

City of Mississauga Corporate Report



Date: June 22, 2020

To: Mayor and Members of General Committee

From: Gary Kent, CPA, CGA, ICD.D, Commissioner of
Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer

Originator's files:

Meeting date:
September 9, 2020

Subject

Election Administration Information Report: City of Mississauga Campaign Contribution Rebate Program and Consolidated Statistics

Recommendation

1. That the Corporate Report dated June 1, 2020 from the Director of Legislative Services and City Clerk titled *Election Administration Information Report: City of Mississauga Campaign Contribution Rebate Program and Consolidated Statistics* be received.
2. That Council provide direction to staff regarding the rebate formula to be used for the City of Mississauga's 2022 Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program.
3. That a by-law be established to authorize the formula for the 2022 City of Mississauga Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program.
4. That, once a by-law is passed establishing the formula for the City of Mississauga's Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program, the appropriate amount of funds be transferred into the Election Cost Centre to cover the cost of the City of Mississauga's Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program going forward.

Report Highlights

- At the January 28, 2020 Governance Committee meeting, the committee requested that staff report to General Committee on the following topics:
 - The financial impact of a new formula for the City of Mississauga's Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program
 - Statistics related to municipal elections in the Greater Toronto Area and beyond

Background

At the January 28, 2020 Governance Committee meeting, Elections Administration staff submitted three Corporate Reports from the Director of Legislative Services and City Clerk. The first; dated January 13, 2020, was titled *Ranked Ballot Elections – Review of the City of London's Experience* (Appendix 1) the second; dated January 13, 2020 was titled *2018 City of Mississauga Municipal Election Information Overview* (Appendix 2) and the third; also dated January 13, 2020 was titled *City of Mississauga's 2022 Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program*.

At the meeting, Governance Committee directed staff to report back to General Committee on the following three topics:

- Information related to Ranked Choice Voting (RCV). This information is included in the Corporate Report dated May 1, 2020, titled *Election Administration Information Report: Ranked Choice Voting*
- The financial impact of various rebate formulas associated with the City of Mississauga Election Campaign Finance Rebate Program (rebate program)
- Consolidated statistics related to municipal elections

A separate report has been prepared for Ranked Choice Voting and is included on the July 8, 2020 Council agenda.

Appendix 4 provides detailed information on potential rebate program formulas and Appendix 5 provides consolidated municipal election statistics.

Comments

City of Mississauga's Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program

Governance Committee recommended that the rebate program be updated for the 2022 election to set \$100 as the minimum contribution eligible for a rebate and that a total of 50% of a contribution be eligible for a rebate, however staff were directed to report back on options related to the maximum rebate one contributor could receive. Appendix 4 of this report provides options for the maximums rebate allowable based on the above noted criteria. Once approved, staff will prepare a by-law to authorize implementation of the rebate program formula.

Consolidated Statistics

At the January 28, 2020 Governance Committee meeting, the committee directed staff to consolidate various statistics found in Corporate Report dated January 13, 2020 from the Director of Legislative Services and City Clerk titled *City of Mississauga Municipal Election Information Overview*. Appendix 5 expands the information originally provided in the January 13, 2020 report.

Financial Impact

The Financial impact of the rebate program is included in Appendix 4 of this report. With the information shown in Appendix 4 in mind, and using the eligible campaign contribution numbers from 2018, staff estimate that changes to the rebate program may cost approximately \$100,000. Once a by-law is passed establishing the formula for the rebate program, approximately \$100,000 will need to be added to the Election Cost Centre (715885-22450) to cover the cost.

Conclusion

The election campaign contribution rebate program was implemented for the 2018 election at a cost of \$35,700. Based on Council's direction to review the option of increasing the amount of possible rebates, it is estimated that with a maximum rebate of \$1500 per contributor the cost of the rebate program would grow to approximately \$100,000 based on 2018 contributions. Staff are seeking direction on the rebate formula to be used for 2022 Municipal Election.

Attachments

Appendix 1: Ranked Ballot Elections – Review of the City of London's Experience

Appendix 2: 2018 City of Mississauga Municipal Election Information Overview

Appendix 3: City of Mississauga's 2022 Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program

Appendix 4: City of Mississauga Campaign Contribution Rebate Program Rebate Program Options

Appendix 5: Consolidated Statistics



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