

Remuneration Commission

In spring of 2019 a Commission was struck to study honorarium amounts received by the Mayor and Councillors of Crapaud. Two extensions were requested by and granted to the Commission, thereby delaying presentation of their report and recommendations to February 18, 2020.

The report has been carefully reviewed by Council over the past few months and it is our finding that the report neglected to show a complete and factual account of the responsibilities and time commitments as performed by members of Council since 2017, the date of the last honorarium and salary increase passed by the previous administration. Due to changes in provincial/municipal division of responsibilities, Council feels that the required workload has increased tremendously since the Commission members were working for Crapaud and therefore does not warrant a direct comparison dollar for dollar as mentioned in the report.

Additionally, honorariums are now taxable, (not the case when Commission members were involved), and honorariums also cover a multitude of personal expenses including travel, phone bills, printing costs, training, meals, fuel, etc for which councillors do not submit expense reports or receive compensation.

The portion of the report covering staff salaries was disregarded by Council in their review after learning and instructing the Commission not to include staff in their research as per the Municipal Government Act.

The difficulty in filling vacancies on Crapaud Council for the past 5+ years and the impact of honorariums on the municipality's budget were not addressed at all in the Commission's Report, despite being two of the four required points to be covered as per the Municipal Government Act. Council feels that both these points had they been included would have supported keeping honorariums at current levels.

Finally, Council feels that the Commission members showed extreme bias and belligerence from the onset of their study to the presentation of their findings.

For all these reasons and more, Council feels that the Commission's recommendations to reduce honorariums for Mayor and Council is not in the best interest of Crapaud residents to having a dedicated and invested Council representation.

Regardless of our decision, Council still thanks the members of the Commission for volunteering their time and effort to this process.