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Charging Councillor Chris Moise (“Moise”) Legal Bills to Toronto Taxpayers Notwithstanding that Moise Guilty of Violating Toronto’s Councillor Code of Conduct

Toronto Council Item - 2026.CC40.1

Please refer to my comments below for your consideration.

Notwithstanding the shocking absence of any penalties in the Integrity Commissioner’s Report given the Respondent’s (“Moise”) discreditable conduct finding, Moise was still found **guilty** of violating Toronto’s Councillor Code of Conduct. For Toronto Council to pay Moise’s legal fees when in fact Moise was found guilty will in my assessment serve absolutely no deterrence, as deterrence should be a relevant factor, for the Respondent or for that matter any Toronto councillor to breach Toronto’s Councillor Code of conduct as:

- Even if found guilty by the Integrity Commissioner there is a very high probability that no penalty will be levied.
- Notwithstanding being found guilty, which should rule out all legal expense reimbursement, Toronto Council members should ensure that taxpayers DO NOT pay Moise’s legal costs as paying Moise’s legal costs will effectively condone this behaviour.

Toronto taxpayers already funded the Integrity TO Moise investigation. Hopefully Toronto Council members at a minimum find out what the Moise investigation cost if they are potentially considering covering any of Moise’s legal costs to at least assess why Moise’s legal costs are so high. Given that the Integrity TO investigation found Moise **guilty** and to many Torontonians shock no penalties were recommended, paying **ANY** part of Moise’s legal costs, could potentially normalize the behaviour. Paying the legal expenses, or any part thereof, for a **guilty** councillor would be egregious and provide additional support to many Torontonians opinions that the Integrity TO office is not fit for purpose and should be defunded as potentially Moise may be looking for his legal costs to be paid as the Integrity TO office did not penalize his violation, which was the wrong decision.

I encourage Toronto Council to use this potentially **FINAL** opportunity in dealing with this Moise issue to send a clear message to all their respective constituents that discreditable disrespectful councillor conduct, that violated Toronto’s Councillor Code of Conduct that Moise was found guilty of, will not be financially rewarded, and as such **WILL NOT** have their personal legal fees reimbursed by Toronto taxpayers.

Rick Price