



Department: Council	Policy No. 11-06-20	Page 1 of 2
Policy Title: Attendance at Conferences	Date: June 11, 2020	Resolution No. RC20-240

Purpose:

Councillors and the Reeve are required to be kept abreast of issues and become informed of policies, programs and trends of the Provincial and Federal Governments as well as other organizations in order that they may make sound decisions for Birch Hills County. Attendance at various conferences is one means of accomplishing this goal.

RMA CONFERENCE

Councillors are encouraged to attend the conferences of the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA). These conferences are utilized primarily by the Provincial and Federal Government to communicate new initiatives and programs of interest to municipalities. They also provide a venue for educational opportunities and information sharing amongst rural municipalities on various issues. Attendance at this conference is approved with the adoption of this policy.

FEDERATION OF CANADIAN MUNICIPALITIES CONFERENCE

This annual conference is held in various locations across Canada. The conference provides opportunities for Councillors and administrators from across Canada to discuss issues of national importance, discuss new initiatives and programs of the Federal Government, provide educational opportunities and provide information sharing at the national level. Council will determine attendance at this conference each year based on location of the conference, availability of Councillors to attend the conference and the conference program and assess the costs versus benefits of attending.

GROWING THE NORTH CONFERENCE

This annual conference is a two-day event and would require accommodations in Grande Prairie and dependent on attendee's travel arrangements there is the possibility of up to three nights stay for those who also attend the RMA Northern District meeting which usually follows the conference.

CONFERENCES RELATED TO COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Councillors are encouraged to attend conferences that relate to their committee appointments. Councillors are generally expected to attend one or two conferences of this type per year. Attendance of over two per year requires Council approval by way of resolution.

PROVINCIAL ASB CONFERENCE



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This conference is held in various locations across Alberta depending on which zone is hosting. It is held after the ASB regional conferences so that resolutions voted on and passed at the regional conferences can then be brought forward.

The conference provides a venue for educational opportunities and information sharing amongst rural municipalities on various issues.

OTHER CONFERENCES

Councillors requesting to attend other conferences must receive approval by way of Council resolution.

EDUCATIONAL TRAINING

Each Councillor is entitled to attend two educational sessions relating to their duties and responsibilities per year.

SPOUSE/PARTNER PROGRAMS

Unless otherwise specified all costs of registration and participation of a Spouse or Partner Programs shall be paid by the participant and is not eligible for reimbursement by the County.

REGISTRATION/HOTELS/TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Unless otherwise requested, Administration will arrange for registration, hotel, and travel arrangements for Council to attend various conferences in a timely manner. Administration will endeavor to take advantage of early registration discounts where possible. It is recommended that Council carpool and/or make use of municipal transportation to and from conferences.

Original to be signed
Rick Bastow
Chief Administrative Officer

Original to be signed
Gerald Manzulenko
Reeve

Adopted by Council: RC20-240	Date: June 11, 2020
Updated: Rescinded Attendance at Conferences Policy passed in 2011.	