Members of Council to report back publicly on the value, insights, or outcomes of their attendance; and

Whereas transparency and accountability in the use of public funds are essential to maintaining public trust; and

Whereas sharing knowledge gained from conferences can support informed decision-making and provide value to the broader Council and community; and

Whereas ensuring transparency, accountability, and value for taxpayer-funded conference attendance, while strengthening knowledge-sharing among Members of Council, is in the public interest;

Now Therefore Be It Hereby Resolved That:

1. Staff be directed to develop a written reporting framework requiring Members of Council who attend a conference, convention, seminar, or external events at the expense of the Town; and
2. The written report framework include, at minimum:

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- The name, date, and location of the conference or event;
  - Total cost incurred by the Town, including registration, travel, accommodation, and related expenses;
  - Key topics, sessions, or discussions attended;
  - Summary of key learnings and takeaways;
  - Any relevant best practices or ideas that could be considered for implementation in the Town of Aurora; and
3. Such reports be included on a public Council or Committee of the Whole agenda for information purposes, within a defined timeframe following the conference, seminar or external event; and
  4. Staff report back on any administrative, financial, or procedural implications of implementing this requirement, including potential alignment with existing policies or expense reporting practices.