

Appointment of Election Disclosure Complaints Officer

ISSUE

Bylaw No. 8491, *The Campaign Disclosure and Spending Limits Bylaw, 2006* (the “Bylaw”) requires City Council to appoint an Election Disclosure Complaints Officer. This report recommends a candidate suitable for the role and outlines the proposed remuneration for City Council’s consideration.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Loleen Berdahl be appointed as the City of Saskatoon’s Election Disclosure Complaints Officer until January 1, 2024, with an option to renew for further one-year periods.
2. That the remuneration for Loleen Berdahl be set out at \$2,000.00 for 2020, \$2,000.00 for 2021, \$2,500.00 for 2022 and \$5,000.00 for 2023 as an annual retainer, plus an hourly rate of \$375.00 for investigation services.
3. That the City Solicitor be requested to prepare the appropriate agreement and that His Worship the Mayor and the City Clerk be authorized to execute the agreement under the Corporate Seal.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting held on [February 18, 2020](#), the Governance and Priorities Committee received notice of Professor John Courtney’s resignation from the position of Election Disclosure Complaints Officer and resolved:

“That the resignation of Professor John Courtney be received and that he be thanked for his service; and that the City Solicitor and City Clerk take appropriate action to recruit for an Election Disclosure Complaints Officer.”

The duties and responsibilities of the Election Disclosure Complaints Officer are set out in Part III of the Bylaw, which is attached to this report as Appendix 1.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The City Clerk and the City Solicitor interviewed Loleen Berdahl on May 4, 2020. Ms. Berdahl has a multi-faceted list of credentials and is uniquely qualified to perform this role for the City of Saskatoon. Loleen Berdahl has a Ph.D. in Political Science and is

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currently the Head of the Department of Political Studies at the University of Saskatchewan. Professor Berdahl is currently also an Associate Member of the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy.

Ms. Berdahl is willing to provide services to the City of Saskatoon for payment of an annual retainer as follows, plus an hourly rate of \$375.00 for investigation services:

- \$2,000.00 for 2020;
- \$2,000.00 for 2021;
- \$2,500.00 for 2022; and
- \$5,000.00 for 2023.

NEXT STEPS

Following the appointment of Loleen Berdahl, the City Clerk and the City Solicitor will work with Ms. Berdahl to ensure she has all the information and support required in order to fulfill this position.

APPENDICES

1. Part III of Bylaw No. 8491, *The Campaign Disclosure and Spending Limits Bylaw, 2006*

Report Approval

Written & Approved by: Cindy Yelland, City Solicitor
Reviewed by: Joanne Sproule, City Clerk
Jeff Jorgenson, City Manager

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