

Appointment of a Toronto Lobbyist Registrar

Date:	July 5, 2016
То:	City Council
From:	Chair, Lobbyist Registrar Selection Panel
Wards:	All
Reason for Confidential Information:	This report deals with personal matters about an identifiable person and is about labour relations or employee negotiations.
Reference Number:	

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Selection Panel recommends that:

- 1. City Council appoint as Lobbyist Registrar the candidate identified in Confidential Attachment 1 to this report effective September 12, 2016 or the date upon which the recommended candidate enters into an employment agreement satisfactory to the City Manager whichever occurs last, for a term ending on September 6, 2019, rather than for the 7-year term set out in *Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 3, Accountability Officers.*
- 2. The City Manager be authorized to negotiate the standard employment agreement for Accountability Officers with the recommended candidate and to execute any related documents as necessary.
- 3. City Council authorize the public release of the name and summary profile of the Lobbyist Registrar contained in Confidential Attachment 1 upon approval of the appointment and at the conclusion of this Council meeting.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of the recommendations in this report. The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and concurs with the financial impact statement.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

Linda Gehrke was Toronto's Lobbyist Registrar from June 2008 until she retired in May 2016. In May 2016, City Council appointed Stephen Littlejohn as Interim Lobbyist Registrar until a permanent Lobbyist Registrar is appointed by City Council.

The *City of Toronto Act, 2006* requires the City to establish a lobbyist registry and provides the authority to appoint a Lobbyist Registrar. To meet its statutory obligations and round out the City accountability system, City Council established a lobbyist registry and appointed its first Lobbyist Registrar in 2007. The Lobbyist Registrar reports directly to City Council.

In March 2015, City Council amended *Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 3, Accountability Officers*, and established a non-renewable fixed seven (7) year term for Lobbyist Registrar appointments.

In December 2015, City Council considered an external review of Toronto's accountability functions to explore options for delivering the functions in a combined or multiple role and in a way that would strengthen the functions and improve service to the public. That review suggested that there may be some merit in appointing one person as both the Integrity Commissioner and Lobbyist Registrar. In considering the findings of the external review, City Council authorized the City Manager to recruit a Lobbyist Registrar for a shortened term concluding in September 2019 to coincide with the term ending for the current Integrity Commissioner.

The City Manager will report to City Council with respect to the merits of appointing one individual as both Integrity Commissioner and Lobbyist Registrar prior to the end of the current term of Council. Ensuring the terms of the incoming Lobbyist Registrar and current Integrity Commissioner both conclude at the same time provides flexibility, should City Council choose to make this change in 2019 and for future appointments.

COMMENTS

A recruitment process was initiated in Spring 2016 to fill the position of the Lobbyist Registrar. *Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 3, Accountability Officers*, requires the selection process for accountability officers to be conducted by an external recruitment firm and that the appointment be recommended to City Council by a Selection Panel, appointed by the Mayor and chaired by the Mayor or the Mayor's designate.

The Mayor appointed a Lobbyist Registrar Selection Panel that is chaired by Councillor Kelly and also includes Councillor Burnside, Councillor Nunziata and Councillor Wong-Tam. The Selection Panel was assisted by the Phelps Group, an independent executive search firm engaged to undertake the search and support the selection process. The Phelps Group is a global leader in executive search and recruitment, and conducted a comprehensive search to fill this position.

The Selection Panel undertook a systematic and consistent interview process, and unanimously recommends to City Council the appointment of a Lobbyist Registrar as identified in Confidential Attachment 1. The appointment of the Lobbyist Registrar requires a 2/3 majority vote (30 Members) of City Council.

This report is submitted by the Chair on behalf of the Members of the Lobbyist Registrar Selection Panel.

SIGNATURE

Councillor Norm Kelly Chair, Lobbyist Registrar Selection Panel

ATTACHMENTS

Confidential Attachment 1 – Appointment of a Toronto Lobbyist Registrar