

UNSM Special Meeting on Accountability and Transparency

Westin, Halifax

February 24, 2017: 9:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Key Outcomes:

1. to understand how an individual council expense policy compares to the expense policy at the Province and other municipalities
2. to share perspectives on elements of expense policies, what might be considered reasonable and under what circumstances
3. to provide comments on expenses and reporting for consideration by the Joint Municipal Accountability and Transparency Committee

Agenda

Agenda Item	Description	Schedule
Registration/Meet and Greet	Coffee/Tea/Muffins provided	9:15-9:45
Welcoming Remarks and Background Information	Deputy Mayor Laurie Murley, UNSM President	9:45-10:00
Review Agenda/Process/Goals/Outcomes	Review agenda/goals for the day/housekeeping items	10:00-10:10
Presentation - Michael Pickup, NS Auditor General	The Auditor General will provide guidance to municipalities by reviewing best practices.	10:10-10:50
Presentation - Greg Herrett, CAO, Amherst	Greg will describe the provincial policy, aspects of a municipal model expense policy, and a description of the variance in current municipal policies	10:50-11:20
Facilitated Discussion 1	Participants broken up into smaller groups to discuss key questions/issues, such as alcohol, level of detail in the posting of expenses, mileage, and discretionary items.	11:20-12:20
LUNCH	Lunch provided	12:20-1:00
Facilitated Session 2	Each table will report to the whole group the discussions and key points	1:00-2:00
Coffee Break	coffee/tea provided	2:30-2:45
Summary of Key Points/Next Steps	The purpose of this session is to highlight the key issues raised and to engage the participants in a discussion to seek agreement on the points they wish the committee to consider.	2:45-3:15
Evaluation/Departure		3:15-3:30