



Office of the Commissioner  
Corporate Services

## Memorandum

To: Regional Council

From: Dino Basso  
Commissioner of Corporate Services

Date: December 15, 2016

Re: **Video streaming for Council and Committee**

---

At its September 22, 2016 meeting Regional Council approved audio streaming for Committee of the Whole meetings, accompanied by video feeds of presentation material. Regional Council also endorsed the use of video streaming for Committee of the Whole and Council meetings and requested staff to report back within three months with options for high-quality implementation.

This memorandum provides Council with an update on video streaming and the work that has been conducted since September's Regional Council meeting.

### **Further exploration into high-quality video streaming has identified additional significant considerations for implementation**

A preliminary assessment conducted by an audio/visual firm suggests considerable improvements may be required to the lighting system in the Council Chamber to provide a high-quality viewing experience. These improvements would be in addition to the hardware costs cited in the September 22, 2016 Council report, and could amount to as much, or more, than the original cost estimate.

In addition, a report will be shared with Regional Council in January 2017 advising Council of proposed amendments to the *Municipal Act 2001* and related legislation. One of the proposed amendments would permit Council members to participate electronically in public meetings. If this amendment is enacted, additional renovations to the Council Chamber might be required to allow for electronic participation. There is the potential to reduce overall renovation costs for the Council Chamber if the video streaming and electronic participation renovations are completed at the same time.

Since Regional Council's approval in September 2016, York Region staff has made audio streaming available for all Committee of the Whole meetings. Staff will continue to build on the preliminary work conducted over the last few months and will report back to Regional Council in the first quarter of 2017 with a more informed and fulsome report that addresses some of the costs and considerations that remain unknown at this time in order to implement Council's directive on this matter.



---

Dino Basso  
Commissioner of Corporate Services

CJR

Attachment

#7161347