Report Regarding the Conduct of Councillor John Filion

Date: June 15, 2018  
To: City Council  
From: Valerie Jepson, Integrity Commissioner  
Wards: All

SUMMARY

The Integrity Commissioner has jurisdiction to conduct inquiries pursuant to the authorities in the City of Toronto Act, 2006 and Chapter 3 of the Toronto Municipal Code.

This Report for Action transmits to City Council the Commissioner’s report regarding the Conduct of Councillor John Filion. Although the Commissioner has made no finding of contravention, it is filed with City Council in accordance with the Commissioner’s discretion to do so as set out in the Code of Conduct Complaint Protocol for Members of Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Integrity Commissioner recommends that:


FINANCIAL IMPACT

This report has no financial impact.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council has not previously considered this matter.
COMMENTS

On August 17, 2017, the Auditor General requested an inquiry into whether Councillor John Filion contravened Article VIII (Improper Use of Influence) of the Code of Conduct for Members of Council (the "Code of Conduct") on the basis of an anonymous letter her office received that alleged that the Councillor was involved in improperly referring matters to a particular development consultant.

The Integrity Commissioner reviewed the Auditor's request, and determined that the matter could possibly give rise to a contravention of the Code of Conduct and that there were sufficient grounds to cause an inquiry.

Following an investigation, the Integrity Commissioner has uncovered no evidence to support a finding that Councillor Filion has any business or referral relationship with the named consultant.

The Integrity Commissioner is filing this report with City Council for two reasons. First, the anonymous letter that formed the basis of the Auditor's request raised serious allegations and was also received by many City councillors and City staff. Second, the concerns raised in the anonymous letter are similar to those raised by Councillor Thompson in defence of his own actions in a separate inquiry; the Integrity Commissioner believes that City Council may reasonably wish to know this outcome and its reasons when considering my report and recommendations about Councillor Thompson.

The attached report includes a detailed summary of the procedure, results of the investigation and findings.

CONTACT

Valerie Jepson, Integrity Commissioner
Email: Valerie.Jepson@toronto.ca
Tel: (416) 397-7770; Fax: (416) 696-3615

SIGNATURE

Valerie Jepson
Integrity Commissioner

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Integrity Commissioner Report Regarding the Conduct of Councillor John Filion (7 pages)

Integrity Commissioner Report for Action