

Councillor
Mary-Margaret McMahon

Ward 32 Beaches / East York councillormcmahon.com

July 24th, 2014

To: Executive Committee

Re: Non-Renewable contracts for all Accountability officers

Background:

Accountability officers have a very important role to play in our legislative system; they help keep our elected officials honest and our system transparent. I believe we can strengthen the independence of our accountability officers by removing City Council's authority to interfere with the length of their tenure.

Toronto has recently hired an Integrity Commissioner and an Auditor General to non-renewable contracts. To ensure that the Ombudsman is equally free to criticize Councillors and the Mayor, that position's contract should also be non-renewable.

I want to make clear that this motion is not intended to impact the contract for the current Ombudsman. This recommendation will only effect the tenure of Toronto's next Ombusdman.

Recommendation:

That City council direct the City manager to report back on the necessary amendments to Chapter 3, Accountability Officers, for the Ombudsman to be appointed for one 5 or 7 year term that does not include the possibility of extension.

Thank you,

M. M. McMahon

Mary-Margaret McMahon
Councillor Ward 32
Beaches-East York