LEGISLATIVE SERVICES/MUNICIPAL CLERKS OFFICE BUDGET PRESENTATION

Electronic Participation, Zoom Video Conference

December 8, 2020 | 3:00 p.m.

General Government Services

Brent Larmer – Manager Legislative Services/ Municipal Clerk







Meet the Legislative Services Team

Brent Larmer Municipal Clerk/ Manager of Legislative

Krystal Christopher Deputy Clerk, Records Mgmt. Coordinator

Angela Stewart, Licensing

Jamie Kramer Accessibility Coordinator

Tayla Kennedy Legislative Services, Secretary (Mat)













Christian Young, Property **Standards** Officer

By-law Enforcement Team

Mark, McMurtry, Municipal Bylaw Officer



MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MISSION AND VISION

VISION

Cobourg...a vibrant **inclusive** community where everyone has access to meaningful opportunities and experiences.

MISSION

The Town of Cobourg is committed to open and accountable governance and the provision of quality, accessible programs and services in a sustainable manner.





LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

- The Town of Cobourg Legislative Services
 Department strives to meet customers' diverse
 service needs by providing statutory and legislated
 services to the Public, Municipal Council and other
 Internal and External customers through a multitude
 of service channels.
- The Office of the Town Clerk is legislated by the *Municipal Act, 2001,* and other various pieces of legislation and is the interface between Council Administration and the Public. The Town's Clerks' Office is committed to serving the Council of the Town of Cobourg, all Municipal Departments/Divisions and the residents of the community through the democratic processes such as Council meetings, elections, access to municipal records, accessibility, by-law enforcement, and all legislative actions ensuring transparency to the public in every step.





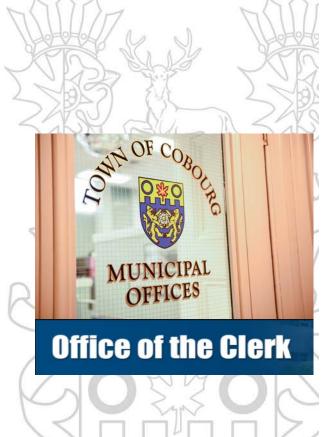
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Mandate:

To provide open and accessible Municipal Government by ensuring that independent and impartial statutory and regulatory services are delivered in a progressive, innovative, effective and efficient manner.

Service Level Highlights:

- Provide access to information and ensure transparency;
- Conduct open, fair and impartial Municipal Elections;
- Ensure compliance with legislation;
- Deliver Vital statistics services such as marriage licences, burial permits, and registrations of deaths;
- Manage Corporate records for all Divisions and Departments within the Corporation;
- Drive continuous improvement of services by modernizing our technology and processes;
- Provide exceptional customer service; and
- Administer Council, Advisory Committee, and Quasi-Judicial meetings, with oversight of Agendas and Minutes.



Legislative Services Responsibilities















Accessibility

By-law Enforcement Resident/
Front
Desk
Services

Licensing and Regulatory Services Records
Management
Access
Services

Vital Statistics Council and Advisory Committee Secretariat

Legislative Compliance

The Town Municipal Clerk is the corporate signatory and has a variety of responsibilities under: the Planning Act, Liquor Licence Act, Marriage Act, Ontario Heritage Act and the Municipal Act and many more Provincial Statutes. Commissioning of documents is also offered to the public in the Office of the Town Clerk. Fulfilling these legislated responsibilities provides essential services to the public and the Corporation.

COVID-19 Impact on Service:

The Province of Ontario issued amendments to statutes and various omnibus pieces of legislation that changed the way the Clerks Office functions and operates daily. The Clerk's Office was able to navigate the changes and pivot to the new regulations that best served our community (i.e. Virtual Council meetings, Virtual Commissioner of Oaths, Burial Permits Delegation of Sub Registrar.) The Clerks Office is also responsible for navigating and interpreting Emergency Orders.







Vital Statistics

The Town Clerks Office provides services to the community as Division Registrar under the Vital Statistics Act and Marriage Act. Marriage Licences are processed as a same day service and completed within minutes. The number of Marriage Licences and Civil Marriage Ceremonies performed by Municipal Staff increased in 2020.

COVID-19 Impact on Service:

As the Province declared a State of Provincial Emergency in March of 2020, many municipalities closed their doors to Marriage License processing. The Town of Cobourg Clerk's Department continued to provide these services and some weeks processing 25 Marriage License Applications per week. As a result of the continuation of services, there was an increase in revenues for both Marriage Licenses issued by the Town and Civil Ceremonies being preformed in 2020.

Year	Service	Revenue
2019	Marriage Licence	\$14,784
2020 YTD	Marriage Licence	<u>\$21,175</u>



Year	Service	Revenue	,
2019	Civil Ceremony	\$17,255	
2020 YTD	Civil Ceremony	<u>\$21,146</u>	



Dog Tag Licensing

In 2019, Municipal Council approved the recommendation by Legislative Services Staff to introduce a Electronic and Online System to licence Dogs within the Town of Cobourg. In January 2020, Cobourg's DocuPet solution was launched. The fully implemented solution includes a new online environment for licensing, account access, and profile management, outsourced tag fulfillment and customer service, automated communications, and a plethora of optional services designed to create more value for pet owners.

COVID-19	Impact or	Service:
----------	-----------	----------

Prior to the launch of the DocuPet System, residents were required to license their dog by only attending Victoria Hall In-Person. Once DocuPet was implemented/launched, the public had the option of In-Person or Virtual Dog Licensing as an option. But since Victoria Hall has been closed to the Public, Dog Licensing has still occurred virtually daily.

/ HOL		MAGENTO
Year	Service	Revenue
2019	Dog Tag Sales	\$6,610
2020 YTD	Dog Tag Sales	\$14,563



Dogs Licensed to Date:

801

Lottery Licensing

The Town issues lottery licences and permits to eligible non-profit organizations. Lottery licensing refers to lottery schemes permitted by a licence under the Criminal Code of Canada. Typically, these may include bingos, raffles, break open tickets and social gaming events held by charitable or religious organizations. In Ontario, Order in Council 1413/08 authorizes the licensing framework for eligible charitable or religious organizations to hold lottery events and sets out the limits of municipal and provincial licensing.

COVID-19 Impact on Service:

As a result of COVID-19 Emergency measures and the Provincial shutdown, this caused a reduction in the amount of licences issued in the Town and limited the amount of Lotteries that would have been conducted in 2020 due to the Public Health Measures that were put into place. The Town is slowly seeing more licenses being requested and may see the revenue come close to the average revenue.



Year	Service	Revenue	
2019	Lottery/Bingo Licensing	\$109,836	
2020 YTD	Lottery/Bingo Licensing	<u>\$63,586</u>	



By-law Enforcement Services

Municipal By-Law Enforcement Services is responsible for a variety of legislative, corporate and public services. A dedicated team, it is committed to supporting corporate goals and objectives by enhancing a healthy, safe community while engaging residents and working with community partners.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the Town of Cobourg by-law officers have worked to protect the health and safety of the community, and support the decisions of the Town's Emergency Operations Centre. They also enforced the Town's Parks by-law, and all of the park and beach closures. In addition to all other enforcement activities, officers worked seven days a week and had approximately 10,000 interactions with the public due to the pandemic.



By-law Enforcement

On March 27, 2020 the Provincial Government signed a ministerial designation under the Provincial Offences Act to authorized all bylaw enforcement officers of any municipality, personnel to enforce Emergency Management Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) orders in the Town of Cobourg. The Town's By-law Enforcement Department strives to achieve compliance first and provide education and all enforcement is at the discretion of the By-law Enforcement Officer and based on the facts that are presented before them.

COVID-19 Impact on Service:

By-law Enforcement on top of COVID Measures, engaged in regular and routine enforcement matters and duties that have not been eliminated in the wake of COVID-19, although parking has been free, Municipal By-law Enforcement has pivoted to enforcing safety parking enforcement such as accessible parking, parked in a fire route and other safety concerns related to parking within the Town's jurisdiction.





By-law Enforcement Investigations 2020 Statistics (Oct)

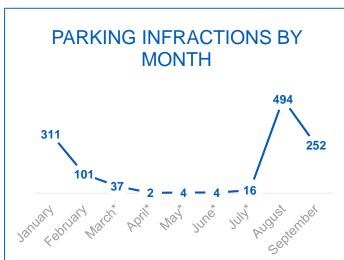
Investigation Type	YTD
Noise	7
Property	65
Parking	37
Animal Control	17
Other	31
Total	164

Property Orders/Notices Issued

Type of Infraction	Amount	Corrective Action Required
Long Grass	23	11
Debris	8	1
Pool	2	0
Other	3	1

Part 1&3 Offences

A total of 10 Part 1 Offences and 1 Part 3 offences have been issued by Cobourg By-Law to date in 2020.



Proactive Patrols

Proactive patrols are done every day, and several warnings are given for different issues.

On average, about three warnings are given every day for parking in fire routes. There are also several warning given each day for parking/stopping in no parking/stopping areas. Other warnings that are given out include warnings for dogs on the beach, dogs off leash, and barbeques on the beach.



2020 BUDGET ITEM:

REPORT/UPDATE ON
ACCESSIBILITY COORDINATOR
ACCOMPLISHMENTS







Legislative Services Department



2 905-372-4301 x 4306

⊠ jkramer@cobourg.ca

Victoria Hall, 55 King Street West

Contract Position – Accessibility Coordinator Accomplishments

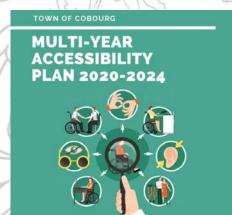
- Accessibility Coordinator hired on September 8 2020; (Three Months into Contract)
- Creation of an <u>accessibility@cobourg.ca</u> email to receive ongoing communication and submissions of potential and existing barriers to accessibility to be addressed;
- Reformatting of the <u>Town of Cobourg's Accessibility Website</u> to have an ease to finding appropriate information;
- Creation, approval and implementation of the Town of Cobourg Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2020-2024;
- Successful approval of amendments to Accessibility Policies Accessible Workplace and Customer Service Policy and Integrated Accessible Standards Policy;
- Over 40 directed conversations internally and externally related to conversations on Accessibility in the workplace and the community;
- Formation of local partnerships with community organizations to build accessibility awareness and opportunities for the Town to be a leader in accessibility;
- Creation of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility lens to assist with policy review process;
- Active Member of the Development Review Team to provide an Accessible Lens and comments on accessibility in Developments and to assist the Accessibility Advisory Committee in their review of Site Plans.

Contract Position – Accessibility Coordinator Accomplishments

- Develop the process for an Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Strategy at the Town of Cobourg;
- Worked with Alderville First Nations and the Nogojiwanong (Peterborough)
 Friendship Centre to create the Town of Cobourg's Land
 Acknowledgement;
- Collaborated with the Nogojiwanong (Peterborough) Friendship Centre and the City of Toronto to create the Town of Cobourg's Land Acknowledgement Guide;
- Formation of partnerships with Indigenous Awareness Canada and the International Association for Public Participation for Indigenous relations;
- Engaged with 12 community organizations related to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee of Council at the Town of Cobourg;
- Advise and advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion on over 10 internal and external matters;
- Coordinate with Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE) on funding and grant opportunities for the future;
- Collaborate with the Canadian Commission for UNESCO on joining the Coalition of Inclusive Municipalities;

Contract Position – Accessibility Coordinator 2021 Goals

- Begin active campaigns internally and externally to educate on aspects related to Persons with Disabilities;
- Build upon current internal awareness around accessibility needs to further educate staff;
- Work with the provincial and federal government to prepare grant and funding proposals for future accessibility initiatives;
- Train internal staff members on the principles of Accessible Documents and websites to remain complaint in 2021;
- Expand ongoing internal education and communications regarding policies, procedures, and complaint processes currently in place that focus on diversity, accessibility, and Human Rights;
- Create local partnerships to explore possibilities to employ Persons with Disabilities;
- Engage the public to learn more about the needs for transit, including accessible taxis, active transit, and specialized transit;
- Work with internal and external stakeholders and rights holders to create Facility Accessible Design Standards for the Town of Cobourg.



Contract Position – Accessibility Coordinator 2021 Goals

- Review applications for the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee of Council;
- Formation of further partnerships with local agencies and organizations to assist with bringing more awareness to EDI;
- Conduct the remaining aspects of the EDI Strategy development process:
 - Internal Benchmarking,
 - Leadership Interviews,
 - Document Review,
 - Workplace Census and Engagement Survey,
 - Internal (Anonymous) Focus Groups,
 - External Public Engagement.
- Analyze the data and information to create robust recommendations for the future of EDI at the Town of Cobourg;
- Create a dual-stream mentoring programming for women and nonbinary individuals who wish to run for politics or work in local government.

Inclusive Communities Grant

The Inclusive Communities Grant focuses on both the physical and social dimensions that contribute to independent and active living, leading to benefits such as improved accessibility, walkability, and safety of communities.

The Town of Cobourg will be applying for the Grant in the amount of \$60,000 to:

- 1. Inform the public about how to engage with the Town of Cobourg.
- 2. Provide media literacy and information training to seniors and Persons with Disabilities.
- 3. Increase accessibility in the Town of Cobourg's downtown core area.
- 4. Increase public awareness around accessibility issues.
- Work towards becoming a more Age Friendly Community.







LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN



Council Strategic Plan Priorities that align with Legislative Services Department 2020 Accomplishments.

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

PEOPLE

The Town supports and cares for the social and physical well-being of its citizens

Strategic Actions

- Create a housing strategy that is in alignment with Northumberland County's housing strategy
- Implement a municipal youth program
- Encourage healthy lifestyles across all age groups by promoting and raising awareness about public health and active transportation
- 4. Continue to pursue the Age-Friendly Communities designation
- . Invest in programs, services and infrastructure to make Cobourg more accessible

Desired Outcomes

- · People are able to find attainable housing in Cobourg
- There is a broad variety of housing types available for ownership and rental
- Residents of all ages are engaged in a wide range of physical activities
- Cobourg residents are healthy and happy
- Cobourg's youth participate in community activities and events
- The Town is enriched by the skills, ideas and perspectives of its youth
- A barrier-free Cobourg that is accessible to citizens of all abilities, including those with disabilities

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES 2020 Accomplishments

- Hired Accessibility Coordinator to focus on Accessibility within the Town of Cobourg and pursued many Initiatives.
- Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2020-2024 approved and implemented.
- Updated the Town of Cobourg Accessible Customer Service and Integrated Accessible Standards Policy.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN WORK PLAN ALIGNMENT

Pillar: PEOPLE

The Town supports and cares for the social and physical well-being of its citizens.

Work	Target Date	Budget	Staff Responsible
 Update plan in consultation with Accessibility Committee on Accessible Audit as part of the Asset Management Plan 	Completed by end of 2019	Ņ/A	PW Division
 Hire a short term Contract Accessibility Coordinator for Corporate wide Accessibility initiatives for AODA compliance by 2025 including completion of Building Audits. 	Jan 2020	\$55,000	Legislative Services
 Review and update the Town of Cobourg's Accessibility Policy 	March 2020	TBD	Logislative Services
 Draft an updated Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and present to Council for Adoption 	June 2020	TBD	Legislative Services
 Implement the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and provide an annual report to Council on progress 	June 2020 and onwards		

Note: All work should be undertaken in consultation with the Accessibility Advisory Committee.

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN

PROGRAMS

The Town provides efficient and effective corporate, community, business and recreational services for its residents, businesses and visitors

Strategic Actions

- Develop an information technology strategic plan
- 2. Develop an integrated records management system
- 3. Implement a comprehensive management plan for all of the Town's assets
- Explore the feasibility of enhanced sidewalk snow clearing including the clearing of arterial bike lanes and multi-use paths
- 5. Review and assess appropriateness of agreements with third party contracts
- Continue to explore communications priorities including social media and public engagement tools

Desired Outcomes

- People will be well informed, know what is going on in the Town and how to get information
- · The Town will be resilient and safe from cyber attacks
- Information will be easier and faster to access through a variety of means
- People will be informed with the facts
- Information will be stored in a way that is accessible for present and future generations
- Public trust and confidence in the Town's processes and procedures will be enhanced

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES 2020 Accomplishments

- Corporate Records Management Policy and Program and Classification Schedule:
- Launch of more effective Agenda Meeting Management

 Software Upgrade -eSCRIBE;
 - Successful Switch to Electronic Council and Committee
- Meetings Via Electronic Participation **Zoom Live**Streaming and eSCRIBE;
- Successful Launch or Dog Licensing Program –
 DocuPet;
- 8 Municipal Government Transparency with introduction of the Closed Meeting Session Guidelines and Protocol.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN WORK PLAN ALIGNMENT

Pillar: PROGRAMS

The Town provides efficient and effective corporate, community and business and recreational services for its residents, businesses and visitors.

· NAA

Action #2 Develop an Integrated Records Management System				
Work		Timing	Budget	Staff Responsible
 Complete reco 	ord management inventory	Dec 2019	N/A	Clerk/All Divisions
Create record	management plan	Apr 2020	\$25,000.00	Clerk/All Divisions
Execute record management Plan/Electronic Records		Dec 2020	TBD	Clerk/All Divisions
Open Governance Records Model System		Dec 2023	TBD	Clerk/All Divisions

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES Other 2020 Accomplishments

- Special Valentines Weddings Program 14 Weddings in One Day – February 14, 2020;
- 2. Equity Diversity and Inclusion Strategy Terms of Reference and initiated a Town wide EDI Strategy;
- Hired Deputy Clerk/Records Management Coordinator to assist Legislative Services Department with Statutory Duties and Functions and lead Corporate Records Program;
- 4. Hired Full-Time Property Standards Officer to assist with increasing Service Demands for Enforcement in Community;
- 5. Maintaining Essential and Critical Services to the Town of Cobourg Residents during COVID-19 Pandemic.









LEGISLATIVE SERVICES 2021 Goals and Projects

- 2021 Goals and Projects

 1. Full Implementation of Workflow Report Writing through eSCRIBE System to better manage Council Reports and Staff Memos;
- 2. Intergrate new Advisory Committee Management Model through eSCRIBE to help manage and organize Advisory and Board Meetings and Member vacancies efficiently;
- 3. Implement development and planning of the Town Electronic Documents Record System in Spring 2021. This system will modernize how electronic records are managed and made available to the public and better protect information assets while moving them through the information lifecycle.
- 4. Complete, finalize and implement the Equity Diversity and Inclusion Strategy for the Town.
- Start Corporate Policy Review Working Group and bring forward urgent Policy Review to Council for updates and approval
- 6. Start 2022 Municipal and School Board Election Planning.







LEGISLATIVE SERVICES 2021 Expectations and Future

Changing technologies, demand for electronic and online services and increasing demand for transparency of local government means residents are becoming more dependent on services and methods based through technology. The COVID-19 Pandemic can be a testament to this change in behavior as accommodations were required to be made, in order to deliver the same level of Services the Community expects, in the wake of current Public Health Measures.

The Legislative Services Department will continue to expand their use of technology in creative and innovative ways to interact with and serve our internal and external customers, this will be a key theme for 2021 and beyond for the Legislative Services Department.



Digital Town Hall





LEGISLATIVE SERVICES/ MUNICIPAL CLERKS

OPERATING BUDGET



LEGISLATIVE SERVICES Highlights/Change in 2021

2021 Budget Request Explanation of Change

1150171 - Software Maintenance

1. eSCRIBE Meeting Manger and Video Plus Streaming

Council, Advisory Committee and Local Boards
Meeting Management Software

\$24,570

1. Note: eSCRIBE Contract \$19,570 (increase includes Video Manager which in 2020 was in the Communications Budget).

Approved July 2020 -312-20. - Added functions incl. hosting own video, delegations, website integration, Advisory Committee Manager, increased Accessibility.



LEGISLATIVE SERVICES/ MUNICIPAL CLERKS

OPERATING BUDGET SPECIAL PROJECTS





LEGISLATIVE SERVICES Multi-Year Accessibility Plan Budget

Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2021 Budget Request

Special Considerations

Closed Captioning

\$10,450

Information and Communications Standard

Awareness Campaigns

\$1,000

TOTAL:

\$11,450

Customer Service Standard

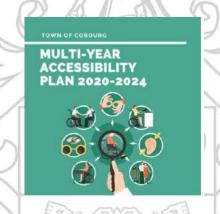
Video Remote Interpreting Costs (2022)

\$8,000









Multi-Year Accessibility WCAG 2.0 Level AA - AODA

Webcasting Plus Module & Automated Closed Captioning

Automated Closed Captioning

Make videos more inclusive and accessible than ever

Historically, the text that viewers see in videos was created entirely manually. The production costs can be extremely expensive, particularly for live content. Considering that most public sector meetings take more than an hour each time, the costs can quickly add up.

Today, automated closed captioning is offered as a fully-integrated aption for eSCRIBE's Webcasting Plus module, effortlessly bolstering your accessibility. And as an added bonus, eSCRIBE's closed captioning process also automatically generates a transcript that can be used to validate and update manually-entered meeting minutes – particularly valuable in jurisdictions that use the narrative style of minutes.

Key Features

- 94%+ accuracy
- Screen reader compatible
- Text embedded into media player or available via IFrame
- A fraction of the going market rates
- No hardware required

- Compliant with requirements such as ADA, AODA & WCAG 2.0
- Transcripts provided
- · Available in English, French and Spanish
- Ask about ASL, LSF and Lip Reading Services

Get In Touch for More Information

eSCRIBE understands each organization is different. Get in touch with us at info@escribemeetings. com or 1 (888) 420-9053 to see how your organization can start taking advantage of a fully-managed webcasting service and automated closed captioning for your video streams.



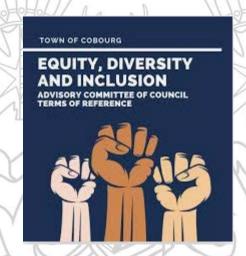


LEGISLATIVE SERVICES
Equity Diversity and Inclusion Budget
Considerations

EDI Strategy 2021 Budget Request

Training

Intercultural Development Inventory® (IDI®)	\$5,500
Indigenous Awareness and Inclusion	\$4,300
Anti-Racism Workshop	\$1,350

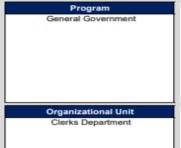




Town of Cobourg

Municipal Service Profile Legislative Services

Service Delivery Review Snapshot



and meeting minutes and the preparation of municipal by-laws. The Municipal Clerk is also responsible for record management from creation through retention to disposition; the administration of the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ("MFIPPA"); the conduct of municipal and school board elections (every four years); the provision of lottery licenses, oaths, affidavits and other services to the general public; managing the document execution process for all formal documents; and administering the Town's processes for the acquisition and disposal of real property. The Legislative Services Department is also responsible for maintaining and providing access to all By-laws enacted, amended and repealed by Municipal Council. Service Value

Service Overview

The Municipal Clerk provides secretariat support to Town

Council and Committees, including the provision of advice to Council on legislative matters, preparation of agendas, reports



Internal and External Budget Operating Costs 638,184 Revenues (333,500)304,684 Net Levy

Type of Service

Legislative services contributes towards the efficiency, effectiveness and transparency of governance by providing support to Town Council and maintaining appropriate records and documentation of governance decisions. It also ensures compliance with a variety of legislative and regulatory requirements relating to the governance of the Town and is an essential link between Cobourg, the General Public and Municipal Council.

The Town has budgeted a total of \$304,684 in municipal taxation support for the Town Clerk during the 2020 fiscal year, representing an average of \$34.01 per household. In comparison to the selected municipal comparators for which costs relating to the clerk function is publicly available (8), the Town has the second lowest level of municipal taxation support for the clerk function, with the Town providing a level of taxation support per household that is 57% of the average of the comparator municipalities.

Basis for Delivery

Mandatory - The Municipal Act establishes the requirement for a municipal clerk, while the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act mandates municipalities to maintain a process for freedom of information requests.

While the cost of delivering municipal services from an overall perspective (for those services included in the scope of the Review) is generally consistent with selected comparator municipalities of comparable size, our analysis has identified a number of individual services where the net levy requirement varies significantly from the average of the comparable municipalities. Specifically, the amount of taxation funding for corporate-type services \leftarrow notably clerks, finance and information technology – as well as planning and by-law enforcement is lower than the average of the comparator municipalities, which we consider to be indicative of either (i) the efficiency of the Town in delivering these services; and/or (ii) the need for additional investment in resources.

THANK-YOU

EMAIL COMMENT OR INQUIRES

CLERK@COBOURG.CA



