

# LEGAL

SNAPSHOT  
MEDIAN  
FOR 2017



## IN-HOUSE LEGAL OPERATING COST

**\$2.46** PER \$1000  
municipal operating  
& capital expenditures

LEGL252 (EFFICIENCY)

In-house legal  
operating cost

**\$146/** in-house  
lawyer hour

LEGL315 (EFFICIENCY)



### KEEP IN MIND:

#### Influencing Factors

Influencing factors can create variances in comparison data from year-to-year and from municipality-to-municipality.



#### Council Policy

Services and support available, and handling reimbursements of indemnifications vary per municipality



#### Demand Drivers

Requests vary for specific legal services



#### Organizational Form & Municipal Services Provided

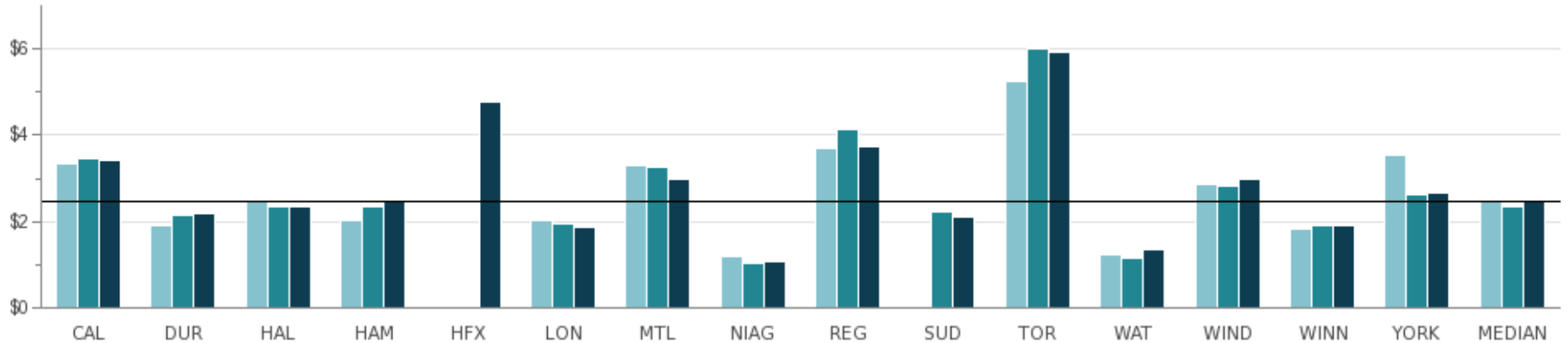
Single-tier vs. Upper-tier municipalities; client types supported; how costs are controlled; mix of external vs. in-house lawyers



For a full description of influencing factors, please go to: [www.mbncanada.ca](http://www.mbncanada.ca)

**Fig. 17.1 In-House Legal Operating Cost per \$1,000 Municipal Operating and Capital Expenditures**

This measure represents the operating cost to provide in-house legal services. Council direction on budgets, tax rates, collective bargaining, etc., will impact the total municipal spend, which in turn will impact the reported total municipal operating and capital expenditures. This can cause fluctuations in year-over-over results, even if total in-house costs remain stable.

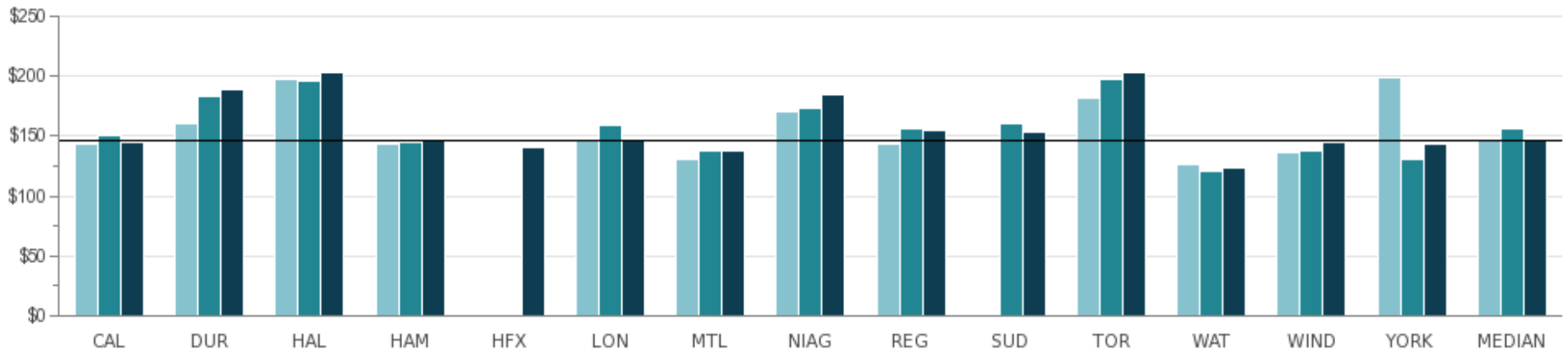


2015	\$3.35	\$1.92	\$2.45	\$2.03	N/A	\$2.01	\$3.31	\$1.17	\$3.68	N/A	\$5.27	\$1.24	\$2.88	\$1.83	\$3.53	\$2.45
2016	\$3.47	\$2.16	\$2.33	\$2.35	N/A	\$1.93	\$3.27	\$1.03	\$4.14	\$2.22	\$6.03	\$1.15	\$2.83	\$1.92	\$2.63	\$2.34
2017	\$3.42	\$2.20	\$2.34	\$2.46	\$4.79	\$1.88	\$2.98	\$1.06	\$3.72	\$2.12	\$5.94	\$1.35	\$3.00	\$1.89	\$2.65	\$2.46

Source: LEGL252 (Efficiency)

**Fig. 17.2 In-House Legal Operating Cost per In-House Lawyer Hour**

This measure represents the operating cost to provide in-house legal services. The in-house lawyer hours include standard work week and tracked overtime hours only. Vacation and sick time are not included in the total number of in-house lawyer hours.



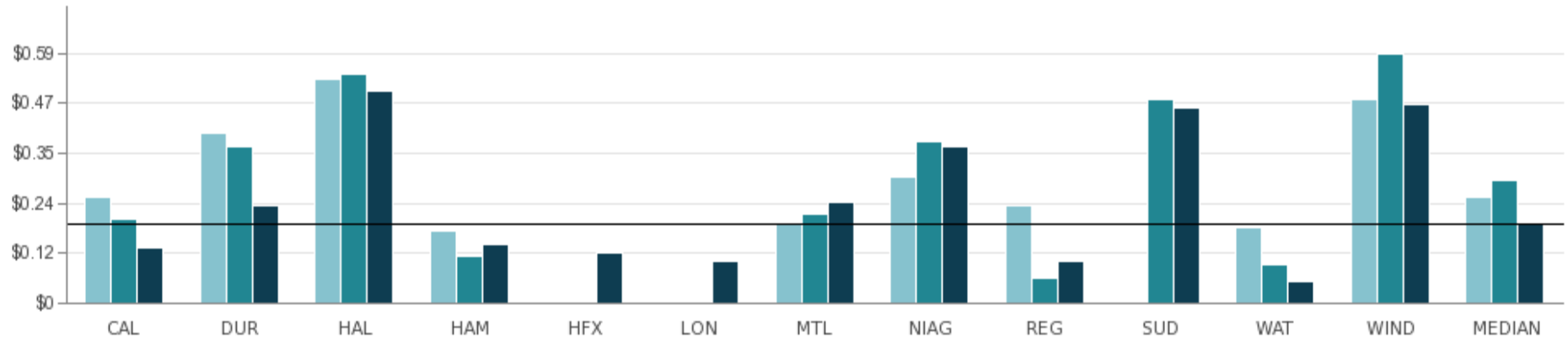
2015	\$143	\$161	\$198	\$144	N/A	\$148	\$130	\$171	\$144	N/A	\$182	\$126	\$136	\$199	\$146
2016	\$150	\$183	\$196	\$145	N/A	\$159	\$138	\$173	\$156	\$161	\$198	\$120	\$138	\$131	\$156
2017	\$145	\$189	\$204	\$146	\$140	\$146	\$138	\$185	\$155	\$154	\$203	\$123	\$145	\$144	\$146

Source: LEGL315 (Efficiency)

Winnipeg: Does not report - unable to track data.

**Fig. 17.3 External Legal Cost per Total Municipal Legal Cost**

The external costs include the total payment to external law firms for the purposes of providing legal services only. The calculation does not include payment for other services such as investigations, arbitrations, collective bargaining, etc.



2015	\$0.25	\$0.40	\$0.53	\$0.17	N/A	N/A	\$0.19	\$0.30	\$0.23	N/A	\$0.18	\$0.48	\$0.25
2016	\$0.20	\$0.37	\$0.54	\$0.11	N/A	N/A	\$0.21	\$0.38	\$0.06	\$0.48	\$0.09	\$0.59	\$0.29
2017	\$0.13	\$0.23	\$0.50	\$0.14	\$0.12	\$0.10	\$0.24	\$0.37	\$0.10	\$0.46	\$0.05	\$0.47	\$0.19

Source: LEGL330 (Efficiency)

Calgary: The reduction in 2017 was due to the completion of two major projects where significant legal counsel was required.

Toronto and York: Do not report.

Windsor: External legal costs in 2017 returned back towards more consistent levels.

Winnipeg: Does not report - unable to track data.