



CITY OF
ST. CATHARINES

Corporate Report

Report from Planning and Development Services, Planning Services

Date of Report: April 24, 2013

Date of Meeting: May 13, 2013

Report Number: PDS-121-2013

File: 10.10.3

Subject: Reallocation of Funds to attend Canadian Institute of Planners Conference, Vancouver, BC

Recommendation

That Council approve a reallocation of funds to permit attendance at the Canadian Institute of Planners Conference in Vancouver. FORTHWITH.

Summary

The Making Cities Liveable Conference in Portland, Oregon was originally approved by Council in the 2013 budget. Staff have reviewed the recently released programs of both the Making Cities Liveable Conference and the Canadian Institute of Planners Conference and consider the Canadian Institute of Planners Conference to be a superior program. Council is requested to approve the reallocation of conference funds, already budgeted and approved, to the Canadian Institute of Planners Conference.

Background

At the time staff prepared budget submissions last fall, the programming details for the Making Cities Liveable Conference had not yet been released. Now that those details are available, staff consider there to be better value in the Canadian Institute of Planners Conference.

Report

The Making Cities Liveable Conference in Portland, Oregon has been attended in the past with high marks for creative approaches to urban design, walkable communities and best practices in community planning. In reviewing the program for this year, staff considered the program to offer less value compared to earlier years. In comparison, the Canadian Institute of Planners Conference in Vancouver offers a program, including a number of sessions on urban intensification, downtown redevelopment, and adaptive reuse of underutilized buildings. These topic areas are timely and relevant to the St. Catharines experience and provide better value, compared to the Making Cities Liveable Conference.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications. The \$3,300 originally allocated to the Making Cities Liveable Conference will cover costs of attending the Canadian Institute of Planner Conference.

Conclusion

Staff consider there to be better value in the Canadian Institute of Planners Conference in Vancouver than the Making Cities Liveable Conference in Portland, Oregon and seeks a reallocation of funds accordingly.

Notification

Not applicable.

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