Agenda Item V: Review of 2014 Carryover and 2015 Budget (Tab G, No. 4)

Timeline Status: Review of Budgets and Funding Approved in 2014.

Background: This Tab contains a summary of 2014 expenditures through January 2015 and the 2015 budget approved by the Council in August 2014.

The Next Step: 2015 Funding has been delayed. One Council is putting all current expenditures onto their 2014 Carryover budget. We would like the Council to approve the same.

Agenda Item VI: Review of Benefits Analysis by Markley Consultants (Tab G, No. 5)

Timeline Status: Initial Review

Background: In April, 2014 the Council approved funds to hire a consultant to conduct a benefit analysis of our retirement plan to determine comparability with federal benefits. It was determined that recent contribution changes to our retirement plan results in recently hired younger employees having a plan equivalent to the federal government but older employees with longer tenure with the Council are below equivalency.

The Next Step: Staff proposes to modify our retirement plan to allow for differential percentage contributions per employee.

Agenda Item VII: Review and Approval of Early Retirement Health Plan (Tab G, No. 6)

Timeline Status: Initial Review

Background: As part of the retirement plan review by Markley Consultants we estimated the costs of implementing a health subsidy for early retirees who are older than 55 and have been with the Council for 20 years. Annual costs through 2054 with 100% and 75% subsidies are provided along with comparable policies from other Councils.

The Next Step: Staff requests Council approval to implement an early retirement plan as presented with either a 100% subsidy or 75% subsidy.

Agenda Item VIII: Review of AP Term Limits (Tab G, No. 7)

Timeline Status: Follow up Review from January Council meeting

Background: In January, the Council requested staff to provide information on AP and SSC term limits from other Councils before consideration of term limits and staggered terms for the Gulf APs. Other Councils appoint members for various terms of 2 to 4 years. Some have staggered terms for APs or SSCs but there is no consistent trend among the Councils.

The Next Step: Staff recommends no term limits or staggered terms at this time. Appointments are at the discretion of the Council and the current 2-year appointment process is adequate. There is also concern that staggered terms could complicate the appointment process and outweigh any potential benefits.
Agenda Item IX: Consideration to Change Title and Appointment Process for Select APs (Tab G, No. 8)

Timeline Status: Initial Review

Background: The Council has four APs and the SMZ Monitoring Team that include non-public government officials who are not appointed, but rather are members due to their position. The Law Enforcement AP is the best example because none of the members are appointed by the Council. The APs reviewed in G-8 include the SEDAR, Outreach and Education, and Aquaculture APs and the SMZ Monitoring Team.

The Next Step: Review staff proposals and consider for approval.