
DEPARTMENT: Council and All Departments

TITLE: **MEMBERSHIPS IN CLUBS, SOCIETIES AND ASSOCIATIONS**

Minutes reference date: 21 February 2005 26 January 2015

PURPOSE:

The Town of Amherst has in the past and will continue in the future to hold membership in various organizations and associations that advocate similar viewpoints and visions that help increase our competitiveness and enhance the level of services we provide to our residents.

In addition, Town employees have in the past and will continue to become affiliated with and actively participate in professional organizations that enhance their career competencies and provide the ability to learn new skills and improve existing skills in both a formal and informal setting.

The Town acknowledges that affiliations with organizations that provide advocacy support and professional development opportunities is important and should be supported accordingly.

POLICY STATEMENT:

1. The Town will pay annual membership fees to associations and organizations that have been deemed by council to benefit the Town's overall ability to enhance the quality of services provided for residents. Council may appoint an employee or elected official who will represent the Town at meetings and events and may provide reports from time to time that will keep Council informed of initiatives or issues that may affect our community.
2. The Town will pay the annual membership fees for employees to relevant professional association to which they are affiliated and are duly authorized by both Director and Chief Administrative Officer. These organizations must be relevant to the work the employee performs on a day to day basis and should demonstrate the ability to enhance the employee's skill levels.
3. The Town continues to encourage employees to contribute to their community through active participation in various community based service organizations that add to a strong social and community environment. For greater clarity, dues for local social and service organizations will be the personal responsibility of the employee.