



STAFF REPORT INFORMATION ONLY

Feasibility of Cost-sharing Between the City's Accountability Officers

Date:	November 5, 2007
To:	Budget Committee
From:	City Manager
Wards:	City-wide
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

This report is for information and was prepared in consultation with the Auditor General, Integrity Commissioner, and the Lobbyist Registrar.

Financial Impact

None.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting on July 10, 2007, the Budget Committee requested that the City Manager report to the Budget Committee on the feasibility of cost-sharing among the Offices of the Auditor General, the Integrity Commissioner, the Lobbyist Registrar and the Ombudsperson.

COMMENTS

Several opportunities exist for economies of cost among the City's accountability officers. These opportunities are being actively pursued and include:

a) Office Space and Equipment

A plan is in place to accommodate the Lobbyist Registrar, the Ombudsperson and the Integrity Commissioner, and staff, on the first floor of 112 Elizabeth St. This co-location results in sharing of:

- Meeting space: 1 boardroom and 1 small meeting room
- Sundry and associated costs
- Newspaper Subscriptions and Professional Literature

- Office equipment:
 - o In-focus presentation projector
 - o Presentation Laptop
 - o Paper shredder

b) Ombudsperson's Case Management System

A plan is underway to use the City's existing Domino platform to create a data-management application to track complaints received by the Ombudsperson's Office (similar to what was developed for the City's Fraud & Waste Hotline).

This would provide an interim solution to tracking anticipated complaint activity until the Ombudsperson is appointed and has sufficient operational experience to determine what long-term requirements may be necessary.

CONCLUSION

The co-location of the Offices of the Integrity Commissioner, Lobbyist Registrar and the Ombudsperson presents opportunities for economies of cost primarily with respect to office space and equipment. Further opportunities may arise over time as these functions become fully operational.

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SIGNATURE

City Manager