

To: Regional and Corporate Services Committee
From: Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services

Date: 2020-01-14
File No: 0390-20

Subject: 2020-21 Federation of Canadian Municipalities Membership Renewal

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board direct Staff to renew the Regional District's Federation of Canadian Municipalities 2020-2021 membership at a rate of \$59,195.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Support Healthy & Sustainable Community

BACKGROUND

A regional membership in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) has been held by the Fraser Valley Regional District on behalf of all municipal and electoral area members. The annual membership fee is recovered via the annual property tax requisition, allocated by assessed value. From 2013 to 2017 the membership fee was \$36,000 to \$39,000. The fee increased to \$44,000 in 2018 as a result of the region's population growth per an updated census.

DISCUSSION

The annual renewal notice for the FCM membership has been received. Upon review of the 2020-21 membership fee it was noted that there is an increase of \$14,000 from the last membership renewal. The 2020-21 membership rate is \$59,195 with the increase a result of the FCM Board of Directors unanimously adopting a revised dues structure, the first in 10 years (as noted on their invoice).

The FCM website has a page dedicated to the reasoning behind the dues structure increase (www.fcm.ca/strongerfoundation). They have noted some recent accomplishments to include the doubling of this year's Gas Tax Fund transfer and influencing historic government investment in infrastructure, housing, broadband and more. They also note, "as our wins have grown, so too has the need for resources to deliver on those wins, to build on them and to make them permanent".

Information from the FCM website has been included as an attachment to this report.

In summary, the fee structure change is:

Due Type	2019-20	2020-21
Base Fee	\$370	\$1,500
Per Capita Due	<u>\$43,900</u>	<u>\$57,620</u>
	\$44,270	\$59,120
Per Capita Rate	\$.1524	\$0.1905
Population	288,062	288,062

COST

If supported by the Board, the 2020 financial plan will be updated to reflect the increased membership fee of \$59,120. As this is part of the Regional Administration function and is funded by all properties within the region, the fee increase will have a taxation impact of \$0.02 per \$100,000 of residential assessed value.

CONCLUSION

The 2020-21 Federation of Canadian Municipalities membership renewal notice has been received. As a result of a change in the dues structure, the annual rate has increased from \$44,000 to \$59,000. Staff are recommending the financial plan be updated to reflect this new information.

COMMENTS BY:

Jennifer Kinneman, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed and supported.