

## **Subject: Rural Committee Recommendation – Development Charges Reduction Program for Rural Development Projects**

### **Rural Committee Recommendation:**

That a Development Incentive Program be established for the rural areas within the municipality [similar to the program set out in Resolution 10-377 for the Lower Townsite] to reduce development charges in rural areas of the municipality by sixty percent (60%) for a trial period expiring on December 31, 2016.

### **Background:**

Administration presented a recommendation at the September 22, 2015 Rural Committee meeting regarding establishment of a Development Charges Reduction Program for Rural Development Projects. At that meeting, the Rural Committee passed the following resolution:

“THAT the Rural Development Committee recommend that Council establish a Development Incentive Program for the rural areas within the municipality [similar to the program set out in Resolution 10-377 for the Lower Townsite] to reduce development charges in rural areas of the municipality by sixty percent (60%) for a trial period expiring on December 31, 2016.”

The above reference to a program “similar” to the one currently in place for the Lower Townsite, means that the proposed Rural Development Charges Reduction program would only reduce development charges payable by residential and small-to-medium commercial developments [i.e., the kinds of developments that exist in the Lower Townsite] and would not impact large industrial developments. Also, the program would be entirely separate from the Rural Water and Sewer Program, which already provides a substantial cost reduction for eligible residential properties to receive water and sewer services to acceptable municipal standards.

### **Attachments:**

1. Rural Committee Unapproved Minutes – September 22, 2015
2. Rural Committee Report - September 22, 2015 – Development Charges Reduction Program for Rural Development Projects