



STAFF REPORT

Title: Criminal Code Amendments - Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Resolution

Meeting Date: August 11, 2020

Executive Summary:

At Council's June 23, 2020 regular meeting, Council passed a motion (Motion No. CRM20200623.1017) to lobby the federal government to revoke amendments to the criminal code on May 1, 2020 under an "Order in Council" titled and referred to as "Regulations Amending the Regulations Prescribing Certain Firearms and Other Weapons, Components and Parts of Weapons, Accessories, Cartridge Magazines, Ammunition and Projectiles as Prohibited, Restricted or Non-Restricted:SOR.2020-96."

The motion included direction for administration to send the resolution to all municipalities in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba for their consideration, as well as to a number of federal and provincial officials, including the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, the Honourable Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, Bill Blair and the AUMA President Dan Rude.

At the time this report was written, the resolution has received positive support from a total of at least 12 municipalities. Provincial and Federal elected officials have yet to respond.

It should be noted that in a number of instances, a council's support for the motion has been indicated through informal dialogue, but no official communication of a supporting motion has been received by City of Cold Lake as of yet.

Given that the issue stems from a Federal Order in Council, the AUMA queried whether the City of Cold Lake would be forwarding the issue to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for consideration as a resolution at either its 2021 Annual Conference or its March Board Meeting. The deadline for submission of potential resolutions at both forums is January 9, 2021.

Background:

Section 2.1 of the FCM's Guidelines for Drafting Resolutions states that: "Resolutions should focus on issues that are the direct responsibility or concern of Canadian municipalities and fall within the jurisdiction of the federal government, and/or provincial and territorial governments acting at the inter-provincial/territorial level."



Also of note is Section 2.3, which states that: “Members submitting resolutions regarding Community Safety and Crime Prevention matters are advised to focus on the “principle” of the issue being addressed and avoid attempts to reword the Criminal Code.”

Resolutions adopted by the FCM are placed into categories from “A” to “E,” depending on whether or not the resolution is regarding a matter that is the direct responsibility or concern of Canadian Municipalities beyond a regional level and fall within the jurisdiction of the federal government, whether or not they are endorsed by FCM, whether or not the issue has been dealt with by FCM in the past 3 years and whether or not the resolution is in accordance with existing FCM policy. The category the resolution is placed in will determine if any action is taken, or the resolution is presented to the FCM Board as information.

FCM's guidelines for resolutions can be found in their entirety at the following address:

https://data.fcm.ca/Documents/corporate-resources/resolutions/Procedures_for_Resolutions_EN.pdf

The following Municipalities are confirmed to have passed motions in support of the City of Cold Lake's resolution. It should be noted that the support varies from a motion in support of the same resolution, to a motion in support of a similar resolution drafted by the municipality. While some municipalities have sent letters to federal and provincial elected officials, others have not.

The Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, AB
Summer Village of Bonnyville Beach, AB
The County of Minburn, AB
Lac Ste. Anne County, AB
Cardston County, AB
Village of Coleville, SK
Town of Midale, SK
Village of Punnichy, SK
Rural Municipality of Saskatchewan Landing, SK
Municipality of Pipestone, MB
Gilbert Plains Municipality, MB
Rural Municipality of Stuartburn, MB

Further to the above, the City of Cold Lake has received many words of support via social media from sources all across Canada.

Alternatives:



- Council may pass a motion to request that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities consider the Cold Lake resolution as adopted in Motion No. CRM20200623.1017.
- Council may decline to send the resolution to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Recommended Action:

Administration recommends that Council pass a motion to request that the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) consider the Cold Lake resolution as adopted in Motion No. CRM20200623.1017, and that administration work with FCM staff to adapt the resolution to FCM's resolution templates.

Budget Implications (Yes or No):

No

Submitted by:

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