

Council Memorandum

Date:	March 4, 2025
To:	Committee of the Whole
From:	Mayor Elmslie
Re:	Authorized Absence of a Member of Council in Accordance with s.259 s.259(1)(c) of the Municipal Act, 2001

Recommendation

That the Memorandum from Mayor Elmslie, **regarding an Authorized Absence of a Member of Council in Accordance with s.259(1)(c) of the Municipal Act, 2001**, be received;

That Councillor Ashmore be authorized to be absent from the meetings of Council and retain his seat;

That the authorized absence be revisited at the end of June, 2025, if necessary; and

That this recommendation be forwarded to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Rationale

The Municipal Act, section 259 (1c) declares that “the office of a member of council of a municipality becomes vacant if the member is absent from the meetings of council for three successive months without being authorized to do so by a resolution of council.” Due to a personal tragedy, Councillor Ashmore has been absent from Council for two consecutive months. To support the councillor through this time of grief, it is reasonable for Council to grant him authorization to continue his absence until such time as he feels ready to resume his duties. In acknowledgement of the responsibility to residents of



Ward 6, Council should retain the right to revisit this authorization in June if Councillor Ashmore remains absent at that time. This resolution would allow the Councillor to retain his seat at Council during this extended absence while fulfilling the requirements of the Municipal Act.