

Mayor Don Iveson

Notice of Motion regarding Integrity Commissioner, City Council November 2, 2017

Over the last several years, the City of Edmonton has made strides towards being a more open and transparent government. We have made more of our data accessible, and “open by default.” Thanks to this, Edmonton is widely recognized as a leading North American city when it comes to Open Government practices.

Municipal governments are already by far the most transparent order of government, and while I have overall confidence in our institutions, I believe we can do more to ensure transparency and accountability for elected officials.

With the start of a new Council term, now is a good time to be clear about our City’s high expectations, to offer tools and support to elected officials to maintain high standards of conduct, and to strengthen our accountability mechanisms.

Therefore, at the next meeting of Council, I will move the following:

That administration provide a report with recommendations on how best to to establish an Integrity Commissioner Office for the City of Edmonton, including:

1. *Best practices demonstrated by other Canadian municipalities (and beyond, if applicable) that could inform the City of Edmonton’s approach;*
2. *Recommendations for a clear mandate to include (but not limited to):*
 - a. *responsibility for investigating and adjudicating potential ethics matters related to City Council as a whole or in part, or individual Councillors and the Mayor; and,*
 - b. *providing pro-active guidance to elected officials on avoiding real or perceived ethical breaches (including advice on whether this advisory function requires a separate officer from the adjudicating officer);*
3. *The requirements for creating an independent Integrity Commissioner Office, including resources and reporting and how the role would work with (while maintaining independence from) City Administration, the City Auditor and the provincial Ombudservice;*
4. *The role of the Integrity Commissioner Office relative to the new Code of Conduct that must be developed and adopted by City Council.*
5. *Report to return on February 13, 2018.*