SYNOPSIS

Council Remuneration

Historically, the compensation for elected officials had a portion (one third) that was exempt from income taxes. Some rationale provided for the tax-free exemption was to recognize elected officials were contributing to their communities, attending events at their costs and travelling within their communities without reimbursement. The Federal Government announced in last year's budget that the exemption would be removed effective for the 2019 tax year.

Without a change in the remuneration, Council will take home less pay than they received in 2018, making it potentially unaffordable for some to continue to serve in a public capacity and impacting the pay for future Councils.

The majority of Municipalities in Nova Scotia are increasing the compensation effective January 1, 2019 (16) with some not increasing it at all (3), and some deferring until budget discussions (7).

MOTION:

That Council approve the amendment to the Salary Administration Policy, Policy number 04530-01, to reflect an increase in Council Remuneration with salaries reflecting the increases outlined below.

| Salary Increase | Current | Future |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Councillor | \$ 21,542 | \$ 25,050 |
| Deputy Mayor | \$ 24,375 | \$ 27,723 |
| Mayor | \$ 36,447 | \$ 41,178 |