



29 September 2011

**City Council
Committee Report**

To: Mayor & Council

Fr: Joanne L. McMillin, City Clerk

Re: Local Government Week – October 16 – 22, 2011

Recommendation:

That the Mayor be and is hereby authorized to proclaim the week of October 16 to 22, 2011 as "Local Government Week" in and for the City of Kenora; and further

That authorization be hereby given to the City Clerk's Office to arrange various activities involving Members of Council with local schools and the media as deemed necessary in order to advertise, promote, and engage the citizens of Kenora to recognize local government in our community.

Background:

Each year both the Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks & Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing encourage municipalities to get involved with promoting "Local Government Week." Last year however with the timing in October and with the earlier than usual municipal election, we did not participate.

Many municipalities are planning activities to promote a better understanding and awareness about the operations and services of their municipality, which include but are not limited to the following:-

- tours of municipalities by local students and citizens
- visits to schools by municipal staff and elected officials
- mock municipal elections in schools
- mock municipal referendums in schools
- inviting students to observe council in session
- "Mayor for a Day" or "A Day in the Life of an Elected Official"
- trivia/poster contests
- official proclamation of Local Government Week

The Clerk's office is willing to put together a few activities involving the community and schools in co-operation with participating Members of Council. There is a slide presentation that could be presented by Members at different high school levels; a radio jeopardy contest; a poster contest at the elementary level and perhaps a shadowing opportunity for a student to spend a typical day with a Member and/or have an honorary Mayor for a Day and possibly have them participate in the October 17 Council Meeting; this could be awarded through a short essay contest. While there are many ideas, we would only likely carry out three or four things during that week and will work out the finer details if we have the support of Council to take part.

Budget:

There are dollars available through Council's advertising budget; and there would be promo prizes awarded in conjunction with any contest/s.

Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:

As determined by the Clerk.