
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Report CLS-03-2020 Integrity Commissioner Annual Report For Consideration by Council on May 19, 2020



OBJECTIVE:

To receive the Integrity Commissioner's 2020 Annual Report.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Report CLS-03-2020 Integrity Commissioner Annual Report be received as information.

Prepared by: Evelyn Eichenbaum, Manager, Citizen & Legislative Services/Clerk

Respectfully submitted: Cathy Case, General Manager of Corporate & Social Services

Approved: Craig Manley, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

As authorized through legislation and required through the agreement for provision of Integrity Commissioner (IC) services for Haldimand County, this report provides the IC's first annual report on activities undertaken throughout the year.

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with new requirements under the *Municipal Act, 2001* (Act) that came into effect on March 1, 2019, Haldimand County appointed Charles Harnick, ADR Chambers Inc. as the County's IC for a term of four years.

ANALYSIS:

The services provided by the IC include: providing advice to members of Council and members of local boards in regards to the code of conduct and any procedures, rules and policies governing members' ethical behaviour; providing advice on relevant sections of the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* (MCIA); an initial review of the County's code of conduct; an annual report on the IC's activities; reviewing complaints submitted under the code of conduct and conducting inquiries as required, and providing educational information to members of Council, members of local boards and the public about the code of conduct and the MCIA.

Attachment 1 to this report includes the IC's first annual report on activities undertaken as Haldimand County's IC. In general the IC report indicates:

- A review of the County's Code of Conduct was completed.
- A training session was provided to members of Council in November 2019 on the implementation of recent changes to the Act and to the MCIA.
- No requests for advice or complaints were submitted to the IC.

FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

In 2019, staff budgeted \$20,000 as a broad estimate of costs to be incurred on an annual basis for services related to reviewing the existing code of conduct, responding to inquiries for advice, reviewing any complaints that are submitted, providing training, and submitting an annual report. That same budget has been approved for 2020. As noted in the Integrity Commissioner's report, the costs incurred over the year March 4, 2019 to March 3, 2020 totaled \$3,771.38. Future budgets may be adjusted once a reliable trend of expenditures is available for estimation purposes.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACTS:

Not applicable.

REPORT IMPACTS:

Agreement: No

By-law: No

Budget Amendment: No

Policy: No

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Haldimand County – Integrity Commissioner Annual Report dated April 21, 2020