

## councilmeeting

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**From:** Aaron deVries <aaron.devries@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** March 24, 2026 11:10 AM  
**To:** councilmeeting  
**Subject:** [External Sender] My comments for 2026.CC39.1 on March 25, 2026 City Council

**Categories:** Communication (Supp)

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the March 25, 2026 City Council meeting on item 2026.CC39.1, Report on Councillor Chris Moise's Comments to a Constituent

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

I am writing to express my serious concerns regarding the Integrity Commissioner's report concerning Councillor Chris Moise. While I am heartened that the Commissioner found the Councillor's conduct to be "derogatory" and in violation of Article 14 (Discreditable Conduct) of the Code of Conduct, the recommendation that City Council issue no penalty is deeply troubling.

The report confirms that Councillor Moise directed comments toward a constituent that were capable of causing reputational harm. My specific concerns regarding the recommendation of no penalty are as follows:

- **The Litmus Test of Equality:** The Commissioner's report suggests that "context", including the Councillor's lived experience, justifies the absence of a penalty. For the Code of Conduct to remain a credible tool for accountability, its standards must be applied equally. If any other member of Council used derogatory, racially-charged language toward a constituent of any other background, a finding of "no penalty" would likely be seen as a failure to uphold the high standards of respectful conduct expected of public officials.
- **Democratic Engagement:** The exchange occurred after a budget town hall where a constituent asked questions regarding city priorities and the renaming of Yonge-Dundas Square. Dismissing such inquiries by labeling a constituent a "white supremacist" is an escalation that discourages public participation and dismisses legitimate concerns about city management.
- **The Responsibility of Public Trust:** Members of Council hold positions of public trust and bear the responsibility to model high standards of conduct. Adopting the findings of a violation without a corresponding penalty sends a message that derogatory engagement is permissible depending on the identity of the parties involved.

I urge Council to recognize that downplaying these actions is divisive. While disagreement is inevitable in a democracy, the manner in which our elected officials engage with the public matters. I ask that Council

consider a formal reprimand to ensure that the standards of the Code of Conduct are upheld for all residents regardless of colour or creed.

Regards,  
Aaron de Vries