



INTEGRITY COMMISSIONER

ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

This Report

This annual report has been created to provide a brief overview of work carried out by the IC for the period of March 1, 2022, to March 31, 2023.

Commissioner's Role

The Integrity Commissioner (IC) is a statutory officer whose powers are set out in Section 223.3 of the *Municipal Act*, 2001.

Integrity Commissioner

223.3(1) Without limiting sections 9, 10 and 11, those sections authorize the municipality to appoint an Integrity Commissioner who reports to council and who is responsible for performing in an independent manner the functions assigned by the municipality with respect to,

- (a) the application of the code of conduct for members of council and the code of conduct for members of local boards or of either of them;*
- (b) the application of any procedures, rules and policies of the municipality and local boards governing the ethical behaviour of members of council and of local boards or of either of them; or*
- (c) both of clauses (a) and (b).*

- As IC, I report directly to Council on matters related to the Code of Conduct and the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act (MICA);
- I have the power to undertake investigations into complaints alleging contraventions of the applicable code of conduct as well as the MICA; and
- My reports are public, and I am permitted to disclose necessary information related to the findings while maintaining confidentiality. I can make recommendations to Council, but only Council can sanction one of its Members.

The Integrity Commissioner performs the following duties:

Responding to questions from the public about the Code of Conduct & Municipal Conflict of Interest Act (MCIA)	Responding to questions from Council about their obligations under the Code & MCIA	Giving recommendations or advice to Council on policy related to ethical behaviour of members	Providing training for Council, Local Boards and public on Code & MCIA governing ethical behaviour	Conducting impartial inquiries in response to allegations that a member has not followed the Code or MICA.
---	--	---	--	--

Statistics

In the 12 month period, the IC received 3 requests for advice on issues associated with potential pecuniary interests. Requests were received in:

- May 2022
- November 2022
- March 2023

In addition to the above, a presentation was also made to the new Council on the role of the Integrity Commissioner.

Other Considerations

- IC inquiries are costly, and many municipalities have not budgeted for these costs.
- Assessing a complaint (especially a complaint of conflict of interest) is circumstance specific and I cannot provide an immediate response over the phone.
- All requests for advice should be in writing.