

Hau, Lucy

Subject: FW: Summary of Remuneration and Expenses, General Committee

From: Marilyn Ginsburg
Sent: March-16-14 10:10 AM
To: Mayor & Councillors; Taylor, Andy; Cane, Trinela; Kitteringham, Kimberley
Subject: Summary of Remuneration and Expenses, General Committee

Hello Mr. Mayor and Members of Council,

We note that on Tuesday, March 18, 2014, General Committee will be reviewing the 2013 Summary of Remuneration and Expenses for Mayor and Council. There are a few items listed on the Summary for which we would appreciate further explanation or details.

We note that Councillor Chiu, a Ward Councillor, has claimed discretionary expenses for mileage and gasoline in the amount of \$5,433. Considering that this is a larger amount for this line item than even the Mayor claimed, or any of the three Regional Councillors, all of whom must do more travelling, would someone be kind enough to provide some explanation for this claim.

We also note that there are five claims for over \$5,000 for pre-approved training, seminars and conferences:

- Mayor Scarpitti, \$16,120
- Regional Councillor Li, \$9,555
- Councillor Moretti, \$8,714
- Councillor Kanapathi, \$13,638
- Councillor Chiu, \$6,678

We would greatly appreciate a breakdown of what these pre-approved expenses were for. In addition, we would like to know if there are any follow up reports regarding the benefit to the City and taxpayers as a result of these expenses. If so, could we please have access to such reports.

In the near future we will be suggesting that Markham once again retain the services of an Auditor General. If that is done we will not have to trouble Council with requests such as this one.

Respectfully,

Marilyn Ginsburg
Director, Markham Citizens Coalition for Responsive Government

Hau, Lucy

2

Subject: FW: Expense Reports

From: Ray Menzies
Sent: Friday, March 21, 2014 1:58 PM
To: Cane, Trinela; Kitteringham, Kimberley; Taylor, Andy
Subject: Re: Expense Reports

Good Afternoon,

24 hours later and nothing ? Not even an acknowledgement of my request ?

Ray

On Thu, Mar 20, 2014 at 12:05 PM, Ray Menzies wrote:
How does the average taxpayer (ie, Employer) get more details on Councilor expenses ?

The summary of expenses posted on the City's web site is not really of much use. Taxpayers need to KNOW THE DETAILS about how councilors are spending our money.

For example, some councilors are claiming THOUSANDS of \$ of expense for gasoline and mileage. The ward in question is less than 11 kms end to end. Another councilor has claimed in excess of 13,000\$ for "Training, Seminars & Conferences".

You do recall that the Federal Minister Bev Oda had to resign when it was revealed that she had expensed a 16\$ glass of orange juice. Ian Troop of the Pan Am Games was also dismissed after details of his expense claims were made public.

In this election year, it is critical that taxpayers know exactly how councilors are spending our money.

The elections this year are going to be different. You have a different, completely aware electorate who will examine the track record of every candidate. There is already a process underway where a web site is being setup to document each candidates performance over the last 4 years.

In summary, how do I get access to the details of the expense claims.

Regards

Ray