

**OFFICE OF THE INTEGRITY
COMMISSIONER**

2010 OPERATING BUDGET

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THE OFFICE OF THE INTEGRITY COMMISSIONER

Overview

The City of Toronto Act, 2006, mandates the City of Toronto to appoint an Integrity Commissioner for performing the functions assigned by City Council in an independent manner with respect to the application of the Codes of Conduct for members of City Council, members of local boards (restricted definition) including adjudicative boards and relating to the application of any procedures, rules and policies of the City, local boards (restricted definition) including adjudicative boards and governing the ethical behavior of members of City Council and those boards.

The Integrity Commissioner provides advice and outreach to members of Council and local and adjudicative boards, opinions as requested by Council, and conducts inquiries into the contravention of the Codes of Conduct reporting to Council in accordance with the Complaint Protocols and Codes of Conduct which have been established by Council.

The Integrity Commissioner is expected to report annually on the work of the office and provides examples of advice in general terms as well as complaints received and completed.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Integrity Commissioner

- **Advisory:** provide written and oral advice to individual members of Council about their own situation respecting the Code of Conduct and other by-laws/policies governing the ethical behaviour of members, including general interpretation of the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*; and, provide the full Council with specific and general opinions and advice respecting compliance by elected officials with the provisions of governing Acts, and other conduct policies;
- **Complaint Investigation:** has the power to assess and investigate complaints to the Integrity Commissioner from a member of Council/public, or the whole Council;
- **Complaint Adjudication:** to determine whether a member of Council has in fact violated a City protocol, by-law or policy governing their ethical behaviour except that (as in the provincial model) Council makes the final decision on whether any penalty (limited under present City authority) recommended by the IC is imposed on the member found in contravention; and
- **Educational:** publish an annual report on findings of typical advice and complaint cases; provide outreach programs to members of Council and staff on legislation, protocols, and office procedures emphasizing the importance of ethics for public confidence in municipal government; and disseminate information available to the public on the City's web site.

Activities in 2009*Policy Development*

- Provided input and advice in the development of the Policy Framework for Toronto's Accountability Officers;
- Together with the Lobbyist Registrar, developed the Protocol on Unsolicited Written and Electronic Communications to Members of Council; and
- Together with the Lobbyist Registrar, issued the Interpretation Bulletin on Donation to Council Member-organized events;
- Provided advice as to the jurisdictional issues concerning staff of Members of Council and to appropriate revisions to the Code of Conduct;
- Commenced a broad based consultation with Members of council and adjudicative tribunals on member advocacy and appearances before tribunals;
- Organized and hosted the first meeting of the Integrity Commissioners of Ontario in Toronto.

Advice and Inquiries – July 2008 to June 2009

- Members of Council - Advice Sought

Members Seeking Advice:	37
Informal Advice:	50
Formal Written Advice:	67

- Citizen and Staff Inquiries

Citizen:	195
Staff:	25

Complaints

- Formal Complaints Received: 12
- Informal Complaints Received: 2

2010 BUDGET REQUEST

Budget Request

The Office of the Integrity Commissioner’s 2010 Operating Budget request is as follows:

in \$000s	2009 Projected Actuals	2009 Approved Budget	2010		
			Requested Base	Reduction	Budget Request
Salaries and Benefits	83.9	28.0	180.8	0.0	180.8
Materials and Supplies	0.6	4.5	4.5	(3.5)	1.0
Equipment	0.7	3.0	3.0	(3.0)	0.0
Services & Rents	99.6	159.5	35.4	(20.2)	15.2
Contributions to Reserve/Res Funds	3.9	3.9	3.9	0.0	3.9
Interdivisional Charges	1.5	5.0	5.0	(2.0)	3.0
Total	190.2	203.9	232.6	(28.7)	203.9

The Office of the Integrity Commissioner’s 2010 Operating Budget Request of \$0.204 thousand represents a 0% change from the 2009 Approved Operating Budget.

- The base budget request of \$232.6 thousand consists largely of salaries and benefits and shows a re-allocation of budgets from professional services to salary and benefit to reflect actual contractual arrangement between the Integrity Commissioner and the Corporation.
- A budget reduction of \$29 thousand in non-payroll to absorb the cost of living and inflation adjustments within the base budget given the City of Toronto’s financial situation.
- The budget request of \$203.9 thousand does not include any public inquiries that may be undertaken by the Office. Budget provisions will be needed should an inquiry be required in the future.

Consequence of Decrease in 2010 Operating Budget Request

The Integrity Commissioner's Office currently operates with 1.5 staff. The Office of Integrity Commissioner's 2010 Operating Budget Request will enable the Integrity Commissioner to deliver her mandate.

Expected Challenges in 2010

- Assessing the impact of legislative changes to the City of Toronto Act around the municipal election process to the demands on the office;
- Reporting on the outcome of the Member Advocacy Consultation;
- Addressing the ongoing policy issues (flagged by predecessor Integrity Commissioners) which arise from the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act and the Code of Conduct; and
- Development of the policies and protocols in conjunction with fellow Accountability Officers under the Accountability Framework;
- Responding to election-related complaints and requests for advice which are related to the municipal election and relevant portions of the Members' Code of Conduct.
- Assess and monitor impact of Protocol for Member Involvement in Other Member's Wards (policy pending at time of writing).

ATTACHMENT 1: ORGANIZATION CHART AS OF DEC 31, 2009 AND 2010

