



GOVERNANCE AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE

Saskatoon Municipal Review Commission – 2022 Municipal Code of Conduct Committee Report

Recommendation of Committee

1. That Bylaw No. 9537, *The Code of Ethical Conduct for Members of City Council Bylaw, 2019* be amended as follows:
 - a. That Section 16 be amended to include language that a member of Council must attend conflict of interest training, code of ethical conduct training and respectful workplace and anti-harassment training within 60 days following a general election;
 - b. That Section 38(h) be amended in part by changing “tickets to meals, banquets, receptions, sporting events, or other similar activities” to “admission or tickets to meals, banquets, receptions, community events, business events, sporting events, charitable or fund-raising events, professional theatre events, concerts or other similar events (Option 2 – Amend the Code in Part as Per the SMRC Recommendation);
 - c. That a conflict of interest section be added to refer to the provisions of The Cities Act in the Code as the rules to avoid creating situations where the Code is in conflict with The Cities Act and that the ability of members of Council to obtain external legal advice with respect to a possible conflict of interest be included;
 - d. That the Support for Charities Section be moved to the new conflict of interest section;
 - e. That Section 70 be amended to make it clear that existing Councillor websites, social media, email and phone numbers do not need to be deleted during an election period;
 - f. That Section 64 be amended to remove reference to October 31st and instead reference “until after election day in a general election year”;
 - g. That Clause 84(k) be amended to provide a more fulsome description of what may be contained within the Integrity Commissioner’s annual report;
 - h. That Section 84 be amended to suggest procedures for addressing complaints and seeking resolution informally, including the addition of language allowing the Integrity Commissioner to refer a complaint to mediation or a third party upon consent of both parties;



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- i. That Schedule "A" Complaint Form be amended so that it includes a notice of privacy rights;
 - j. That Subsection 91 be amended to include language clarifying that the Integrity Commissioner has the ability, in their sole discretion, to amend the report after consideration of the matter at the Governance and Priorities Committee and before it is presented to City Council;
 - k. That Sections 86-94 be amended to grant the Integrity Commissioner up to an additional 30 days (120 days) regarding communication and reporting time requirements;
 - l. That "supplies and resources to perform a Councillors' duties" be added to section 38(a) to clarify whether office equipment, transit passes, and parking passes are considered gifts, or things necessary to perform the duties of a Councillor; and
2. That the City Solicitor be instructed to bring forward the updated version of Bylaw No. 9537, *The Code of Ethical Conduct for Members of City Council Bylaw, 2019* to City Council for its consideration; and
 3. That the Administration review the City of Saskatoon Anti-Harassment Policy and Investigative Procedures for Members of City Council and Senior Administration Policy and that the Administration report back to the Governance and Priorities Committee with any recommended amendments upon conclusion of that review.

History

The Governance and Priorities Committee, at its meeting held on August 22, 2022, considered a report of the City Solicitor regarding the above.

In addition to the above-noted recommendations your committee also resolved that Administration report back on the consideration of including the language from the Winnipeg code of conduct bylaw with regards to determining what is considered a legitimate basis for Council members to receive tickets to attend events. In preparing this report would the Administration consult with both the Integrity Commissioner and the Saskatoon Municipal Review Commission for their comments on the merits of the Winnipeg language in helping provide further definition to what is acceptable and not acceptable as a legitimate purpose to receive such tickets.

Attachment

August 22, 2022 report of the City Solicitor