

DECISION/DIRECTION NOTE

Title: Travel Authorization – 2025 Canada Games Torch Lighting in Ottawa

Date Prepared: February 6, 2025

Report To: Regular Meeting of Council

Councillor and Role: Mayor Danny Breen, Governance & Strategic Priorities

Ward: Choose an item.

Decision/Direction Required:

Seeking approval for Mayor Danny Breen and Councillor Sandy Hickman to travel to Ottawa to participate in the 2025 Canada Games Torch lighting in June.

Discussion – Background and Current Status:

Mayor Danny Breen and Councillor Sandy Hickman have been invited to participate in the 2025 Canada Games Torch lighting in Ottawa on Wednesday June 11th, 2025. This event is a major milestone in the lead up to the 2025 Canada Summer Games being hosted in St. John's from August 8-24. These games will be the largest games in their history with more athletes competing than ever before.

Sponsored by Orangestore, the torch will be lit on June 11th at the Centennial Flame as part of a ceremony on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, signaling the start of the Canada Games Torch Relay.

The torch will travel through 14 communities in this province before arriving for the opening ceremonies in St. John's on August 9th.

Over 130 torchbearers will carry the flame through their hometowns as part of a series of events between late June and August.

Key Considerations/Implications:

1. Budget/Financial Implications: Hotel = \$299/room plus applicable provincial and local taxes (5% MAT and 13% HST); Flight = \$696 per traveler; total cost per traveler including per diem and ground transportation = \$1696.00. Yearly budget for travel is \$29,000.00, currently at \$17,355.73.
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders: 2025 Canada Games
3. Is this a New Plan or Strategy: No

The logo for St. John's features the words "ST. JOHN'S" in a bold, serif font. The letter "O" in "JOHN'S" is replaced by a stylized graphic of a signal tower or antenna.

If yes, are there recommendations or actions that require progress reporting?

If yes, how will progress be reported? (e.g.: through the strategic plan, through Cascade, annual update to Council, etc.)

4. Alignment with Strategic Directions:

An Effective City: Achieve service excellence through collaboration, innovation and modernization grounded in client needs.

A Connected City: Increase and improve opportunities for residents to connect with each other and the City.

5. Alignment with Adopted Plans: N/A

6. Accessibility and Inclusion: N/A

7. Legal or Policy Implications: N/A

8. Privacy Implications: N/A

9. Engagement and Communications Considerations: N/A

10. Human Resource Implications: N/A

11. Procurement Implications: N/A

12. Information Technology Implications: N/A

13. Other Implications: N/A

Recommendation:

That Council approve the travel costs to allow Mayor Danny Breen and Councillor Sandy Hickman to travel to Ottawa for the 2025 Canada Games Torch Lighting in June 2025.

Prepared by: Theresa Walsh, City Clerk

Approved by: Theresa Walsh, City Clerk