

Report Regarding the Conduct of Councillor Michael Thompson

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 Michael Thompson. It is filed with City Council in accordance with the Code of Conduct Complaint Protocol for Members of Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Integrity Commissioner recommends that:

1. City Council adopt a finding that Councillor Michael Thompson contravened Article VIII (Improper Use of Influence) of the Code of Conduct.
2. City Council direct that Councillor Thompson cease providing assistance to Mr. Gasparro.
3. City Council reprimand Councillor Thompson as an expression of its commitment to the Code of Conduct.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This report has no financial impact.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council has not previously considered this matter.

COMMENTS

On February 2, 2017, Councillor John Filion made a complaint alleging that Councillor Michael Thompson contravened Article VIII (Improper Use of Influence) of the Code of Conduct for Members of Council ("Code of Conduct") by making – or directing his staff to make – inquiries on behalf of G Group, the principal of which is Councillor Thompson's friend, Albert Gasparro.

On November 7, 2017, Councillor Filion made a second complaint alleging that Councillor Thompson contravened Articles XIV (Discreditable Conduct) and XVI (Reprisals and Obstruction) of the Code of Conduct for spreading rumours about him as an act of retaliation for the First Complaint.

Following an investigation, the Integrity Commissioner has concluded that Councillor Thompson contravened Article VIII of the Code of Conduct for using his office to assist and advocate for G Group regarding its development project at 5220 Yonge Street and recommends that City Council: (1) adopt a finding that Councillor Thompson contravened Article VIII (Improper Use of Influence) of the Code of Conduct; (2) direct that Councillor Thompson refrain from using his office to make further inquiries or advocate for matters at the request of or on behalf of Albert Gasparro or G Group; and, (c) reprimand Councillor Thompson.

The attached report includes a detailed summary of the procedure, results of the investigation, findings and recommendations with respect to penalty or remedial action.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Valerie Jepson
Integrity Commissioner

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Integrity Commissioner Report Regarding the Conduct of Councillor Michael Thompson (23 pages)