Office of the INTEGRITY COMMISSIONER

Report on Activity July to December 2015

Valerie Jepson, Integrity Commissioner
Presentation to City Council
February 4, 2016

Complaints, advice and inquiries (Calendar 2015)



- Received 34 new formal complaints and 14 new informal complaints.
- Issued 13 reports concluding 35 formal complaints.
- Responded to more than 185 requests for advice from members of Council and Local Boards.
 - Noticeable uptick in requests from Local Board members.
- Responded to more than 300 requests for advice or information from residents and City staff.
- Reviewed 30 gift disclosure forms.
- Provided 20 education and outreach sessions.

Policy activities



- Participation in the City Council directed review of Accountability Officers.
- Participation in the consultation led by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs about the municipal legislation review. Formal submissions filed October 30, 2015.
- Streamlining gift disclosure processes and establishing a single gift disclosure registry on the OIC website.

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Main

Members of City Council Members of Local Boards (Restricted Definition) Members of Adjudicative Boards Reports to Council

Media Releases -Messages

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Key Documents

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Other Policies and Advice

Gifts, benefits and donations

Members of Council can only accept fees, advances, gifts, donations, invitations, or benefits that are connected with the performance of their duties under specific circumstances, as outlined in the Code of Conduct. Gifts and benefits are disclosed quarterly.



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• Ward	19 – Councillor Mike La	ayton						
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Gifts and Benefits Procedure At a Glance

When Council Members are offered a fee, advance, gift or personal benefit of any kind (referred to generally as a gift) they should carry out the following steps. Gifts include meals, tickets, sponsored travel, and donations for community events.

Step 1: Seek Advice Before the Gift is Received

Regardless of the estimated value of any gift, Members should seek advice from the Integrity Commissioner about whether a gift is permissible. The Integrity Commissioner will require a description of the gift; the reason for the gift; the name of the donor; whether the gift is for the Council Member, a family member, or staff member; the estimated value; and the intended use. Contact the Integrity Commissioner at integrity@toronto.ca or by calling (416) 392-3826.

Step 2: Submit a Declaration Form

If the value of the gift exceeds \$300, is a donation to a community event or is sponsored travel, Members must submit a disclosure form to the Office of the Integrity Commissioner within thirty (30) days of receipt of the gift or benefit. All forms (which include detailed instructions) are available on the Integrity Commissioner's website, toronto.ca/integrity. Members must include supporting documentation with the disclosure form such as receipts, correspondence or, in the case of community events, a copy of the event flyer.

OIC Core Objectives



- Timely, accurate, consistent and practical responses to requests for advice from Members of Council and Local Boards.
- Carry out investigations in a fair and appropriately thorough manner.
- Provide and deliver education and outreach to stakeholder groups.
- Provide resources for all stakeholders that are consistent, accessible, practical and clear.
- Perform all duties in as transparent a manner as possible, consistent with the principles of open government, while respecting the secrecy obligations imposed by COTA.
- Maintain and build on the Office of the Integrity Commissioner's reputation as thought leader in the field of ethics and integrity for elected officials and as a key resource within the City of Toronto for advice, information and guidance about ethics and integrity.
- Build up the Office of the Integrity Commissioner's institutional structures for long term sustainability.



Thank you.

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