



## memorandum

**DATE:** DECEMBER 8, 2017  
**TO:** MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL  
**FROM:** BARBARA A. MCEWAN, CITY CLERK  
**RE:** COMMUNICATION – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (WORKING SESSION) –  
DECEMBER 6, 2017, ITEM #2  
2018 CONTRIBUTION REBATE PROGRAM

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Communication
COUNCIL: <u>Dec 11/17</u>
<u>cw(ws)</u> Rpt. No. <u>46</u> Item <u>2</u>

This communication is being provided in response to a request from members of committee to assess the financial impact of providing contribution rebates for contributions to candidates for each of three offices: Mayor, Local and Regional Councillor, and Ward Councillor.


An accurate assessment of the financial impact associated with the proposed change to the Contribution Rebate Program is difficult, due to the number of variables which need to be accounted for. For example, contributors do not all provide the same level of monetary contributions to candidates, and it is difficult to estimate the number of contributors who would opt to contribute to more than one office if a rebate was made available to them for those additional offices.

Est. Maximum Total Cost – 2018 Rebate Program (As Recommended by Committee)	Est. Maximum Total Cost – 2018 Rebate Program (3 Offices)
\$130,166.25	\$390,498.75

The maximum total cost for the delivery of the 2018 Rebate Program based on \$150 rebates for contributions to each of three offices is estimated to be approximately \$390,498.75. This cost represents approximately one third of the total budget allocated for the 2018 Municipal Election, and could cost up to three times more than the program as currently envisioned.

It should also be noted that modifying the program to permit separate rebates for contributions across multiple offices could create additional delays in processing and issuing rebates to contributors. Where candidates file at different times (having extended their campaign), rebate cheques would need to be held until all of an individual's contributions have been accounted for, or, alternatively, up to three separate cheques would need to be issued to a single contributor. There is also the potential for administrative delays tracking an individual's contributions in order to calculate and issue rebates for each one.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Barbara A. McEwan  
City Clerk