

Notice of Motion: **To be read in at the June 1, 2021 Council Meeting**

To be debated at the June 8, 2021 Council Meeting

Title: **Website Reporting of Councillors' Expenses**

Presented By: Councillor Crystal Kissel, Division 9
Councillor Kevin Hanson, Division 3

WHEREAS Transparency in Government is fundamental to a democratic society;

AND WHEREAS The MGA states that municipalities are to provide good government 1.3(a), which means transparency and therefore accountability;

AND WHEREAS The MGA states that the salaries of Councillors shall be public 217(3);

AND WHEREAS Rocky View County Council created a Strategic Plan in 2019, and that Plan is published on the County Website, and states the following:

“As Councillors, we believe it is important for residents and business owners to easily access information about the County’s governance and day-to-day operations. We will improve how we communicate by using a variety of communication channels that reflect the diversity of resident preferences.

Results we want to achieve:

- People easily find County information when they need it
- Residents trust the County
- Residents know how and where their money is spent”;

AND WHEREAS Rocky View County has been seeing an increasing number of FOIP requests, as per the CAO’s report to Council on February 12, 2019;

AND WHEREAS The County created and funded two new staff positions in 2019 to handle the growing number of FOIP requests;

AND WHEREAS Rocky View County department staff must interrupt their usual work in order to deal with the mandatory information gathering required for fulfilling FOIP request requirements, thus decreasing their focus on their primary roles and increasing their overall workloads;

AND WHEREAS The County keeps electronic records, and the County’s main communication channel is it’s Website;

AND WHEREAS Having information freely available on the County Website increases the public's confidence in government accountability via transparency, and also reduces the nuisance and expense of FOIP requests;

AND WHEREAS Councillors' expenses would be considered day-to-day operations in the County as envisioned by the Strategic Plan;

AND WHEREAS Many of Rocky View County's peer municipalities in Alberta currently post Councillors' expenses on their websites.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Administration be directed to begin quarterly reporting of all Rocky View County Councillor Expenses on a per-Councillor basis, and that this reporting also be made retroactive to the beginning of this term of Council in October 2017, and that this reporting appear accessible to the public on the County Website.