



Council Services Committee Report

Proposed Security Enhancements – Further Information

Recommendation of the Committee

1. That Administration proceed with Option 1, as outlined in the October 24, 2016, Office of the City Manager report CR_3844.
2. That the October 24, 2016, Office of the City Manager report CR_3844, remain private pursuant to section 18 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

History

At the October 24, 2016, Council Services Committee meeting, the October 24, 2016, Office of the City Manager report CR_3844 was considered.

Attachment

October 24, 2016, Office of the City Manager report CR_3844

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Proposed Security Enhancements - Further Information

Recommendation:

That Council Services Committee recommend to City Council:

1. That Administration proceed with Option ___ as outlined in the October 24, 2016, Office of the City Manager report CR_3844.
2. That the October 24, 2016, Office of the City Manager report CR_3844, remain private pursuant to section 18 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Report Summary

This report provides information on Administration's plan to implement metal detectors and bag searches and seeks Committee's input on proposed options for permanent barriers to clearly define the public gallery and the Council forum in Council Chamber.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the June 27, 2016, Council Services Committee, the following motion was made:

That Administration provide a report to the next Council Services Committee meeting with further information regarding the enhanced security measures described in proposals 15-1 and 15-3 of the June 27, 2016, Office of the City Manager report CR_3781, and related public engagement considerations.

Report

In 2015, Corporate Security conducted a security assessment of Council Chamber. The assessment identified a number of proposals to enhance security, including the implementation of metal detectors and bag searches and the construction of a permanent barrier to clearly define the the public gallery and Council forum. Details are in Attachment 1.

1. Metal Detection and Bag Searches (Proposal 15-3)

The health, safety, and wellness of citizens, City employees, and Councillors is of primary importance to Administration. Administration will proceed with the implementation of metal detection and bag searches for persons attending meetings in

Proposed Security Enhancements - Further Information

Council Chamber and the River Valley Room, effective spring 2017. Persons refusing to be screened will be denied entry to the meeting rooms.

Who will be screened

Everyone accessing Council Chamber and the River Valley Room through the public entrances, will be screened and have their bags searched. Certain exemptions will be made for children with the City Hall School, persons with pacemakers and pregnant women. Guidelines for these practices will be developed.

How people will be screened

- Walk-through metal detectors (this will require the emptying of pockets)
- Hand-held wands
- Visual inspection
- Ongoing assessment and awareness of activities around screening locations

How packages will be screened

- Visual search of all packages (including containers, briefcases, and other bulk objects)
- Inspection of canes, walkers, wheelchairs, and baby strollers using hand-held wands

What items will be prohibited from Council and Committee meetings

- Firearms and ammunition of any type
- Blades
- Edged or sharp objects
- Striking devices
- Explosives
- Flammable substances
- Disabling chemicals and other dangerous items
- Tools
- Any type of fire starter
- Noisemakers
- Food and beverages
- Any other item screeners deem inappropriate

24(1)

Proposed Security Enhancements - Further Information

2. Permanent Barriers in Council Chamber (Proposal 15-1)

Defining clear areas of public and private access with physical barriers will enhance security for staff and Councillors. Administration requests that Council Services Committee recommend one of the following options to City Council:

Option #1 - Solid Pony Wall with Glass Separations

24(1), 18(1)

Option #2 - All Glass

24(1), 18(1)

Option #3 - Side Glass

24(1), 18(1)

Option #4 - Status Quo

24(1), 18(1)

Policy

Occupiers Liability Act, RSA 2000, c O-4, section 4, states the following:

An occupier of premises owes a duty to every visitor on the occupier's premises to take such care as in all the circumstances of the case is reasonable to see that the visitor will be reasonably safe in using the premises for the purposes for which the visitor is invited or permitted by the occupier to be there or is permitted by law to be there.

City of Edmonton Occupational Health and Safety Directive A1117C, states that:

The health, safety, and wellness of City employees, those working on behalf of the City, and the public is of primary importance in all aspects of our operations.

Proposed Security Enhancements - Further Information

All levels of the organization share responsibility for health and safety. The continued commitment of all employees is necessary to achieve our vision of a healthy, safe and injury free work environment.

Corporate Outcomes

This report contributes to the corporate outcome "Edmonton is a safe city" as it ensures that citizens, City of Edmonton staff, and Councillors are safe while participating in Council and Committee meetings.

Risk Assessment

Refer to Attachment 4.

Public Consultation

Administration surveyed the following City of Edmonton staff who regularly attend Council and Committee meetings: Corporate Leadership Team, Branch Manager Leadership Team, Sustainable Development Public Hearing Team, Security, Peace Officers, and Office of the City Clerk staff. Councillors were also invited to participate in the survey. Of the 77 people who received the survey, 64 responded (an 89% participation rate). The results of the survey are in Attachment 5.

Budget/Financial Implications

Metal Detection and Bag Searches:

Four portable metal detectors, at an approximate cost of \$10,000 each, will be purchased by Corporate Security and managed within existing budgets. Ongoing operating costs are estimated at \$110,000. A funding request for this item will be included in the Fall Supplementary Operating Budget Adjustment report in November 2016.

Permanent Barriers in Council Chamber:

Estimated costs are:

- Option #1 -Solid Pony Wall with Glass Separations: \$60,000 to \$85,000
- Option #2 - All Glass: \$50,000 to \$75,000
- Option #3 - Side Glass: \$14,300

Costs would be managed within existing approved budgets.

Communications Approach

A comprehensive communications plan will be developed. The recommended approach is to create awareness of the enhanced public safety measures through media relations,

Proposed Security Enhancements - Further Information

City Hall signage and print materials, and online communication through edmonton.ca, and social media posts.²⁴⁽¹⁾

Legal Implications

Although the *Municipal Government Act* requires that meetings be accessible to the public, it does not prohibit the implementation of reasonable security protocols.

Metrics, Targets and Outcomes

Metrics	Number of incidents at Edmonton City Hall	Some examples of difficult meetings do exist (e.g. Vehicle for Hire matter). Although such occurrences may be few and may not have resulted in injuries, recent incidents around the world (refer to Attachment 1 for examples), as well as years of expertise and calculated predictions using intelligence briefings, lead Corporate Security to believe that it is only a matter of time before an extreme event occurs in City Hall.
Targets	Number of incidents avoided	All
Outcomes	Continued safety of citizens, staff, and Councillors at Council and Committee meetings	The possibility of extreme events that result in civil disobedience, property damage, injury or death is minimized.

Justification of Recommendation:

1. In its 2015 security assessment of Council Chamber, Corporate Security determined that measures need to be taken to enhance the effectiveness and appropriateness of security at City Hall, including the implementation of metal detectors and bag searches and the installation of permanent barriers between the Public Gallery and Council Forum in Council Chamber.
2. As disclosure of information contained in this report could reasonably be expected to interfere with public safety, this report must remain private pursuant to section 18 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Proposed Security Enhancements - Further Information

Attachments

1. 2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

18(1)

4. Risk Assessment
5. Results of Staff Consultation

18(1)

Others Reviewing this Report

- T. Burge, Chief Financial Officer and Deputy City Manager, Financial and Corporate Services
- C. Campbell, Chief Communications Officer and Deputy City Manager, Communications and Public Engagement

City of Edmonton
Mezzanine, Chancery Hall
3 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, AB T5J 3C3

edmonton.ca



Attachment 1

CR_3844: Proposed Security Enhancements - Further Information

2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

by Dave Ainsworth, Corporate Security Advisor

Corporate and Financial Services | Law Branch
City of Edmonton

September 2016

2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

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Option #2: All Glass

Option #3: Side Glass

Examples from Other Municipalities

15-3 Personnel Security, Metal Detector and Pre-Entry Screening

18(1)



2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

Introduction

In 2015 Corporate Security conducted a security assessment of the Council Chamber in City Hall. The purpose of the assessment was to determine the effectiveness and appropriateness of the current physical and personnel security aspects and to promote security awareness to the users of Council Chamber.

The security assessment identifies a number of recommendations to enhance physical and personnel security, some of which Administration will advance and others will require further study and funding strategies.

Recommendations Summary

18(1), 24(1)

15-3	Personnel Security, Metal Detectors and Bag Searches Corporate Security recommends that all public entering Council Chamber be screened via metal detection and bag searches.	Administration is advancing
24(1)		
15-1	Physical Security, Permanent Barrier Corporate Security recommends construction of a permanent barrier that clearly defines the separation between the public gallery and Council forum. Adding physical barriers is a proactive measure to mitigate what security advisors see as a real risk to Edmonton's elected officials.	Council's direction on options is requested

2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

It may not always be possible to quantify what criminal or anti-social activity has been deterred by implementing a security recommendation. However, part of Corporate Security's mandate is to identify risks using years of expertise and knowledge, previous experience, and calculated predictions using intelligence briefings and world current affairs.

Security Incidents - Examples

Following are just a few examples of how quickly a dangerous situation can escalate, ranging from a school board meeting to a presidential visit. None of these examples showed signs that the situation was about to escalate. There was no data beforehand to justify physical barriers. There were no previous incidents and no direct intelligence to show that a physical attack was about to take place.

Florida School Board Incident

In 2010 Clay Duke, a speaker at a school board meeting in Florida, stood up only yards away from the board and sprayed the wall in protest after his wife had lost her job.

"Duke had been sitting quietly during the earlier part of the meeting, witnesses said. But when it came time to open the floor, he stood up from his seat, walked over to the wall and took out the can of spray paint."

Board members remained in their seats while Duke sprayed the wall. Moments after this picture was taken, Duke pulled a gun out and pointed it at the board members before being engaged by an armed security officer (five and a half minutes later) who happened to be on the school grounds at the time. There were no physical barriers between Duke and the Board to show where the public space ended. No screening or metal detectors were used before any controversial meetings prior to this incident.

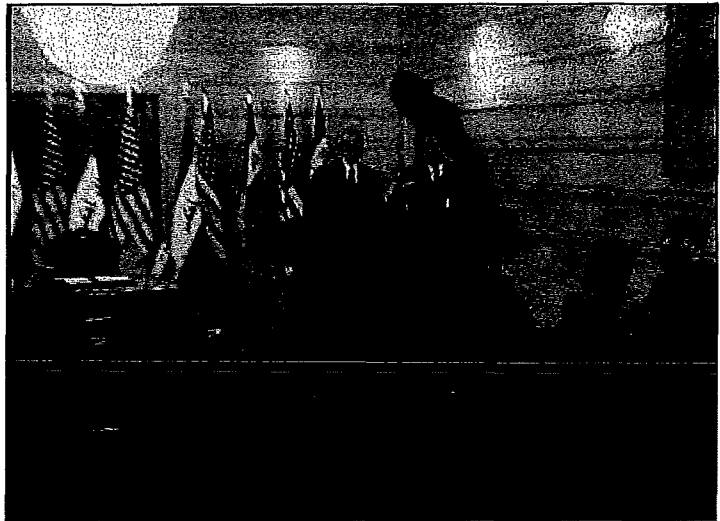


2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

Bush Incident

In another incident, US President Bush had a shoe thrown at him from someone in the public gallery. Again, there were no physical barriers between President Bush and the public. Others in the public gallery were able to restrain the offender before the Secret Service was able to enter the room.

While we have not experienced incidents of this magnitude, Council Chamber is very unique. We debate and make decisions on many controversial issues and then publicize where all the City of Edmonton Councillors will be at a specified time.



Energy East Incident

A perfect illustration of what can happen if physical barriers are not used was demonstrated during a Council meeting in Montreal in August 2016. TransCanada Corporation received an angry reception in Montreal as protesters chanting anti-pipeline slogans shut down a scheduled regulatory hearing into its proposed Energy East pipeline.

The environmental assessment panel was scheduled to commence several days of hearings in Montreal but cancelled the session after a protester charged the hearing table and had to be restrained by several security guards.

The person carrying out executive protection duty was able to intercept the offender but had to let him go when he was joined by other protesters directly in front of the panel.



Due to safety concerns Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre, along with the Mayor of Laval and other municipal representatives, left the hearing not long after the demonstrators charged in ([view this incident](#)).

2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

15-1 Physical Security, Permanent Barrier

Corporate Security recommends construction of a permanent barrier that clearly defines the separation between the public gallery and the Council forum. Adding physical barriers is a proactive measure to mitigate what security advisors see as a real risk to Edmonton's elected officials. The City of Calgary, City of Vancouver, City of Toronto and the Alberta Legislature have all implemented barriers separating the public from politicians.

18(1), 24(1)

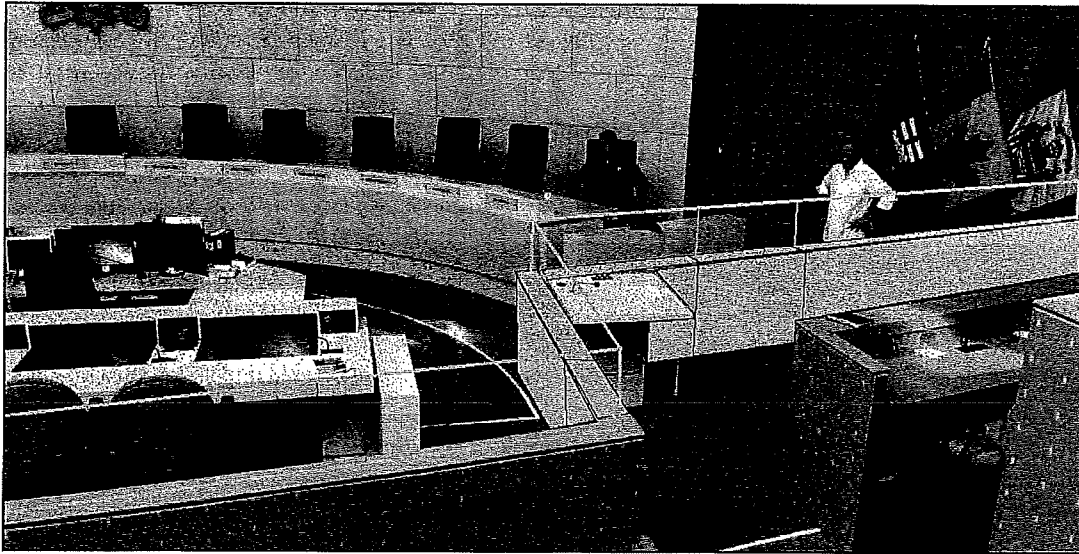
2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

Option #1: Solid Pony Wall with Glass Separations

Estimated cost \$60,000 to \$85,000

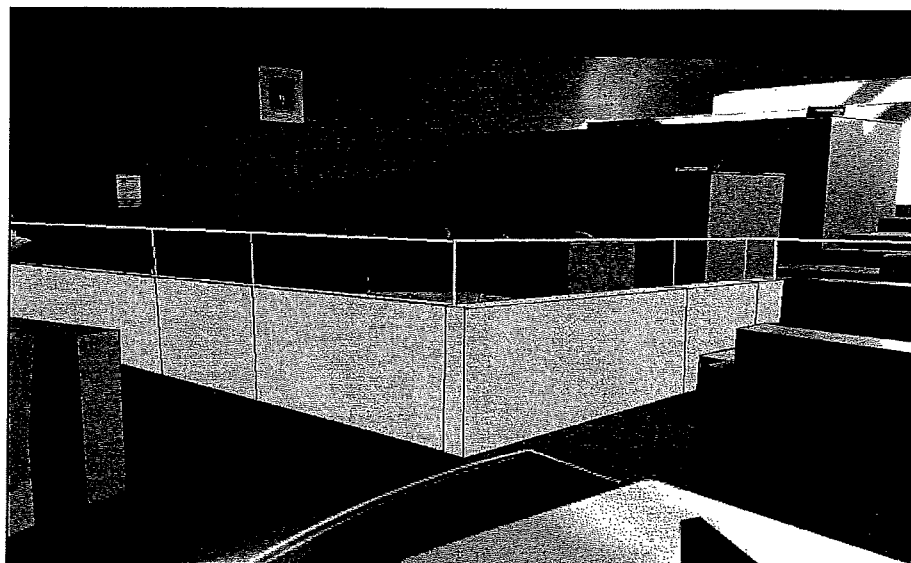
18(1), 24(1)

2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber



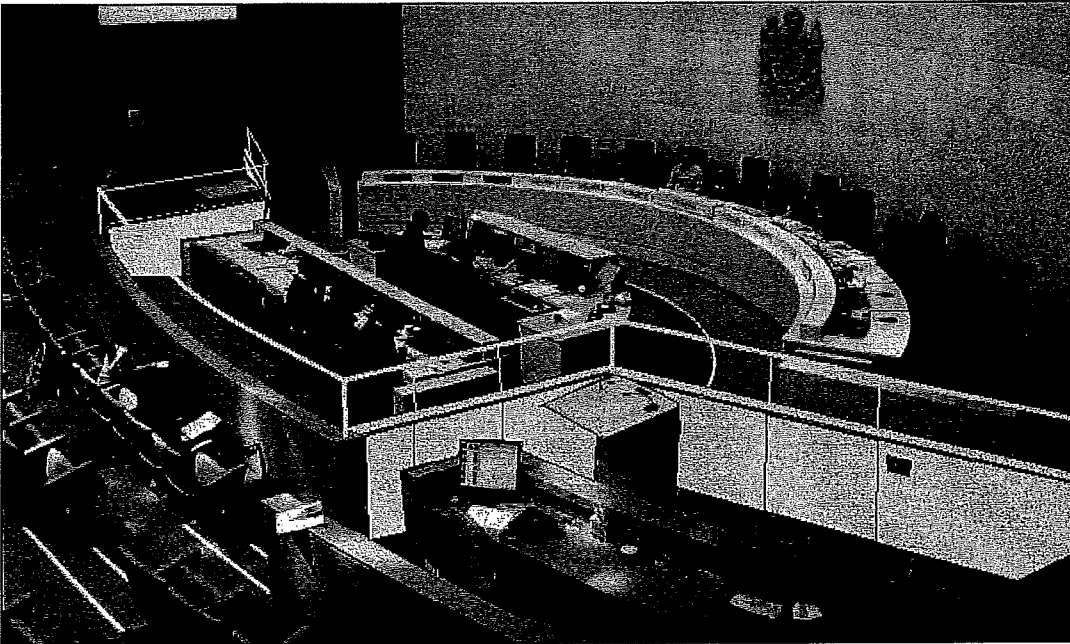
Option #1, Council Chamber with pony wall and glass separation

18(1), 24(1)



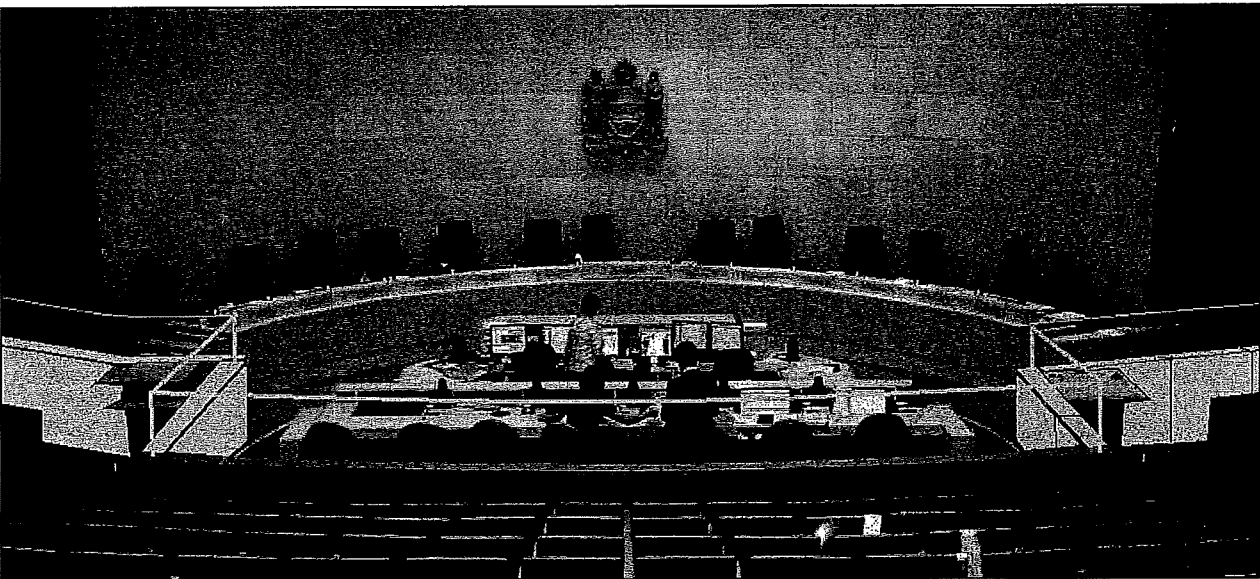
Option #1, view from the side of Mayor and Council

2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber



Option #1, Council Chamber with pony wall and glass separation: view from public gallery

18(1), 24(1)



Option #1, Council Chamber with pony wall and glass separation: view from public seated area

2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

Option #2: All Glass

Estimated cost: \$50,000 to \$75,000

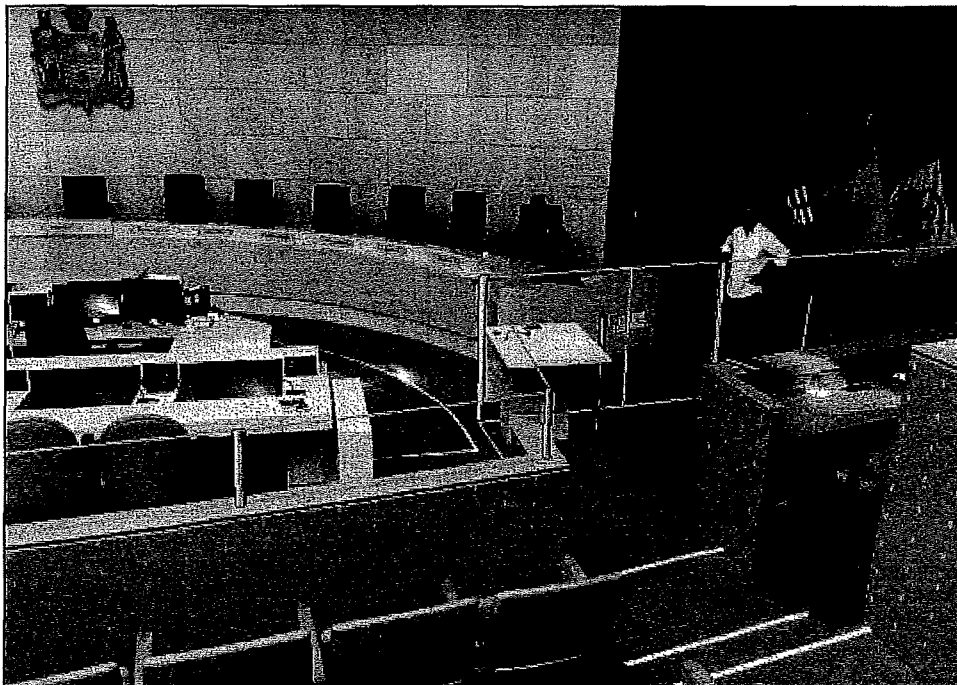
18(1), 24(1)



Option #2, drawing of how all glass separation with existing pony wall would look

2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

*Option #2, view
from the side of
Mayor and
Council*



*Option #2, complete
glass barrier*

2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

Option #3: Side Glass

Estimated cost: \$14,300

18(1), 24(1)

18(1), 24(1)

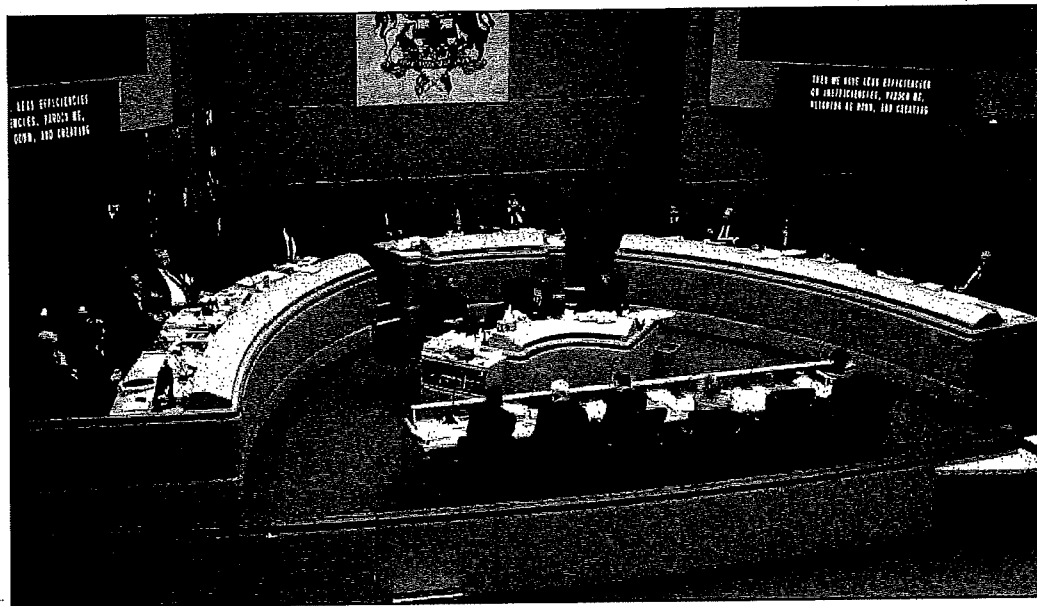


Option
#3,
side
glass

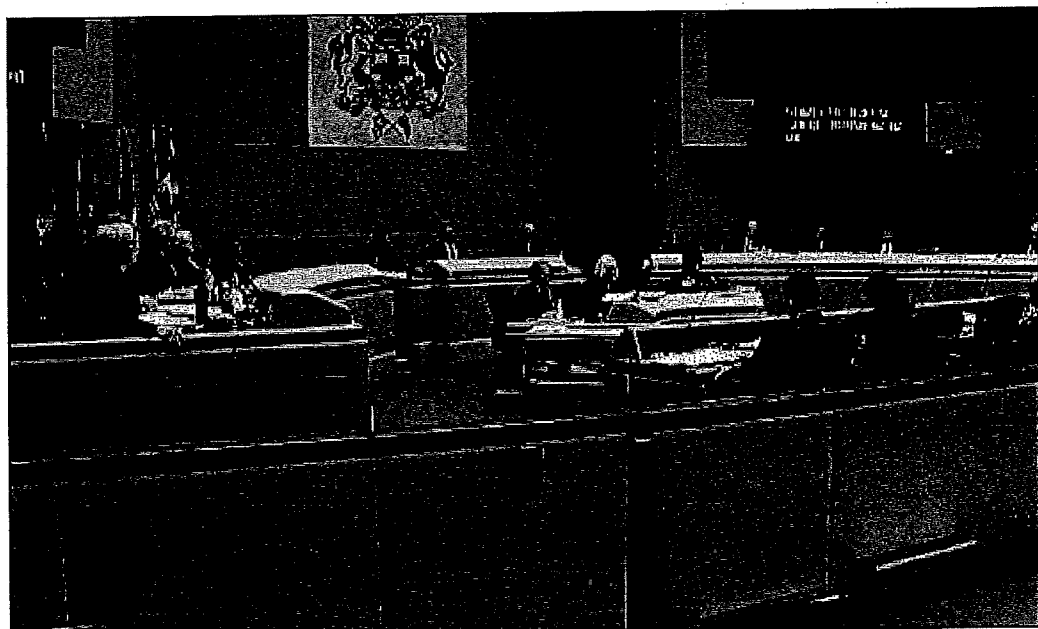
2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

Examples from Other Municipalities

Calgary Council Chamber using pony wall and glass

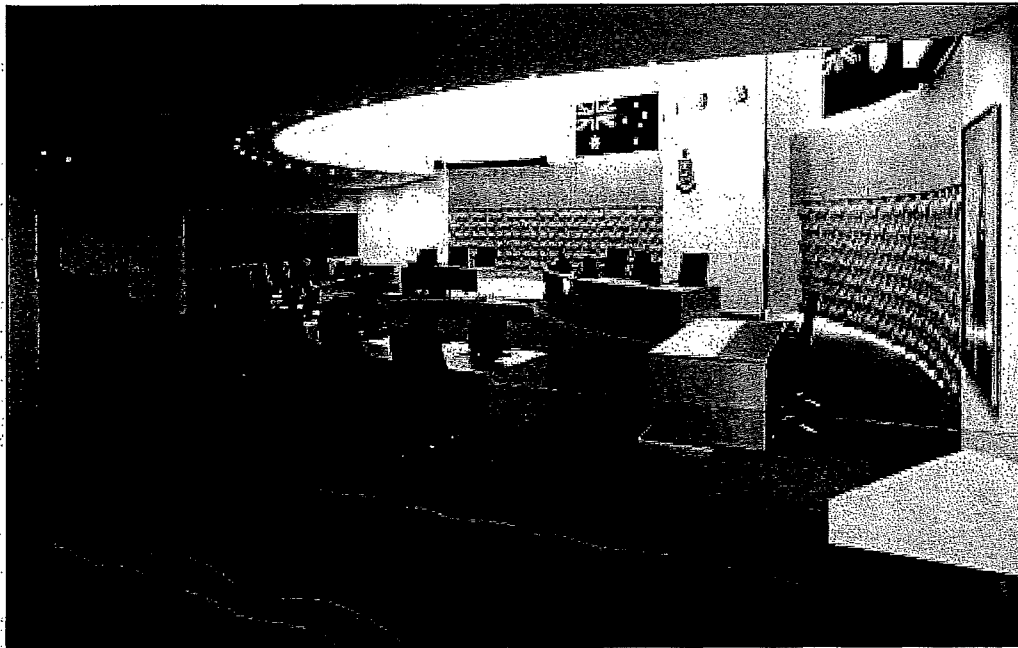


Calgary Council Chamber using a pony wall and glass, complete

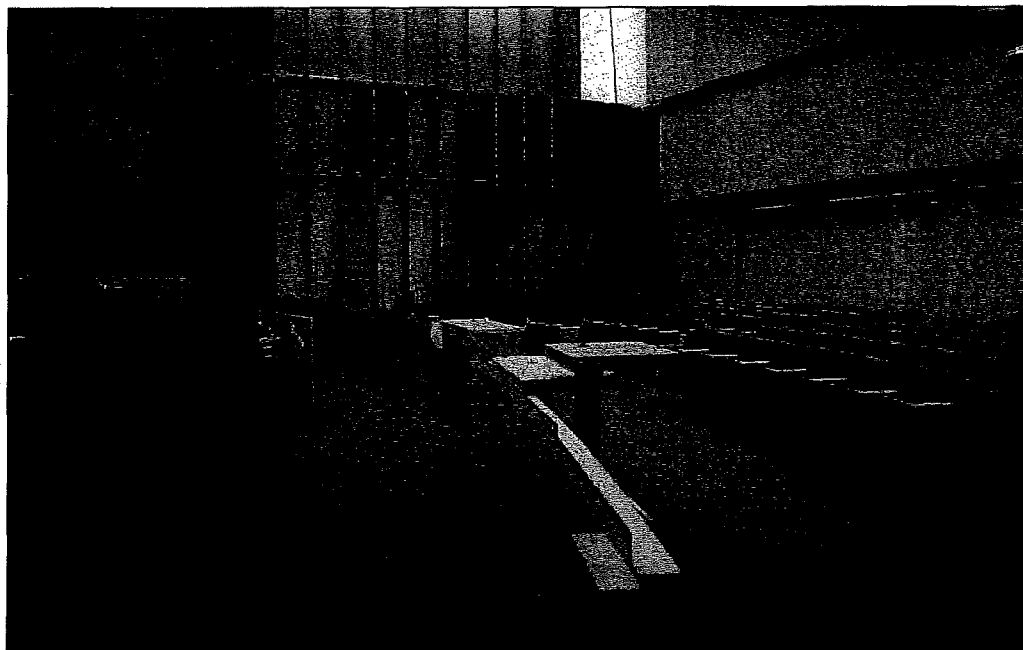


2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

with controlled access doors



Gold Coast Australia City Council Chamber, design award winner



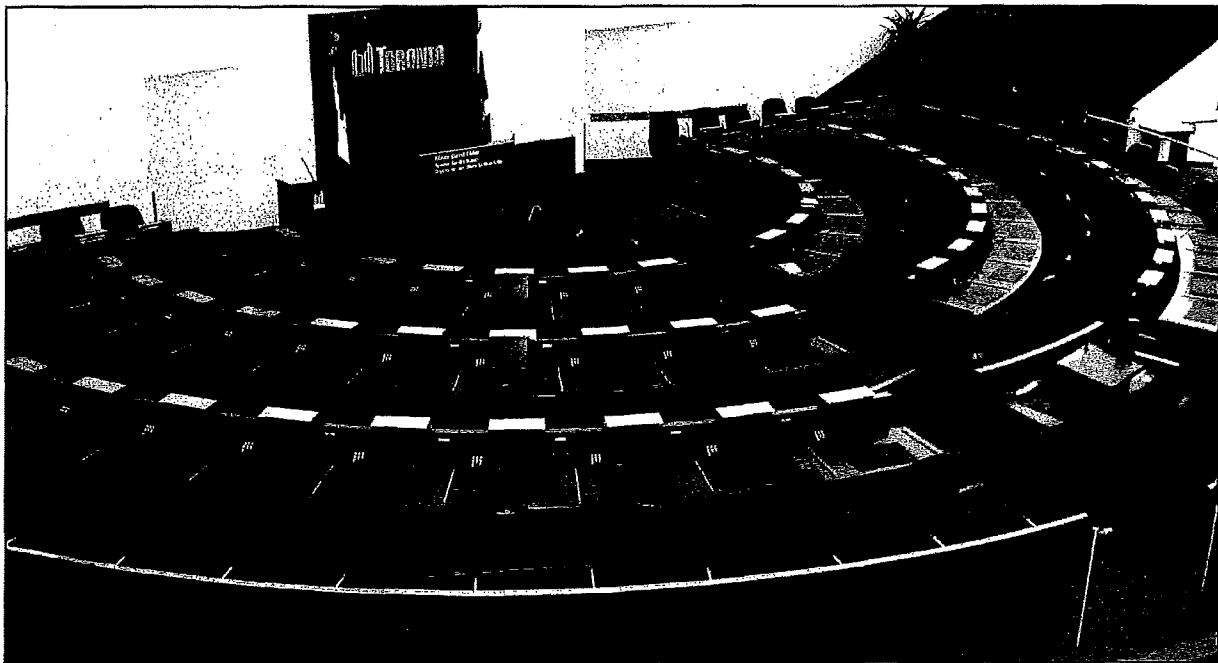
Seattle Council Chamber, frosted glass on frame combination

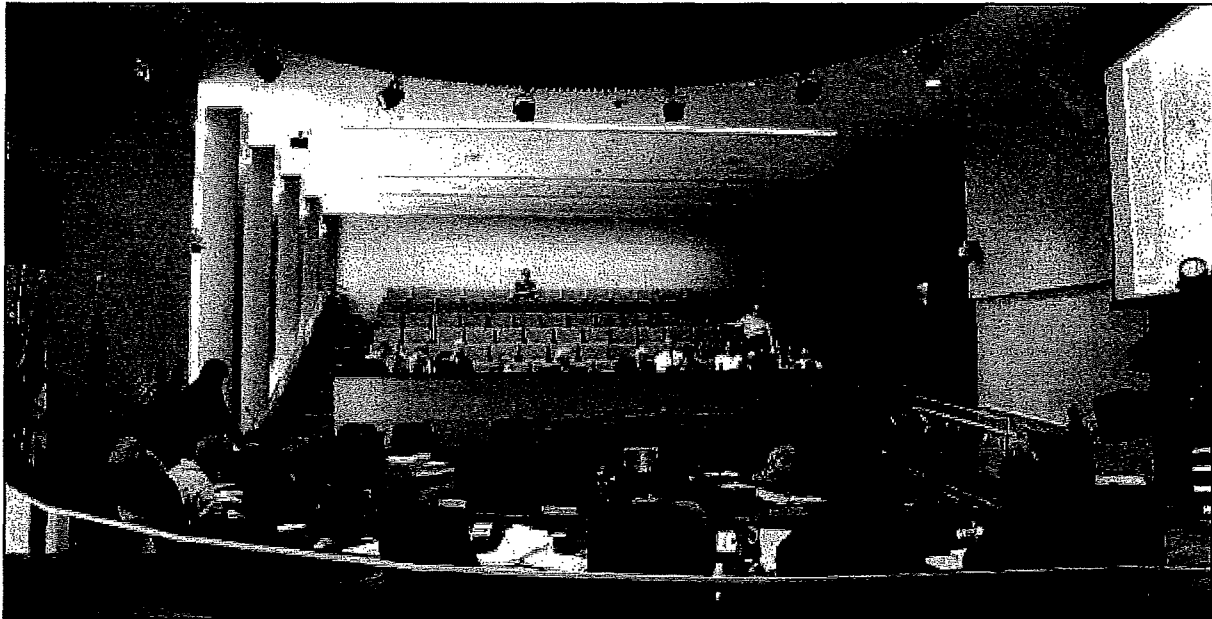
2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber



2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

Above and below: City of Toronto Council Chamber, glass separation with metal handrails installed to the side of the glass; note flexible cloth bars used to control access in lower photo

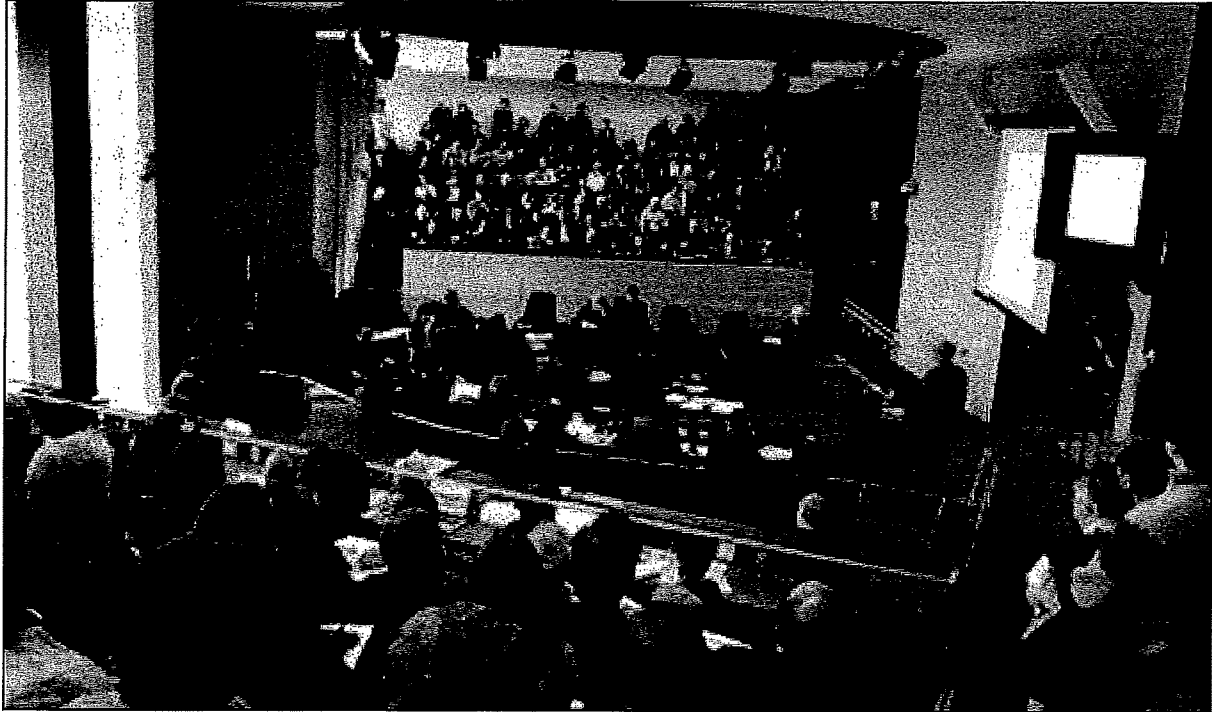




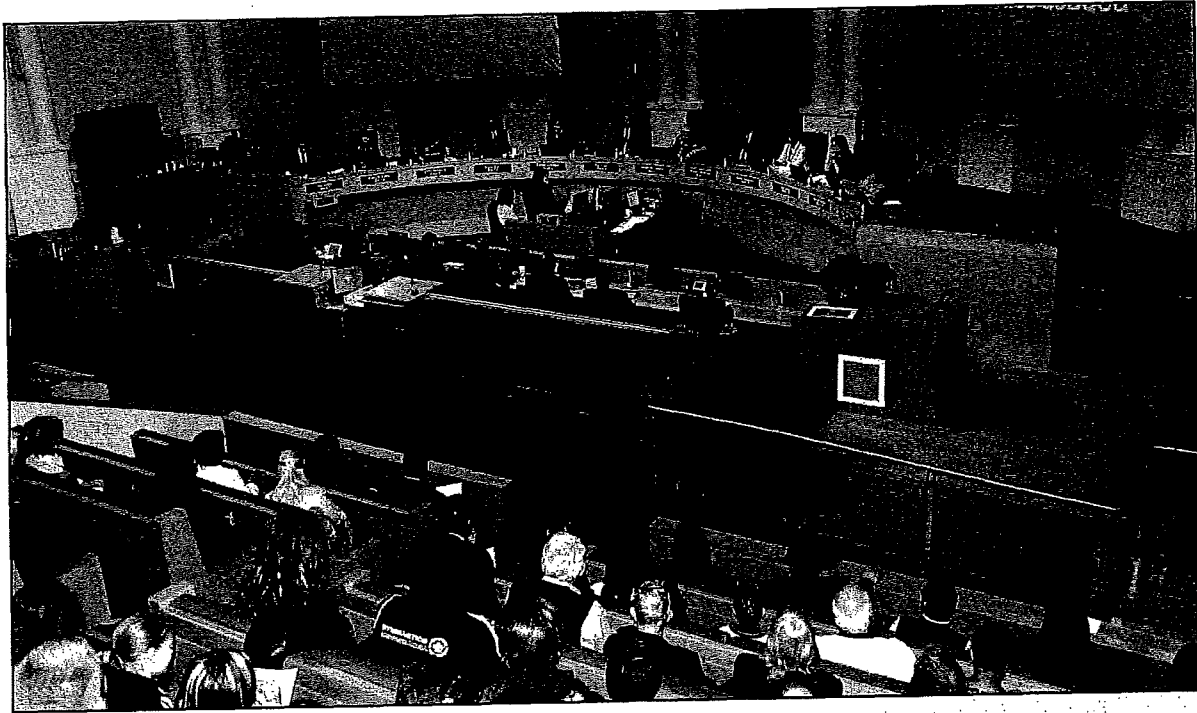
Above and below: City of Hamilton Council Chamber, glass panels control traffic to podium creating time and space delay.

2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

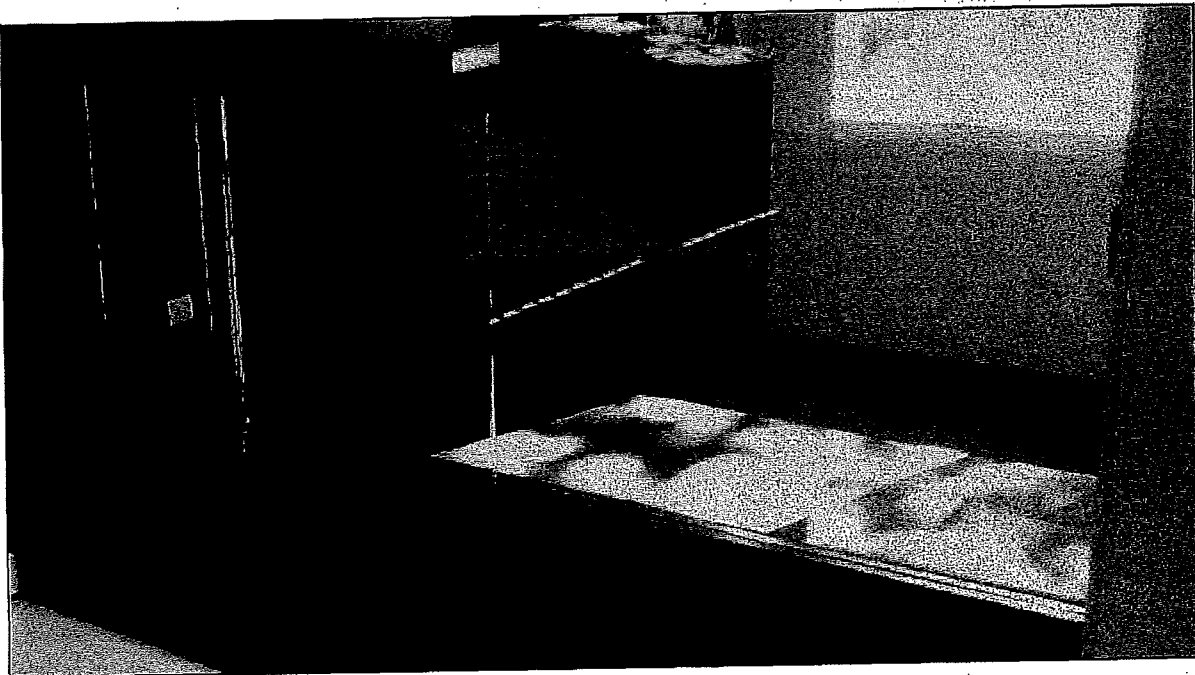
Edmonton



2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber



Mississauga Council Chamber, glass separation with metal hand rails installed on top of the glass



2016 Security Changes to Council Chamber

18(1), 24(1)

15-3 Personnel Security, Metal Detector and Pre-Entry Screening

Corporate Security recommends that all public entering Council Chamber be screened via metal detection and bag searches. Benchmarks with other municipalities concluded that the City of Toronto, City of Calgary and Alberta Legislature have already implemented metal detection and bag search screening.

18(1), 24(1)

Attachment 1

Pages 21 to 27

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Sec. 18(1), 24(1)

Attachment 2

Pages 1 to 5

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Sec. 18(1)

Prohibited Items:

The following items are prohibited inside the Council Chamber. Any employee(s) or public attending with any of the below items will be denied access until these items are properly removed from site. These items are not all-inclusive;

Firearms and Ammunition of Any Type:

- BB guns
- Compressed air guns
- Firearms
- Flare guns
- Gun lighters
- Parts of guns/firearms
- Replicas of guns or firearms
- Spear guns
- Stun guns/ devices used to emit a shock
- Ammunition

Blades, Edged, or Sharp Objects and Striking Devices:

- Axes and hatchets
- Bows and arrows
- Ice picks
- Knives, sabers, swords or bladed devices of any length equal to or greater than 6cm
- Razor-type blades such as box cutters, utility knives, and razor blades not in a cartridge
- Scissors, throwing stars & brass knuckles
- Crowbars
- Night sticks / Billy club

All Explosives Including:

- Ammunition
- Blasting caps
- Dynamite
- Fireworks
- Flares
- Gunpowder
- Hand grenades
- Plastic explosives

Flammable substances:

- Aerosol sprays
- Fuels, including cooking fuels and flammable liquid fuel
- Gasoline
- Gas torches, including micro-torches and torch lighters

Disabling Chemicals and Other Dangerous Items:

- Chlorine Compressed gas cylinders, including fire extinguishers
- Mace
- Pepper spray
- Spillable batteries, except those in wheelchairs
- Spray paint
- Tear gas
- Noxious and poisonous substances

Others:

- No Food or beverages.
- Tools, including any sharp or bladed objects
- Any type of fire starter, (i.e. any incendiary device or firework), including smoke and stink bombs.
- Any illegal drug or substance.
- Any device that operates as a noisemaker. Any type of sound amplifier, except a personal hearing aid that operates without disruption to Council.

Attachment 2

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Sec. 18(1)

Attachment 3

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Sec. 18(1)

Attachment 4

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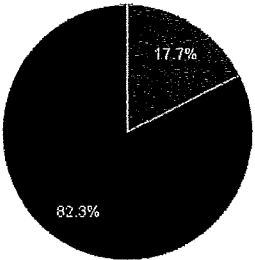
Sec. 18(1)



Attachment 5 - Results of Staff Consultation
CR_3844: Proposed Security Enhancements - Further Information

1. Have you ever felt unsafe or or threatened when attending or presenting at a Council or Committee meeting? (64 responses)

Yes	11	17.7%
No	51	82.3%



17(1), 18(1)

Attachment 5 - Results of Staff Consultation

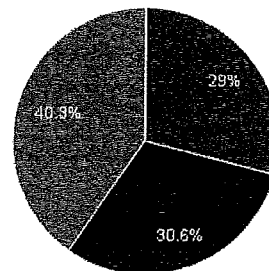
CR_3844: Proposed Security Enhancements - Further Information

Edmonton

17(1), 18(1)

3. If a security threat were to occur during a Council or Committee meeting do you feel that there are sufficient physical barriers or procedures in place to ensure your safety? (64 responses)

Yes	18	29%
No	19	30.6%
Do not know	25	40.3%



4. What improvements should the City look at for Council Chambers and the River Valley room to address security concerns, if any? (64 responses)

17(1), 18(1)

Attachment 5

Pages 3 to 6

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Sec. 18(1)

Attachment 6

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Sec. 18(1)