

BYLAW NO. 887-13

**BEING A BY-LAW OF THE
MACKENZIE COUNTY
IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA**

**TO PROVIDE FOR HONORARIUMS AND RELATED EXPENSE
REIMBURSEMENT FOR COUNCILLORS
AND APPROVED COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

WHEREAS, the Municipal Government Act, being Chapter M-26 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta, 2000, hereinafter referred to as the "M.G.A." provides for decisions of council to be made by resolution or bylaw, and

WHEREAS, the council is desirous of establishing compensation of Councillors and approved committee members for their meeting time and their out of pocket expenses while on official municipal business,

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of Mackenzie County, duly assembled, enacts as follows:

HONORARIUMS

1. Monthly honorariums shall be paid to each Councillor for their time spent conducting the daily local business of the municipality as follows:
 - (a) Reeve \$1050.00 per month
 - (b) Deputy Reeve \$ 900.00 per month
 - (c) Councillor \$ 750.00 per month

2. Councillors in attendance at council meetings, approved council committee meetings, seminars and conventions shall be paid according to the following rates plus mileage and meal allowance, where applicable. A maximum of two meetings may be claimed per day.
 - (a) Council Meeting/Special Council Meetings \$300.00
 - (b) Committee Meeting/Seminars/Conventions \$200.00

3. Members-at-large appointed to approved council committees shall be paid \$150.00 per day when in attendance at approved council committee meetings, seminars and conventions, plus mileage and meal allowance, where applicable.

When two or more meetings are attended in one day, a total of \$225 (1.5 per diems) shall be paid.

4. Travel time to and from any council meeting, approved council committee meeting, seminar and/or convention shall be paid mileage and meal allowance, where applicable. Councillors driving to a seminar/convention shall be paid \$200.00 for one travel day there and one travel day back. Only one per diem per day shall be allowed.
5. A monthly communication allowance shall be paid
 - (a) an internet access allowance of \$75, and
 - (b) a personal computer allowance of \$50, if applicable, and
 - (c) a telephone allowance of \$60 for Councillors, and
 - (d) a telephone allowance of \$100 for the Reeve.

TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES

6. Mileage shall be paid at the current non-taxable rate (as per Canada Revenue Agency Appendix B – CRA Kilometric Rates) for each kilometer travelled by each Councillor and member-at-large who is travelling with their personal vehicle on business of the municipality or its committees. Such mileage shall be calculated from the place of residence of the Councillor or member-at-large to the place of the meeting and return. In addition, such mileage allowance shall apply to any approved convention or seminar.
7. Taxi fares, automobile rental, parking charges and public transportation fares will be reimbursed upon presentation of a receipt.

REIMBURSEMENT FOR ACCOMMODATIONS AND MEALS

8. Where a Councillor or committee member is required to travel on municipal business and overnight accommodation away from his/her regular place of residence is necessary, he/she may claim in respect of the time spent on travel status
 - (a) Either
 - (i) reimbursement of the cost of accommodation in a hotel, motel, guest-house, inn or other similar establishment, on a receipt submitted with the municipal expense account form, or

- (ii) an allowance of \$50.00 per night
 - (b) in respect of each breakfast, lunch, or dinner, either
 - (i) reimbursement of the cost of the meal, excluding alcoholic beverages, and of an amount equal to the amount of the gratuity paid on the meal to a maximum of 15% of the cost of the meal as shown on the receipt, or
 - (ii) the appropriate meal allowance, without receipt, as follows:
 - breakfast - \$15 including GST
(if time of departure is prior to 7:30 a.m.)
 - lunch - \$15 including GST
(if time of return is after 1:00 p.m.)
 - dinner - \$25.00 including GST
(if time of return is after 6:30 p.m.)
9. Meal claims will be calculated based on reasonable travel times to get to and return from meeting commencement and conclusion times.
10. A Councillor may claim reasonable government networking expenses while representing the County without prior approval. Reimbursement of these expenses will require approval by the Finance Committee based on the submission of actual receipts.
11. A Councillor and committee member may claim
- (a) an allowance for personal expenses for each full 24-hour period on travel status (as per the Canada Revenue Agency Appendix C – Meals and Allowances 1.2 Incidental Expense Allowance).
 - (b) reasonable telephone expenses on County business.

BENEFITS

12. A group benefits package shall be made available to each Councillor at 50% of the cost of the benefit premiums.

SIGNING AUTHORITY

13. Administration shall have the authority to verify and sign the Reeve and Councillor expense claims and honorariums under the following conditions:
 - (a) Councillors have attended Council meetings in person or by teleconference.
 - (b) Workshops, conferences, conventions that have been approved by Council prior to submission of expense claim.
 - (c) Attendance at Committee meetings or Task Force meetings will be in accordance with the bylaws or Terms of Reference of that committee or task force.
14. In the event that a discrepancy is noted on an expense or honorarium claim, Administration shall forward the claim to the Finance Committee for final decision. A Councillor shall have the option to appeal a decision of the Finance Committee to Council as a Whole.
15. Council members will supply their expense claims and honorariums within 60 days after the incurrence of the expenditure. After this time, the expense claims will not be paid, unless there are special circumstances.
16. Council members will submit their December expense claim and honorarium by January 31 of the following year in order to expedite the closing of the year-end accounts.
17. No expenses other than those listed in this bylaw may be claimed.
18. This bylaw shall come into effect the day that it is passed and rescinds Bylaw 877-12 and all amendments made thereto.

First Reading given on the 27th day of March, 2013.

Second Reading given on the 27th day of March, 2013.

Third Reading and Assent given on the 27th day of March, 2013.

(original signed)

Bill Neufeld
Reeve

(original signed)

Joulia Whittleton
Chief Administrative Officer