



Press Release

CITIZENS REVIEW PORT COQUITLAM COUNCIL REMUNERATION

Port Coquitlam, BC – February 17, 2009... Six Port Coquitlam citizens have been appointed to a Council remuneration task force, which is expected to report its recommendations by late April.

Council's current remuneration policy, adopted in late 2005, requires a policy review every three years.

Although the policy directs staff to conduct the review, Council decided to take advantage of the opportunity to engage citizens in an important decision-making process. A citizen task force was established in January – the first independent external Council remuneration review since 1994.

The task force consists of six voting members selected from the community, with Manager of Finance Jim Maitland sitting as a non-voting member to provide administrative support. The six voting members are working on a volunteer basis and include a cross section of community leaders and citizens. They include a bank manager, a human resources manager, a businessperson, a former elected official and retirees.

The remuneration review is an arms-length process, with no Council involvement in the deliberations and only administrative support from staff. Council has committed to releasing the task force report and recommendations at a public Council meeting.

Pending the review results, Council did not receive the annual Consumer Price Index adjustment on Jan. 1 that is mandated in the current policy. Current remuneration rates are \$67,276.90 for the Mayor and \$22,256.64 for Councillors, determined by calculating an average of the next two larger and two smaller municipalities (based on population).

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