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# HALDIMAND COUNTY

## Report FIN-04-2021 Remuneration and Expenses for Members of Council and Board Appointees for 2020



For Consideration by Council in Committee on March 30, 2021

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### OBJECTIVE:

To report, as required by the *Municipal Act*, the amounts of remuneration and expenses paid during the year 2020 to the Members of Council, and to each person appointed by Council to serve as a member of any body, including a local board.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Report FIN-04-2021 Remuneration and Expenses for Members of Council and Board Appointees for 2020 be received.

**Prepared by:** Anna Mroz, Administrative Coordinator, Financial & Data Services

**Reviewed by:** Charmaine Corlis, Treasurer

**Respectfully submitted:** Mark Merritt, CPA, CA, General Manager of Financial & Data Services

**Approved:** Craig Manley, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report provides information to the public regarding the remuneration and expenses paid in 2020 to Members of Council and Council Appointees to local boards in order to meet the reporting requirements under Section 284 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*. The attachments to this report outline the 2020 year end information as follows:

- Remuneration and expenses paid by Haldimand County to members of Council
- Details of professional development expenses for members of Council
- Details of reimbursed expenses for members of Council
- Remuneration and expenses paid by Haldimand County to Council appointees to Local Boards
- Remuneration and expenses paid by Local Boards to Council appointees to Local Boards

### BACKGROUND:

Section 284 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* (the Act) provides that:

*“The Treasurer of a municipality shall in each year on or before March 31 provide to the Council of the municipality an itemized statement of remuneration and expenses paid in the previous year to:*

- a. *each member of council in respect of his or her services as a member of the council or any other body, including a local board, to which the member has been appointed by Council or on which the member holds office by virtue of being a member of Council;*

- b. *each member of Council in respect of his or her services as an officer or employee of the municipality or other body described in clause (a); and*
- c. *each person, other than a member of Council, appointed by the municipality to serve as a member of any body, including a local board, in respect of his or her services as a member of the body.” 2001, c. 25, s. 284 (1).*

It should also be noted that effective January 1, 2019 the provision that identified that one-third of the remuneration paid to Council members was deemed not subject to income tax, as previously allowed under the Federal Government, has been eliminated, making all remuneration to elected officials fully taxable.

## **ANALYSIS**

Attachment #1 includes 5 tables providing the itemized statements of remuneration and expenses paid in 2020 to Members of Council and Board Appointees, as follows:

### **Table 1 - Remuneration and Expenses Paid by Haldimand County to Members of Council**

- Presents amounts directly paid by Haldimand County related to the remuneration and expenses of the Members of Council. Taxable benefits and the pension contributions paid by the County on behalf of the Mayor and Councillors, as reflected in Table 1, include (where applicable):
  - Canada Pension Plan
  - Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance
  - Life Insurance
  - Employer Health Tax
  - Extended Health/Dental Plan Premiums
  - Ontario Municipal Employee Retirement Savings (OMERS)
- Variations in the benefits cost, among individual Councillors with the same remuneration, are due to optional non-participation in the OMERS pension.

### **Table 2 – Details of Professional Development Expenses for Members of Council**

- Presents the expenses for attendance at conferences, seminars and other meetings intended to promote professional development.

### **Table 3 – Details of Reimbursed Expenses for Members of Council**

- Presents expenses for attendance at meetings, community events and meals and other related costs, net of any offsetting revenues. It should be noted that \$8,295 in expenses reimbursed to Mayor Hewitt for the initiative to purchase iPads for residents in long term care was fully offset by fundraising efforts associated with this initiative.

### **Table 4 – Remuneration and Expenses Paid by Haldimand County to Council Appointees to Local Boards**

- Presents amounts directly paid by Haldimand County to persons appointed by Council to serve as a member of any body, including local boards. Payments directly to persons appointed to the following local boards are included:
  - Committee of Adjustment (includes Property Standards, Sign Variance or Animal Control Muzzle Appeals)
  - Public Library Board
  - Police Services Board

- A review of County records indicates that the County paid no remuneration or expenses to other persons appointed by Council to serve as a member of any body, other than what is presented in Table 4. During 2018, Council approved report HR-08-2018 which provided that Council members appointed to one of Haldimand's directly administered boards/committees (for example, Police Services Board) would not receive the associated honorarium/per diem that is paid to citizen appointees, as this was included within their base remuneration. This was effective January 1, 2019.

**Table 5 – Remuneration and Expenses Paid by Local Boards to Council Appointees to Local Boards (including Members of Council)**

- Presents amounts that other bodies, including local boards, have paid directly to the persons appointed by Council to serve as a member. This information is based on what has been reported to the County Treasurer by the applicable local board. Payments made by the following bodies are included in Table 5:
  - Niagara Peninsula Source Protection Committee
  - Grand River Conservation Authority
  - Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
  - Long Point Region Conservation Authority
- In December 2018, the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority (NPCA) addressed the Board composition, which increased Haldimand County's representation from one (1) member to two (2) Board Appointees.
- Haldimand has a joint representative on the Lake Erie Source Protection Committee – Councillor Ryan Taylor of Norfolk County, whose remuneration and expenses are reported by Norfolk County.
- A staff member, Phil Wilson, represents Haldimand County on the Grand River Source Protection Board. His Per Diem and mileage recoveries are paid directly to Haldimand County, not Mr. Wilson, and thus, are not included in this report.
- Haldimand also had three representatives on the 2020 Board of Directors for the Haldimand-Norfolk Housing Corporation - Ken Lishman, Bryan Snyder, and Councillor Bernie Corbett, whose remuneration and expenses are reported by Norfolk County as the Consolidated Municipal Services Manager for Social Housing.
- Staff are not aware of any other remuneration and expenses paid by bodies, including local boards, to persons appointed to those bodies by Council other than what is presented in Table 5.

**FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

The Approved 2020 Tax Supported Operating Budget included funds for the payment of remuneration and expenses to the Mayor and Members of Council, as well as persons appointed by Council to serve on bodies, including local boards, as detailed in Tables 1-4. The remuneration and expenses reported in Table 5 are not reflected in the County's financial records as they are not paid by Haldimand County, but by various local boards.

**REPORT IMPACTS:**

Agreement: No

By-law: No

Budget Amendment: No

Policy: No

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Tables 1-5 Remuneration and Expenses for Members of Council and Board Appointees for 2020