

Council Information Memo

To: Mayor Burton and Members of Council

From: Vicki Tytaneck, Town Clerk

Date: January 14, 2025

Subject: Municipal Accountability Act

Comments

On December 12th, the Ford Government introduced [Bill 241: Municipal Accountability Act](#) to strengthen municipal governance and accountability. The bill would amend the Municipal Act establishing a new, standardized municipal code of conduct and integrity commissioner framework.

The changes being introduced reflect a common concern from municipalities looking for better tools to codify and enforce higher standards of accountability for elected officials and support a safe and respectful work environment for members of council and staff.

If passed, the bill and forthcoming regulations would, among other things:

- Standardize both the municipal code of conduct with mandatory training for members,
- Standardize integrity commissioner investigation processes including reporting requirements.
- Establish a role for the Integrity Commissioner (IC) of Ontario in municipal code of conduct and integrity commissioner matters, such as advising on IC appointments, training local commissioners and conducting inquiries.
- Introduce a mechanism for members of council and certain local boards to be removed and disqualified for four years for serious code violations.

The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario has been gathering comments and/or responses to submit to the Ministry which is available until February 10, 2025 should Council wish to provide any further suggestions or concerns.

Vicki Tytaneck
Town Clerk