

Ontario's Watchdog Chien de garde de l'Ontario

December 4, 2013

Cathy Saunders, City Clerk
J.P. Barber, Managing Director, Corporate Services and City Solicitor
City of London
300 Dufferin Avenue
P.O. Box 5035
London, ON N6A 4L9

Dear Ms. Saunders and Mr. Barber:

RE: Council's Request for Information

I am writing in response to correspondence received from your Office dated October 23, 2013, containing the Resolution of Council of the City of London, directing you to report back to Council on a variety of matters arising from the Ombudsman's London Report, dated October 22, 2013. Specifically, you were directed to request that the Ombudsman publicly disclose the cost of his investigation into this matter, under item (f) of the Resolution.

As the Ombudsman noted during his press conference to release his report, *In the Back Room*, on October 22, 2013, his Office does not track the costs related to individual investigations. Thus, the specific information you are seeking is not available. As you may be aware, all investigations are conducted out of the Ombudsman's operating budget, which is reported in his Annual Report each year. Investigations of complaints relating to closed meetings, such as the 60 complaints filed against London councillors in the *In the Back Room* case, are conducted free of charge to municipalities.

Yours truly, Satural Satural

Sara Gottlieb Legal Advisor

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