Independent Body to set Council Member Remuneration - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Josh Colle

* Notice of this Motion has been given.
* This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two thirds vote is required to waive referral.

Recommendations

Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Josh Colle, recommends that:

1. City Council request the City Manager, in consultation with the City Solicitor and the City Clerk, to submit a report to the Executive Committee addressing options for appointing an independent body to set councilor remuneration, such report to include:
   a. the composition and mandate of such a body and how this option compares to the status quo;
   b. whether the City of Toronto Act, 2006 prohibits Council from delegating the power to set councillor remuneration to a body established by it;
   c. a review of other relevant policies; and
   d. practices implemented by other jurisdictions.

Summary

In July 2006, Council approved a compensation model for the Mayor and Councillors. The model includes the requirement for a study prior to the beginning of each term to determine the compensation of City Councillors and the Mayor in an appropriate comparator group defined by a specialist consultant.

The required study for the current term was undertaken in 2010. The consultant's findings and recommendations were considered by City Council on December 16, 2010. City Council received the Item for information.

A number of times over the past term, Council and committee has grappled with the issue of compensation for election officials. It may be time to consider a new model that delegates this decision to an independent body.

This Motion asks staff to explore and report back on appointing an independent, non-political body to determine Councillor and Mayor compensation.

(Submitted to City Council on March 8, 2011 as MM5.1)