



The Corporation of the City of Cornwall
Regular Meeting of Council
Report

Department: CAO
Report Number: 2024-38-CAO
Meeting Date: May 14, 2024
Subject: CAO Quarterly Update

Purpose

To provide Council with a Q1 2024 update from the CAO.

Recommendation

That Council receive Report 2024-38-CAO.

Strategic Priority Implications

The Office of the Chief Administrative Officer advances Council's Strategic Plan in all areas of the organisation. The CAO and Director of Government Relations and Corporate Priorities take a lead role in assisting Council to create the plan, and play important role on planning, reviewing, achieving all priorities alongside members of the Senior Management Team.

Background / Discussion

The first quarter saw progress on many priorities listed within Council's Strategic Plan and 2024 Priorities. A report speaking directly to updates on these priorities is forthcoming to Council.

The first quarter also saw advancements on the objectives Council set out for the Chief Administrative Officer. This report is meant to provide a snapshot of Q1, and notable accomplishments and projects underway include, but are not limited to:

- Citizen Service Request Portal is *underway* (Cornwall Connect initiative)
- Onboarding program for new hires *underway*



- HR Audit *underway*
- Labour relations advancements
- Carleton University School of Architecture- Design Projects
- Provincial Pre-Budget Submission
- Francophone Services *reviews*
- Solar Eclipse preparation and event
- Recruitment of Director of Legal Services

Governance and Skills Development

There has been a significant focus on strengthening good governance, which has been reinforced by the Procedural By-Law review and enhanced role of the Clerks Department on committees. Modern governance will be further supported by a Mid-Term Governance review.

A refreshed and expanded skills development program has also been prioritized. Working closely with the Human Resources department, a *Road to Leadership* framework is under development and will launch in Q3. *Road to Leadership* will outline skills development and training opportunities for employees to grow in the organization and support Council's priority of becoming an employer of choice.

Intergovernmental Relations

The Chief Administrative Officer, Director of Government Relations and Corporate Priorities, and members of staff have met with representatives from senior levels of government to advance priority matters and engage in strategic discussions to support the community needs. Main advocacy points include the urgent need for a secondary water intake, increasing the affordable housing portfolio, supports to assist asylum claimants and investments in core aging infrastructure.

Federal

- Transport Canada: Discussions around acquisition of waterfront lands
- Canada Lands Company: Discussion around acquisition of waterfront lands
- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada: Discussions around asylum claimants
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada: Discussions around local assets

- Ministry of Energy: Discussions around retrofits and energy transformation
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing: Discussions around affordable housing in our community and helping to reach Ontario housing targets
- Ministry of Transportation: Discussions around road infrastructure in business park
- Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services: Discussions around asylum claimant services
- Ministry of Environment, Conservations and Parks: Discussions around secondary water intake

City staff and the Mayor, MP and MPP also hold regular meetings to remain engaged and connected on local files.

Good Roads Conference

The Chief Administrative Officer and General Manager of Infrastructure and Municipal Works attended the Good Roads Conference in Toronto on April 21-24, 2024.

Several beneficial sessions were attended, including:

- Emerging Municipal Leaders Forum;
- A Perfect Capital Storm;
- Mayor Olivia Chow on Transportation Network in Toronto;
- Study Behind the Scene with TTC;
- Panel Funding Ontario's Municipal Infrastructure;
- Talent Management in Municipalities: Strategies for Hiring and Retaining Top Talent;
- Fire Side Chat with Premier Ford;
- Advancing Road Safety: Power of Camera Technology;
- Empowered Municipalities: Driving Ontario's Electricity Future;
- Kenn Beer: Dangerous By Design
- Jeff Speck: Creating More Walkable Communities

The City of Cornwall and Cornwall Police Service were also successful in obtaining a delegation with the Ministry of Infrastructure to speak about the facility needs of the Cornwall Police and request their financial support for this project.

External Interest Holder Meetings

The Office of the CAO meets regularly with various community groups and interest holders both to advance Council priorities, advance services gaps and ensure the City remains an active community partner. Some of the meetings that have taken place in Q1 include (but are not limited to):

- University of Ottawa: Discussions around university programs in City of Cornwall
- St. Lawrence College
- Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
- ACFO Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry
- Great Wolf Lodge
- MCCC Representatives Meeting
- Federation of Canadian Municipalities
- Eastern Ontario Mayor's Caucus
- Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation
- Cornwall Hospital
- Cornwall Police
- Township of South Glengarry
- School Boards
- Microsoft
- Eastern Ontario Health Unit
- BIAs