

## Review of Other Canadian Municipalities

### Toronto

The City of Toronto employs four accountability officers to make up its accountability framework, as per *The City of Toronto Act*. Below is a brief description of each role in Toronto's accountability framework:

1. Toronto's Ombudsman deals only with City Administration. The Ombudsman investigates "decisions, acts and omissions of the city government that are unjust or discriminatory and systems that serve the public poorly".
2. The Auditor General conducts reviews of City services and how public funds are used to help the City hold itself accountable to citizens.
3. The Lobbyist Registrar manages the Lobbyist Registry and ensures compliance with registry processes and the Lobbyist Code of Conduct.
4. The Integrity Commissioner encourages and helps to ensure compliance with the Codes of Conduct for members of City Council, most local, and adjudicative boards. This includes providing confidential advice on request, educating members on topical issues, and accepting concerns from the public regarding allegations that the standards of conduct have been breached.

Further, each Officer carries out his or her role independently with accountability to City Council. A Memorandum of Understanding clarifies how the Officers work together, including consultation, information sharing and interviewing witnesses.

### Hamilton, Winnipeg and Ottawa

The Cities of Hamilton, Winnipeg, and Ottawa each retain one Integrity Commissioner who investigates Code of Conduct complaints and provides advice and guidance to City Councillors in interpreting their respective Codes of Conduct. Each of these Integrity Commissioners reports the results of their work to Council and the public.

In the City of Hamilton, the Integrity Commissioner also works to educate the public regarding expected ethical conduct of members of City Council.

The Integrity Commissioners for the Cities of Winnipeg and Ottawa oversee the Lobbyist Registry in addition to the responsibilities above. Elsewhere, this function is delegated to the City Clerk.

The City of Ottawa's Integrity Commissioner also provides oversight of the gifts registry and, by request, investigates whether a City Council meeting, or meeting of a local board or committee, was legitimately closed to the public.

### Regina

The Integrity Commissioner in the City of Regina provides written and oral advance rulings to individual City Council members on questions of compliance with *The Code of Ethics Bylaw, 2017*. Further, the Integrity Commissioner assesses the validity of complaints to determine if the complaint is within their mandate or jurisdiction. If the complaint is within their jurisdiction, the Integrity Commissioner investigates the

complaint, which includes preparing an investigation report and recommending sanctions or actions where the complaint is substantiated. If the complaint is substantiated, the Integrity Commissioner submits the report to the Executive Committee of City Council. After this, City Council is required to respond to the investigation report and may, where the Integrity Commissioner has determined there has been a violation of *The Code of Ethics Bylaw, 2017*, impose censure, sanctions and corrective actions. The Integrity Commissioner may provide training or educational sessions to City Council members on the role of the Integrity Commissioner and the obligations and responsibilities of City Council members under *The Code of Ethics Bylaw, 2017*. The Integrity Commissioner does not have any authority to investigate or adjudicate complaints with respect to the following:

- city employees;
- complaints regarding conflict of interest pursuant to sections 114-119 of *The Cities Act*; and
- complaints of violations of the *Criminal Code*.

### **Calgary**

In Calgary the Integrity and Ethics Office divides work into two part-time roles:

- the Integrity Commissioner receives and reviews complaints about the conduct of all members of City Council, determines if a complaint should be pursued, investigates and provides recommendations to City Council regarding sanctions; and
- the Ethics Advisor provides advice to City Councillors regarding conduct and reputation, both individually upon request and to City Council as a whole. The Advisor also educates citizens about ethical expectations for City Councillors and assists in the informal resolution of complaints as referred by the Integrity Commissioner after assessment.