

## **Code of Conduct Consultation**

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### **RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee recommends that Council request the Mayor to make a formal submission to the Code of Conduct consultation on behalf of Council, based on the discussion at the 2022 June 15 Intergovernmental Affairs Committee.

### **RECOMMENDATION OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, 2022 JUNE 15:**

That Council:

1. Direct Administration to work with the Office of the Mayor to prepare summary notes from the discussion at the 2022 June 15 Intergovernmental Affairs Committee, to be used as the foundation of a formal submission to the Code of Conduct consultation on behalf of Council, based on the discussion at the 2022 June 15 Intergovernmental Affairs Committee; and
2. Review any available summary notes at the 2022 July 5 Combined Meeting of Council.

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Council has the opportunity to provide input into a Government of Alberta consultation on the Code of Conduct.
- What does this mean to Calgarians? The input provided by municipalities may inform further public consultation on councillor accountability.
- Why does this matter? Improvements to Code of Conduct legislation may strengthen citizen's perceptions of elected officials.
- The City's Integrity and Ethics Office has prepared material about the Code of Conduct for Council's information and consideration.
- This item is also related to IGA2022-0730 Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA) Consultation, also on today's agenda.
- Strategic Alignment to Council's Citizen Priorities: A well-run city
- Background and Previous Council Direction: none

## **DISCUSSION**

The Municipal Government Act (MGA) requires Municipal Councils to pass a bylaw establishing a council code of conduct. At this time, Municipal Affairs is conducting a consultation on this provision and is interested in two items:

- 1) Challenges related to enforcing the Code of Conduct
- 2) Whether the current legislation is sufficient

Attachment 1 is a letter from the Minister of Municipal Affairs. Attachment 2 is a discussion guide with the engagement questions.

Attachment 3 is additional information provided by the Integrity and Ethics Office for Council's consideration in preparing the submission

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The MGA requires review of the Code of Conduct Bylaw every four years. The Integrity and Ethics Office will be reaching out to Council on this matter shortly; however, the timing of this internal four-year review is coincidental and not related to the Province's consultation.

It is important to note that Administration is facilitating a response to this engagement as part of its government relations function and takes no position with respect to the Code of Conduct, or how Council governs its own conduct.

### **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION (EXTERNAL)**

- Public Engagement was undertaken
- Public Communication or Engagement was not required
- Public/Stakeholders were informed
- Stakeholder dialogue/relations were undertaken

On 2022 June 2, Administration sent a package of engagement materials from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to Council, with a worksheet to capture individual Councillors' responses to the Minister's questions. Administration will combine any responses received and present them for discussion at today's IGA committee.

The consultation is currently limited to municipalities. Municipal Affairs has indicated that they want Council's combined feedback, i.e., one submission from The City. However, individual Councillors can provide input when the consultation is expanded to the public. The results may be used to inform a broader public consultation on local elections and councillor accountability later this summer.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

#### **Social, Environmental and Economic Implications**

A supportive legislative framework helps Councils make the social, environmental, and economic decisions that affect citizens on a daily basis.

#### **Service and Financial Implications**

#### **No anticipated financial impact**

The recommendations have no financial impact.

### **RISK**

If Council does not submit their responses to the consultation, their feedback cannot be considered in the future public consultations or in any subsequent amendments to the MGA.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Letter from Minister of Municipal Affairs, 2022 May 16
2. Code of Conduct Discussion Guide
3. Memo from the Integrity and Ethics Office, 2022 June 3
4. **Proposed Letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs**

People, Innovation and Collaboration Services Report to  
Intergovernmental Affairs Committee  
2022 June 15

ISC: UNRESTRICTED  
IGA2022-0767  
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### 5. Presentation

Department Circulation

General Manager/Director	Department	Approve/Consult/Inform
GM Chris Arthurs	Deputy City Manager's Office	Approve
Jill Floen	Law Department	Inform