

From: [Ben Robinson](#)
To: [councilmeeting](#)
Subject: [External Sender] My comments for 2026.CC40.1 on April 22, 2026 City Council
Date: April 20, 2026 2:11:01 PM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the April 22, 2026 City Council meeting on item 2026.CC40.1, Payment of Legal Expenses Related to an Integrity Commissioner Investigation

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:

Dear Members of Council,

I am writing to express serious concern regarding Councillor Chris Moise's request that taxpayers cover a \$28,105.93 legal bill arising from a matter in which he was found to have violated the City's Code of Conduct.

According to the findings of Toronto's Integrity Commissioner, Councillor Moise engaged in conduct unbecoming of his office, including making derogatory remarks toward a constituent. In light of this determination, it is difficult to understand how it is appropriate for the financial consequences of such conduct to be transferred onto the taxpayers he was elected to represent.

While I recognize that current City policy may allow for reimbursement of legal fees in certain circumstances, this case appears to represent a misuse of that provision. When an elected official is found to have breached established standards of conduct, accountability should rest with the individual—not be subsidized by the public.

Concerns have also been raised regarding the proportionality of the legal costs themselves. A bill approaching \$30,000 for a matter of this scope warrants scrutiny, particularly given the broader context of fiscal responsibility expected from public office holders.

This issue does not exist in isolation. Councillor Moise has previously faced criticism for questionable spending decisions, including the use of public funds for personally branded sidewalk decals, and he was reportedly the highest-spending member of Council last year, drawing significant sums from both the general Council budget and overall expense allocations.

At a time when residents are experiencing increasing financial strain—including substantial property tax increases under Mayor Olivia Chow—this request risks undermining public trust in the stewardship of municipal resources.

I urge Council to carefully review this matter and to consider the broader implications for accountability, transparency, and public confidence. Taxpayers should not bear the cost of conduct that has already been deemed inappropriate.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Please publish my comments on the page so they are publicly visible.

Sincerely,

Ben Robinson