

From: [Meredith Mednick](#)
To: [councilmeeting](#)
Subject: [External Sender] item 2026.CC40.1, Payment of Legal Expenses Related to an Integrity Commissioner Investigation
Date: April 20, 2026 1:30:05 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 Toronto City Council,

I am writing as a City of Toronto taxpayer and resident of Ward 13 to express my strong opposition to the recommendation that the City of Toronto reimburse \$20,807.61 in legal expenses incurred by Chris Moise in relation to the Integrity Commissioner's investigation.

Frankly, I find it deeply troubling that Council is even considering asking taxpayers to cover legal costs arising from an investigation into a councillor's own conduct, particularly in a case where no meaningful penalty was imposed. The combination of no consequence and financial reimbursement sends a message that elected officials are shielded from both accountability and responsibility.

As a constituent of Councillor Moise, this is unacceptable. Public office is not meant to insulate individuals from the personal and professional consequences of their actions. When an Integrity Commissioner investigation is required, it reflects a serious matter of public trust. The expectation should be clear: the individual under investigation bears their own legal costs. Anything less shifts that burden unfairly onto residents.

Approving this reimbursement would also establish a dangerous precedent. It signals to current and future members of Council that, even in cases involving scrutiny of their own conduct, the City, and by extension, taxpayers, may ultimately be responsible for their defense. This is not only fiscally irresponsible, it is fundamentally inconsistent with the principles of accountability and ethical governance.

More broadly, decisions like this erode public confidence in Toronto City Council. Residents expect that elected officials are held to a higher standard—not protected from consequences. When Council declines to impose a penalty and then considers covering legal costs, it raises serious concerns about whether that standard is being upheld.

I urge Council in the strongest possible terms to reject this reimbursement. At a minimum, you must demonstrate that accountability has real meaning in this City. Taxpayers should not be asked to subsidize the legal defense of elected officials in matters arising from their own conduct.

Sincerely,

Meredith Mednick