

MEMORANDUM

To: Regional Chair Emmerson and Members of Regional Council

From: Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk

Date: April 7, 2021

Re: Overview of the Integrity Commissioner Role

This memorandum provides context to support the Integrity Commissioner's first investigation report

Principles Integrity is the Region's Integrity Commissioner and this agenda includes its first investigation report and recommendations. To assist Council when considering the report, this memorandum provides background on why the Region has an Integrity Commissioner, how it was selected and its role investigating inquiries.

All municipalities are required to have an Integrity Commissioner and a Code of Conduct

As of March 1, 2019, the *Municipal Act, 2001* ("the Act") made it mandatory for all municipalities to have a council code of conduct and to appoint an integrity commissioner who independently reports to council on the application of such a code.

Prior to that, council codes of conduct and integrity commissioners were an optional tool available to municipalities.

Principles Integrity was appointed as the Region's Integrity Commissioner following a competitive process

On [April 19, 2018](#), Council approved criteria for selecting an Integrity Commissioner and delegated the appointment of the successful candidate to staff.

Following a competitive process involving five initial respondents, Principles Integrity was appointed as the successful candidate. Principles Integrity was the highest-scoring and lowest cost of the qualifying respondents.

Regional Council later adopted a Code of Conduct

On [April 18, 2019](#), Council adopted its Code of Conduct.

Integrity Commissioner's role includes independently investigating and reporting on Code of Conduct inquiries

The Integrity Commissioner's role and independence is set out in the Act. The Integrity Commissioner reports directly to Council and provides services such as advising and educating elected officials and members of the public. The role also includes investigating inquiries from Council, a member of Council or the public about whether a member of council or of a local board has contravened the code of conduct applicable to the member.

Under the Act, Integrity Commissioner reports must be made available to the public.

This is the first such report to be considered by Regional Council

Until now, the Integrity Commissioner had not conducted any investigation regarding Regional Council Members.

In accordance with the Act, the Integrity Commissioner's report in this case has been made publicly available as part of the meeting agenda.

Council can consider the Integrity Commissioner's report and recommendations and the Integrity Commissioner will be available at this meeting to answer any questions.



Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk



Bruce Macgregor
Chief Administrative Officer

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