Haldimand County

Report CLE-03-2025 Integrity Commissioner Annual Report



For Consideration by Council on May 5, 2025

Objective:

This report and attachment provide information to Council regarding the work of Haldimand's Integrity Commissioner for the period March 4, 2024 to May 5, 2025.

Recommendations:

1. THAT Report CLE-03-2025 Integrity Commissioner Annual Report be received.

Prepared and respectfully submitted by: Chad Curtis, Municipal Clerk

Approved: Cathy Case, 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 Annual Report on activities undertaken throughout the year.

Background:

In accordance with the *Municipal Act, 2001* (Act), Haldimand County appointed David Boghosian of Boghosian & Allen LLP as Haldimand's IC. Boghosian & Allen LLP has been appointed IC for a period of two (2) years, with an option in favour of Haldimand to extend the contract on the same terms and conditions for an additional one (1) term of up to (2) years.

Analysis:

The services provided by the IC include: providing advice to members of Council and members of applicable 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*, a review of Haldimand's Council Code of Conduct; an annual report on the IC's activities as required; and providing educational information to members of Council, members of applicable Boards, and the public about the Council Code of Conduct and applicable policies and statutes.

The full report from the Integrity Commissioner is included as Attachment #1.

Financial/Legal Implications:

In 2024, staff budgeted \$20,000 as a broad estimate of costs to be incurred on an annual basis for services related to reviewing the existing Council Code of Conduct, responding to inquiries for advice, reviewing any complaints that are submitted, providing training, and submitting an annual report. The same budget has been approved for 2025 within the Tax Supported Operating Budget. As noted in the IC's report, the costs incurred over the past year totaled \$20,875.00 plus HST.

Stakeholder Impacts:

Not applicable.

Report Impacts:

Agreement: No By-law: No Budget Amendment: No Policy: No

References:

- 1. <u>Council Code of Conduct Policy 2024-08</u>.
- 2. <u>Municipal Conflict of Interest Act</u>.

Attachments:

1. Integrity Commissioner Annual Report dated May 1, 2025.