



300 Dufferin Avenue
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London
CANADA

April 25, 2024

Dear Colleagues,

The Code of Conduct for Members of Council [“Code”] is required under the accountability and transparency provisions of the *Municipal Act, 2001*. The current Code was adopted by Municipal Council in 2019. Although there have been minor housekeeping amendments in 2021, the Code has not been significantly reviewed or amended since adoption. As you are aware, Principles Integrity was appointed as our Integrity Commissioner in 2023, and one of the functions provided is consultation and advice regarding revisions to the Code. With the evolution of interactions with the public in recent years, it would be a good time to review the Code and consider any amendments that will help clarify scope and applicability; with an awareness that this oversight is funded by the taxpayers.

Accordingly, we are asking for your support for the following motion:

That the following actions be taken with respect to the Code of Conduct for Members of Council:

- a. the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to undertake a review of the Code of Conduct for Members of Council and report back to a future meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee, including the following components:
 - i. an environmental scan of codes of conduct for elected officials in comparable municipalities, with consideration of specific or general provisions related to “social media”, email, and communications with the public;
 - ii. review of the Ombudsman Ontario “Codes of Conduct, Complaint & Inquiry Protocols and Appointing Integrity Commissioners: Guide for Municipalities” with consideration to limit the Code of Conduct for Members of Council to the four prescribed subject matters required pursuant to Regulation 55/18 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*; and
 - iii. review of the Code of Conduct for Members of Council using the Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression Framework and Equity Tool, as required by the Policy for the Establishment and Maintenance of Council Policies.
- b. the Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to consult with the City of London’s Integrity Commissioner regarding the Code of Conduct for Members of Council.

Sincerely,

Susan Stevenson
Ward 4 City Councillor

Shawn Lewis
Deputy Mayor, Ward 2 City Councillor