

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of Committee of the Whole

From: Bruce Macgregor
Chief Administrative Officer

Date: May 9, 2019

Re: Governance Task Force – Formal Response to Province on Regional Government Review Report

On January 15, 2019, the Province announced a review of regional governments to assess whether the current groupings of regional and municipal governments are working efficiently and effectively. The Province tasked two special advisors, Michael Fenn and Ken Seiling, to conduct this review. This review is expected to be completed by fall of 2019 with recommendations focused on governance, decision-making and service delivery.

On February 28, 2019, Council established a Governance Task Force

At the Regional Council meeting on February 28, 2019, Council approved Terms of Reference for a Governance Task Force. The Terms of Reference for the task force reflect the provincial review now underway. The first meeting of the task force took place on March 21, 2019. The task force is comprised of Mayors from all nine local municipalities and the Regional Chairman.

On April 1, 2019, the Province extended the closing date for submissions to May 21, 2019

On April 1, 2019 the Province extended the closing date for online consultation for residents, businesses and stakeholders of the regions under provincial review to May 21, 2019. Respondents can provide comment to the Province via online survey, written submissions or a meeting with the special advisors. Meetings with the special advisors are public and have been, or will be, hosted in each of the regions under review. The meeting in York Region will take place on Monday, May 6 at the York Region Administrative Centre located at 17250 Yonge Street in Newmarket.

At its 2nd meeting on April 18, 2019, the Governance Task Force directed staff to seek Council approval for a formal response to the Province

The Governance Task Force met on April 18, 2019 and received a report ‘*Formal Response to Province on Regional Government*’ which forms part of today’s Committee of the Whole agenda. This report details a high level summary to inform a formal response to the Province.

The Governance Task Force requested staff to prepare a formal response for Council approval, and to send this response to the Premier, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and copy the special advisors. To support the formal response, staff recommend augmenting the communication with the materials detailed in Table 1 below:

Table 1
Materials to Augment Formal Response

Attachment	Purpose of Attachment
2019-2022 Multi Year Budget	Demonstrates York Region’s commitment to providing a 4-year budget cycle outlook for operating and capital budgets to align spending with priorities in the Strategic Plan – this provides greater clarity about activities and funding in future years and improves fiscal discipline
2019-2023 Strategic Plan	Demonstrates York Region’s accountability to Council and the public on tracking and reporting of objectives, key activities and performance measures during the term of Council
2019 – York Region - Inventory of Municipal Collaborations	Demonstrates effective partnerships with, and between, local municipalities to ensure the cost effective, efficient and collaborative delivery of services to residents
2018 - Learn, Connect, Improve	Demonstrates York Region’s discipline of continuous improvement embedded within the culture of day-to-day operations
2017 Community Report	Demonstrates York Region’s accountability in building and maintaining strong, safe and caring communities in partnership with Council, staff and community partners
3rd Party Certifications	Demonstrates the high quality of York Region services as recognized through multiple 3 rd party certifications

Bruce Macgregor
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