

Report on Councillor Chris Moise's Comments to a Constituent

Date: March 18, 2026
To: City Council
From: Paul Muldoon, Integrity Commissioner
Wards: All

SUMMARY

The Integrity Commissioner investigated two complaints about Councillor Moise made under the Code of Conduct for Members of Council (the "Code of Conduct").

The complaints alleged Councillor Moise engaged in discreditable conduct in a post-meeting interaction with a constituent.

The appended report of the inquiry under s. 160 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* considers whether Councillor Moise violated Article 14 (Discreditable Conduct).

Based on the evidence in the report, the Integrity Commissioner found the Councillor engaged with a member of the public in a derogatory manner contrary to Article 14.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Integrity Commissioner recommends that:

1. City Council adopt the findings that Councillor Moise has violated Article 14 of the Code of Conduct;
2. City Council issue no penalty.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This report has no financial impact.

DECISION HISTORY

City Council has not previously considered this matter.

COMMENTS

The Integrity Commissioner investigated two complaints that Councillor Moise violated the Code of Conduct for Members of Council when he made comments to a constituent.

The complaints stem from a budget town hall meeting at City Hall on the evening of January 16, 2025, when the Complainant approached the Councillor as he was leaving the meeting and videorecorded an exchange where he asked the Councillor, “So what are you doing this year, in [20]25, relating to renaming things that hurt your feelings for whatever reason?” The Complainant had opposed the City decision to rename Yonge-Dundas Square to Sankofa Square, and the Councillor’s role in the renaming.

The Councillor responded that the Complainant had harassed him and his staff and that the Complainant held “a white supremacy view.” The Complainant then asked the Councillor to apologize for “calling [him] a white supremacist.” The Councillor said he would never apologize, “because you are.”

The Integrity Commissioner found the Councillor’s statements were directed towards a specific person and could cause reputational harm. As a result, the Commissioner found that the Councillor had engaged with a member of the public in a derogatory manner while acting in his official role, violating Article 14 of the Code of Conduct.

The Integrity Commissioner recommended no penalty due to context including:

- The brief interaction occurred when the Complainant pursued the Councillor with critical questions while the Councillor was trying to leave a meeting and only became public when the Complainant shared his video with the media,
- The recognition of the Councillor’s lived experience as a racialized person, in light of the Complainant’s persistent criticism of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion policies, often directed at the Councillor, and
- This was the first instance of the Integrity Commissioner finding the Councillor acted in a derogatory manner towards someone.

The Commissioner called on Members of Council to remember that, while disagreement is inevitable in a vibrant democracy, the manner in which individuals engage with one another matters. Members of Council hold positions of public trust and, with that, bear the responsibility to model high standards of respectful conduct.

Council’s Role in Considering Integrity Commissioner Reports

When considering a report from the Integrity Commissioner, Members of Council act in an adjudicative capacity and thus, must act impartially and demonstrate an open mind. The courts have confirmed that elected representatives can act as adjudicators in these matters, and the Legislature has assigned Members this task.

If Council adopts the Integrity Commissioner's findings, it may accept, revise, or reject the recommended penalty, or instead impose its own penalty within the statutory limits of a reprimand and/or a suspension of remuneration of up to 90 days.

If Council instead receives the report for information, the matter is concluded. Council cannot alter the Commissioner's findings but may refer a matter back.

When the Commissioner's report is about the conduct of a sitting Member of Council, that Member may participate in debate but may not vote on the matter.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

Paul Muldoon
Integrity Commissioner

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Report on Councillor Chris Moise's Comments to a Constituent