Extension of the Term of the Integrity Commissioner

Date: July 16, 2019  
To: City Council  
From: Chair, Integrity Commissioner Selection Panel  
Wards: All

SUMMARY

At its meeting on June 10, 2014, City Council appointed Valerie Jepson as Toronto’s Integrity Commissioner for a fixed, non-renewable five-year term. The current Integrity Commissioner’s term ends on September 6, 2019.

The Integrity Commissioner function is a requirement under the City of Toronto Act, 2006 and reports directly to City Council.

A recruitment process for a new Integrity Commissioner is ongoing.

The next meeting of City Council is October 2019. In order to ensure the City is meeting legislative requirements, and to allow for sufficient time to complete the recruitment process, this report recommends an extension of the term of the current Integrity Commissioner to November 29, 2019 or until the recruitment process for a new Integrity Commissioner is completed, whichever comes first.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Deputy Mayor recommends that:

1. City Council extend the term of the Integrity Commissioner, on the same terms and conditions, to November 29, 2019 or until the recruitment process for a new Integrity Commissioner is completed, and Council approves the appointment of a new Integrity Commissioner, whichever comes first.

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The Integrity Commissioner function is a requirement under the City of Toronto Act, 2006 and reports directly to City Council.

A recruitment process was initiated in early 2019 to fill the position of Integrity Commissioner. Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 3, Accountability Officers, requires the selection process for accountability officers 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 their designate.

The Selection Panel is composed of Deputy Mayor Minnan-Wong (Chair), Councillor Lai, Councillor Fletcher and Councillor Holyday, and is being assisted by Odgers Berndtson, an independent executive search firm engaged to undertake the search and support the selection process.

The recruitment process is ongoing.

The next meeting of City Council is October 2019. In order to ensure the City is meeting legislative requirements and has an Integrity Commissioner in place, and to allow for sufficient time to complete the recruitment process for a new Integrity Commissioner, this report recommends an extension of the term of the current Integrity Commissioner to November 29, 2019, or until the recruitment process is completed, whichever comes first.

An extension of the term of the current Integrity Commissioner requires a 2/3 majority vote (18 members) of City Council.

Deputy Mayor Denzil Minnan-Wong
Chair, Integrity Commissioner Selection Panel