



## The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Legislative & Clerk Services

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**From:** Robert Auger, Director Legislative Services & Clerk

**Date to Council:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025

**Report Number:** LCS-2025-22

**Subject:** Council Conferences 2026

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### Recommendations

It is recommended:

**That** the members of Council **be authorized** to attend the following conferences scheduled to be held in 2026 in accordance with the Town's Travel Policy - Council No.127 and Professional Development Policy No. 73, subject to funding in the 2026 Budget:

Event	Dates	Location
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Annual General Meeting and Annual Conference	Date TBD (held in August)	TBD

<b>Event</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>
Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Annual Conference and Trade Show	Thursday, June 4 to Sunday June 7, 2026	Edmonton, Alberta
Festival and Events Ontario Conference	TBD (held in February)	TBD
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiatives Annual Meeting and Conference	Wednesday, May 6 to Friday, May 8, 2026	Hamilton, Ontario
Ontario Good Roads Association (OGRA) Annual Conference	Sunday, March 29 to Wednesday, April 1, 2026	Toronto, Ontario
Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) Conference and Trade Show	Wednesday, April 29 – Friday, May 1, 2026	Collingwood, Ontario
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) Annual Conference	Sunday, January 18 to Tuesday, January 20, 2026	Toronto, Ontario
Ontario Business Improvement Area Association (OBIAA) Conference	TBD (held in April or May)	TBD
Ontario West Municipal Conference	TBD (held in October)	Chatham, Ontario

**And that Members of Council be approved** to attend any 2026 workshops, webinars, and training opportunities from the associations listed below in accordance with the Town's Professional Development Policy No. 73 and subject to funding in the 2026 Budget:

Association of Municipalities Ontario  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Festivals and Events Ontario  
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative  
Ontario Good Roads Association  
Ontario Small Urban Municipalities  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
Ontario Business Improvement Area Association

## Background

The Town's Professional Development Policy No. 73 states:

“4.1 Members of Council may be authorized to attend up to 3 conferences (2+ days) per year which have been approved by Council and are within their department's budget.

4.2 Members of Council may be authorized to attend workshops/seminars (1-2 days) which have been approved by Council and are within their department's budget.”

The Town's Travel Policy – Council No. 127 provides certain allowances for travel, accommodation, and other related expenses for attending conferences, workshops and/or seminars.

## Comments

To facilitate Council approval for conferences that have typically been attended by the Members in prior years, and to assist the Members in planning for 2026, as well as preparation of the 2026 Council meeting schedule, it is recommended that consideration be given ahead of time to authorizing attendance at the 2026 conferences listed above under Recommendations.

At the writing of this report, the dates and/or location of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario Conference, Festival and Events Ontario Conference, and the Ontario Business Improvement Area Association Conference have not been confirmed.

As more information becomes available for these 2026 conferences, the Mayor's Office will coordinate registration for the Council Members and advise the Legislative & Clerk

Services Department of members unable to attend a Council meeting due to attendance at a conference to ensure quorum at Council meetings.

Occasionally, some Associations provide additional opportunities for training on emerging trends in the municipal sector that may not have been presented at a noted Conference. These additional training opportunities require Council approval. The current practice is for the request to be circulated to the Clerk's department to add as a communication-action required item for approval at an upcoming Council meeting. This can potentially lead to delays in obtaining approval to register and some sessions can fill up quickly. To assist with greater efficiency with approvals to attend such training sessions from these noted Associations, Administration is recommending that authority be granted for members of Council to attend these training opportunities as they arise throughout the year as permissible and in accordance with the Town's Professional Development Policy and the 2026 Budget.

## **Consultations**

Association of Municipalities Ontario  
Federation of Canadian Municipalities  
Festivals and Events Ontario  
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative  
Ontario Good Roads Association  
Ontario Small Urban Municipalities  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association  
Ontario Business Improvement Area Association  
Western Ontario Wardens Caucus

## **Financial Implications**

Conference/workshop/seminar expenses are subject to Council's annual budget, and in accordance with the Professional Development and Travel Policies. The Travel Policy now requires members to develop a plan for the conferences they wish to attend in the coming year for review by the Review Officer designated in the policy. This practice has been introduced in a recent amendment to the policy to assist with an equitable distribution of budget resources for conference and professional development.

## Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	<a href="#">2023-2026 Strategic Priorities</a>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Growth: Achieve prosperity and a livable community through sustainable growth.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Health and Inclusion: Integrate community health and inclusion into our places and spaces and everything we do.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Service Experience: Enhance the experience of Team Tecumseh and our citizens through responsive and respectful service.

## Communications

Not applicable ☒

Website ☐

Social Media ☐

News Release ☐

Local Newspaper ☐

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Jennifer Alexander, AOMC, MPA  
Deputy Clerk & Manager Legislative Services

Reviewed by:

Robert Auger, LL.B.  
Director Legislative Services & Clerk

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP  
Chief Administrative Officer

<b>Attachment Number</b>	<b>Attachment Name</b>
None	None