

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, Nov. 4, 2011				Report Date	Thursday, October 27, 2011			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority		High	X	Low
Direction	x	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed
REPORT TITLE									
Electronic Notification Report 04/11/11/1105									

Subject: Request for resolution to provide electronic notification of public or special meetings.

RECOMMENDATION: That the following resolution be adopted to provide for electronic notification via email when possible.

WHEREAS a member of the public has requested that staff provide email notification of public and/or special meetings of Council to those who have provided their email addresses;

AND WHEREAS this Council feels that this practise is simply improving on current notice practise;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council authorize staff to provide notice of public and/or special meetings of council via email including a disclaimer indicating that Council or staff maintains no responsibility for failure to receive notice for any reason as notice has been provided as per the Municipal Notice By-law and it is up to the individual to assume some responsibility for receiving that information from regular sources.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

1. I have been requested to send electronic (e-mail) notification of special and public meetings of Council to those individuals within the community who have email. I explained to the individual making the request that I thought that this service would present challenges:
 - a. By providing an unfair advantage to those within the community who do not have (or wish to have) access to that technology.
 - b. By the repercussions of failing to send the notice due to any number of reasons when these individuals have come to rely on it;
 - c. By not providing a similar service to other residents perhaps via phone (that technology exists, why not use it?)

I further explained that notices were posted on-line and on the bulletin boards as per our Notice By-law and that the individual had to take some responsibility to routinely check these locations if they would like to keep informed. Does Council feel that email notification should be sent out?

Financial Implications/Budget Impact: none

Policy Impact:

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk

Melinda Reith