



STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

Toronto Bid for the 2009 Canadian Transportation Demand Management Summit

Date:	October 27, 2008
To:	Executive Committee
From:	Director, Toronto Environment Office
Wards:	All
Reference Number:	P:\2008\Cluster B\TEO\EX08014

SUMMARY

This report seeks Council endorsement of Toronto as the co-host of the 2009 Canadian Transportation Demand Management (“TDM”) Summit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Director of the Toronto Environment Office recommends that:

1. Council express its interest and desire, through the Toronto Environment Office, to act as the local co-hosts of the 2009 Canadian TDM Summit, in partnership with Metrolinx.

Financial Impact

The total financial impact resulting from these recommendations is \$25,000, which has been included in the 2009 Toronto Environment Office and City Planning Operating submissions in the amounts of \$20,000 and \$5,000 respectively.

The Canadian TDM Summit (the “Summit”) is organized each year by the Association of Commuter Transportation of Canada (ACT Canada). ACT Canada is the administrative and legal lead on the Summit and, as such, the City will not bear any liability other than the commitment of funding of \$25,000 towards the conference.

The Acting Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer have reviewed this report and concur with the financial impact statement.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Each year, the Association for Commuter Transportation of Canada (ACT Canada) hosts the Canadian TDM Summit – a national gathering of leaders in the TDM field. Delegates include representatives from municipalities, transportation management associations (TMAs), consulting firms, other levels of government and other interested parties.

The Summit is focused on building collaboration through the five pillars of sustainable transportation:

1. Transportation;
2. Health;
3. Economy;
4. Land use; and
5. Environment.

The 2008 Summit was held in Halifax, Nova Scotia in October 2008. Staff of the Toronto Environment office attended the 2008 Summit so that they can gain experience with the logistics and content of the Summit.

COMMENTS

Two hundred and fifty (250) delegates from across Canada are expected to attend the 2009 Summit. In addition to a financial contribution, staff from City Planning (Transportation Planning) and the Toronto Environment Office will be engaged in working with ACT Canada and Metrolinx in the planning and implementation of the conference.

As ACT Canada will hold all legal responsibility for contracts with vendors and suppliers, in the event the conference does not meet its revenue targets the City of Toronto will not be liable to produce funding beyond its commitment of \$25,000.

Metrolinx staff have indicated their support as a co-host of the conference and will be seeking the endorsement of the Metrolinx Board of Directors in a report to the November 2008 Board meeting. As a co-host, Metrolinx staff are seeking approval to provide funding of up to \$50,000 and in-kind staff support to the conference.

The goals of the 2009 Canadian TDM Summit will be to:

1. Increase capacity for TDM amongst industry and non-industry stakeholders;
2. Increase the profile of TDM as a viable solution for climate change, air quality and congestion; and
3. Showcase Ontario's leadership in TDM.

The benefits of hosting the conference include:

1. Profile and recognition for the City of Toronto's leadership and its initiatives in the TDM field; and
2. Profile of the City's investment in other areas related to sustainable transportation and climate change mitigation.

CONCLUSION

Over the past three years the Smart Commute Initiative has proven that TDM can play an important role in mitigating the effects of climate change, addressing poor air quality and reducing congestion in the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area. The 2009 Canadian TDM Summit provides Toronto with a unique opportunity to play a continued leadership role in defining the future of Smart Commute. It will encourage dialogue and information exchange on how to integrate these best practices into the municipal planning process and transportation system.

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