

KEVIN O'REILLY—MLA FRAME LAKE

Setting of Fees

Committee of the Whole—2016-2017 Operating Budget Review

Dept. of Municipal and Community Affairs—June 24, 2016

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. There's a number of fees that the department collects through licences and so on, are those reviewed on an annual basis and do we compare ourselves to other jurisdictions as well? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you, Mr. O'Reilly. Minister McLeod.

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. We do review these fees annually. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you, Minister. Mr. O'Reilly.

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. The Minister answered the question about the annual review part. But how do we compare against other jurisdictions in terms of our fees and licence payments and so on? Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you, Mr. O'Reilly. Minister.

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, we review them annually. I might ask Mr. Schauerte to expand on how the review takes place. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you, Minister. Mr. Schauerte.

MR. SCHAUERTE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Our fees are set in regulation. The fees are based on the cost of doing business. We reference the (inaudible) principle in terms of setting our fees, which reflects what the cost is for our department to conduct this business, to issue the appropriate business licence or document in that regard. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you, Mr. Schauerte. Mr. O'Reilly.

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. I appreciate the response from the department. So the cost recovery is a consideration. Do we look at what other jurisdictions charge for these services as well? Thanks, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you, Mr. O'Reilly. Minister.

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair, the Member is correct. We do look at what other jurisdictions charge. But Mr. Schauerte pointed out that there is a bit of a cost recovery. If Members are interested, I am sure we can provide a document that compares our fees to other jurisdictions. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thank you, Minister. Mr. O'Reilly.

MR. O'REILLY: Thanks, Mr. Chair. Yes, I would be interested in seeing that sort of document. There is obviously no sort of urgency, now we have a number of other things. But if the department could provide that, even in conjunction with the next business plan, that would be helpful. Thanks, Mr. Chair. That is all I have.

CHAIRPERSON (Mr. Simpson): Thanks, Mr. O'Reilly. Would the Minister like to add anything?

HON. ROBERT MCLEOD: No. Fine, Mr. Chair. We have committed to providing the document, and we will do that. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

