

**Integrity and Ethics Office Report to
Combined Meeting of Council
2020 July 20**

**ISC: UNRESTRICTED
C2020-0704**

Integrity and Ethics Office 2018 Annual Report

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Terms of Reference for the Ethics Advisor and the Integrity Commissioner approved by Council in July 2016 requires the submission an Annual Report to Council.

This is the third annual report on the activities of the City of Calgary Integrity and Ethics Office. It covers the 12-month period ending April 30, 2019.

INTEGRITY COMMISSIONER AND ETHICS ADVISOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Receive the Annual Report of the Ethics Advisor and Integrity Commissioner.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DIRECTION / POLICY

The Terms of Reference approved by Council in July 2016 require each of the Ethics Advisor and the Integrity Commissioner to publish "an annual report to provide Council and Calgarians with information about the activities of the Ethics Advisor and Integrity Commissioner during the preceding year" (M2016-0566).

BACKGROUND

Work of the Integrity Commissioner

The Integrity Commissioner was appointed effective June 1, 2018 for a two-year term. As noted below, the Ethics Advisor resigned and the position remained vacant until April 8, 2019. This created a unique situation in terms of preparation of this annual report. The Integrity Commissioner inherited one outstanding file from his predecessor which involved public statements by two Councillors concerning the Compensation Review Committee. This matter is in limbo as the Complainant and the Integrity Commissioner are unable to agree on how to move forward. During the balance of 2018, 12 new files were opened and all were resolved either by dismissal of the complaint or an agreed resolution which satisfied the complainant without any further action being required. During first four months of 2019, seven new files were opened. Six have been resolved either by dismissal of the complaint or an agreed resolution which satisfied the complainant without any further action being required. One remains to be resolved.

Briefly, the complaints may be broken down into two broad categories. The first, dismissal as the matter raised was in essence a ballot box issue. The complainant simply did not like an action taken by a Councillor. Most of the balance involved what the Complainant would call inappropriate conduct by a Councillor. More specifically, language used or a refusal to meet with a member of the public. The former were all resolved by discussions with the Councillor and the Complainant, the latter are more problematic. While Councillors should keep their office doors open, in the end it is their choice as to who they meet in person.

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The last report included references to how complaints were being made. The Integrity Commissioner received complaints under the Whistleblower program, by email and in writing. Email is emerging as the most popular route.

Work of the Ethics Advisor

From April 2018 to November 2018 the Ethics Advisor, Alice Woolley, provided advice to Members of Council on a confidential basis. In November 2018, Alice Woolley resigned from the position of Ethics Advisor. The position remained vacant until Council appointed Emily Laidlaw at its 2019 April 8 meeting.

During the remaining reporting period, the Ethics Advisor began the process of consultation meetings with the Members of Council.

INVESTIGATION: ALTERNATIVES AND ANALYSIS

NA

Stakeholder Engagement, Research and Communication

NA

Strategic Alignment

NA

Social, Environmental, Economic (External)

Financial Capacity

Current and Future Operating Budget:

NA

Current and Future Capital Budget:

NA

Risk Assessment

NA

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

That the Annual Report of the Ethics Advisor and Integrity Commissioner be read and received.

ATTACHMENT

None