

## **PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION AND BACKGROUND**

### **Previous Council Direction / Policy**

An annual legal compliance report was identified as a potential area of future focus in Attachment 2 to Report AC2005-06, Audit Committee Terms of Reference, considered by Council on 2005 March 7. Law has provided annual reports to Council since that time. Since 2014, information about insurance and claims matters, Corporate Security and Legal Services has been consolidated into one annual report from Law.

In previous years Law and Corporate security provided annual reports together. In 2020 Law and Corporate Security became separate Business Units but felt it was best to continue to report to Audit Committee.

### **Background**

#### **Authorizing environment:**

City Solicitor and General Counsel Bylaw 48M2000 establishes the position of City Solicitor and General Counsel as a designated officer, provides that the City Solicitor and General Counsel reports to the City Manager, and outlines the following powers, duties and functions for the City Solicitor and General Counsel:

- to initiate, prosecute, maintain or defend any action, claim or other proceeding deemed in the best interest of The City;
- to settle any action, claim or other proceeding provided the amount does not exceed \$250,000;
- to retain outside counsel when the City Solicitor and General Counsel deems it to be in the best interest of The City; and
- to report to Council on any legal matter where in the City Solicitor and General Counsel's independent judgment a Council decision is necessary.