

# Exhibition Place Board of Management

Valerie Jepson, Integrity Commissioner

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Allstream Centre Room 200 A-B

## Outline

1. Role of the Integrity Commissioner.
2. Discussion of the standards of conduct.
3. Scenarios.



**INTEGRITY**  
COMMISSIONER



# Role of the Integrity Commissioner

- The IC is independent from City Council and from City administration.
- One of four Accountability Officers.
- Duties
  - Confidential, binding advice to individual members of council and Local Boards about compliance with standards of conduct.
  - Education and Outreach to all entities within jurisdiction.
  - Policy advice to City Council as a whole or local boards, upon request.
  - Investigations in accordance with the complaint protocol into allegations that a standard of conduct has not been met.



# Sources of the Standards of Conduct for Members of Local Boards

- Code of Conduct
  - Approved by Council, applicable to all appointees of all Local Boards
- *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*
  - Provincial legislation applicable to all municipalities in Ontario
  - IC can provide general advice but not legal advice
- Local Board and City policies
  - Code requires that members observe the terms of policies and procedures established by the Local Board or City Council



# The Code of Conduct for Members of Local Boards

- Modelled after the main Code of Conduct for Members of Council.
- Available on the website of the Office of the Integrity Commissioner  
[www.toronto.ca/integrity](http://www.toronto.ca/integrity).


# Office of the **INTEGRITY** COMMISSIONER

<b>Main</b>	Members of City Council	<b>Members of Local Boards (Restricted Definition)</b>	Members of Adjudicative Boards	Reports to Council	Media Releases - Messages
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## Welcome

The Integrity Commissioner is a neutral, independent officer appointed by City Council for a fixed, non-renewable five year term to encourage and oversee compliance with high standards of conduct expected of elected and appointed officials at the City of Toronto

### Legislation

- [City of Toronto Act, 2006](#) 
- [Chapter 3 of the Toronto Municipal Code \(PDF, 172 KB\)](#)

[www.toronto.ca/integrity](http://www.toronto.ca/integrity)

# Preamble and principles

- “the public is entitled to expect the highest standards of conduct from members of Council and the citizen members” appointed to Local Boards by Council to act on its behalf
- Principles:
  - Members must serve and be seen to serve in a conscientious and diligent manner
  - Perform functions with integrity and avoid improper use of influence, conflicts of interest, apparent and real
  - Arrange private affairs in a manner that promotes public confidence and will bear close public scrutiny
  - Uphold both the letter and spirit of the law

# Key Code of Conduct Provisions

- Members cannot accept **gifts or benefits** connected directly or indirectly with duties unless an exception applies. (Article IV)
- Members must preserve **confidential information** and refrain from using it for personal or private gain. (Article V)
- Members must ensure **proper use of city property, services and resources**. (Articles VI and VII)
  - Eg. cannot use Board resources for election campaigns.



# Key Code of Conduct Provisions

- Members must use the **influence** of their office only for the exercise of official duties. (Article VIII)
- Members must not act as a **paid agent** before an agency, board or commission of the City and its committees. (Article IX)
- Members cannot allow the **prospect of their future employment** to detrimentally affect the performance of their duties. (Article X)

# Key Code of Conduct Provisions

- Members must treat staff, each other and the parties with **respect and act with decorum.** (Articles XI, XII and XIV)
  - Members must not engage in abuse, bullying, intimidation.
- Members must not engage knowingly in communications with **lobbyists** who are not registered on the Toronto Lobbyist Registry (Article XIII)
- Members must **adhere to board and city policies.** (Article XV)

Seek advice:

Contact Valerie Jepson at 416.397.7770 or [vjepson@toronto.ca](mailto:vjepson@toronto.ca)

# Note

- These slides provide a high level overview of the standards of conduct but do not replace or modify the Code of Conduct.

# Cooling off period (Lobbying Bylaw s.140-9)

- Former senior public office holders shall not lobby current public office holders during the 12 months after the date he or she ceased to hold office or ceased to be employed as a senior public office holder by the City or a local board (restricted definition), or ceased to hold office as a member of the Board of Health.

# Our common goals

- Improve public administration.
- Protect the reputation and integrity of the City of Toronto.
- Protect the reputation and integrity of the Exhibition Place Board.
- Increase trust in Toronto's local government and respect for public service.

# What part of the Code can guide your actions?

- You are asked to provide a letter of reference for a former employee who is seeking a job with the City.
  - Can you provide the reference?
- Your business wishes to compete for a contract to provide services to Exhibition Place.
  - What other standards of conduct are applicable to this situation?
- The manager of an event that is ongoing at Exhibition Place, sends all of the board members a bottle of wine at the holidays thanking them for their service.
  - Can you accept the bottle of wine?

# Practical tips

- Seek advice: Article XVII of the Code states, “Any written advice given by the IC to a member binds the IC in any subsequent consideration of the conduct of the member in the same manner as long as all the relevant facts known to the member were disclosed to the IC.”
- Help your colleagues by pointing out possible issues in a respectful way. Listen to your colleagues and seek advice.

Office of the  
**INTEGRITY** COMMISSIONER

Thank you for your attention.  
Let's stay in touch.

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