



SUBJECT: Response to staff direction regarding the election and local boards

TO: Corporate Services, Strategy, Risk & Accountability Cttee.

FROM: Office of the City Clerk

Report Number: CL-25-22

Wards Affected: All

File Numbers: 100-02

Date to Committee: June 6, 2022

Date to Council: June 21, 2022

Recommendation:

Receive and file the memorandum dated May 17, 2022 from the City of Burlington Integrity Commissioner, attached as Appendix A to office of the city clerk report CL-25-22; and

Amend the Code of Conduct for Local Boards to delete the following from Rule 5 (Election Campaigns) as recommended by the City of Burlington Integrity Commissioner, memorandum dated May 17, 2022:

"Any member of a Board or Committee wishing to fully participate in an election campaign will be granted a leave of absence from the Board or Committee".

PURPOSE:

To receive the analysis from the Integrity Commissioner in response to staff direction SD-07-22.

Vision to Focus Alignment:

- Building more citizen engagement, community health and culture
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Background and Discussion:

On March 22, 2022 Council provided the following staff direction:

Direct the City Clerk to work with the Integrity Commissioner to review and report back by the end of Q2 on the feasibility of aligning the policies governing advisory committees or local boards with the Use of Corporate Resources during an Election Policy for city staff and council, so there is a single policy applicable to staff, council and volunteers.

The City Clerk has communicated Council's request with the Integrity Commissioner, and in turn the Integrity Commissioner has issued a response by way of memorandum attached as appendix A.

Through the course of their review, the Integrity Commissioner had identified within the Code of Conduct for Local Boards and Committees (the Code) a portion of Rule 5 (Election Campaigns) that was not part of the original draft of the Code. They suggested that the additional wording adds confusion to the general provisions listed in the Code. In their memorandum a recommendation to amend the Code had been made which is reflected in the recommendation for this report.

Strategy/process

The City's Integrity Commissioner will be on hand to respond to any questions of clarification at the June 6 CSSRA Committee meeting.

Financial Matters:

Integrity Commissioner costs are funded from the operating budget under corporate expenditures.

Climate Implications

NA.

Engagement Matters:

None.

Conclusion:

The response to staff direction SD-07-22 has been prepared for Council's review. Upon compiling their analysis on Rule 5 (Election Campaigns), the City of Burlington Integrity Commissioner identified a section of the Code for removal.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Arjoon

City Clerk

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Appendices:

- A. Memorandum from Integrity Commissioner dated May 17, 2022
- B. Code of Conduct for Local Boards and Committees

Report Approval:

All reports are reviewed and/or approved by Department Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the Executive Director of Legal Services & Corporation Counsel.