

TO: MUNPA Members

FROM: Sheila Singleton, Secretary, MUNPA Board of Directors

SUBJECT: Notice of Motion

At its October 2018 meeting, the MUNPA Board of Directors approved a change to the By-Laws, and is now seeking ratification from the Association at its Annual General Meeting on June 6, 2019.

Article 8.6 of our By-Laws states *“Members of the Board shall not receive remuneration for duties performed on behalf of the Association but may be reimbursed for expenses incurred in performing such duties and authorized by the Board”*. The MUNPA Board approved that Article 8.6 be amended by the addition of the sentence *“However, in extraordinary circumstances, and where no paid staff is available, a Board member may temporarily assume duties normally completed by paid staff and receive remuneration for such duties”*.

This change was necessitated by the need to ensure continuity of services to our members after the sudden and unexpected passing of Gwyn Barrowman, who served as MUNPA’s sole Office Assistant for many years. MUNPA was in need of Office assistance while a search was conducted to permanently fill the position. Few people were familiar with the running of the Office and the duties of the position, but, because she had assisted in moving the MUNPA Office to the Signal Hill Campus in August, 2018, Audrey Power gained knowledge of the Office and its duties, and therefore was well suited to provide the needed assistance; she was willing to take on the role on an interim basis. However, being Treasurer of MUNPA, the By-Laws did not allow that she be paid for such services. The Board concluded that the intent of the By-Law did not address or consider such a circumstance, and that it was not the intention to preclude payment to a Board member for duties normally completed by paid staff.

Members should note that: “An amendment requires support by at least a two-thirds majority of the total of (i) members present and voting *at the General Meeting* and (ii) absent members who have submitted a vote by mail or e-mail, provided that such vote is received by the Secretary at least three days prior to the scheduled meeting and that such absentee vote clearly indicates “Aye” or “Nay” for any proposed amendment. 9.4 Amended Bylaws shall take effect at a time stated in the resolution to amend”. Members who will be absent from the Annual General Meeting and who wish to vote can submit a vote addressed to “Secretary, MUNPA Board of Directors” at munpa@mun.ca.