

# **Municipal Integrity Commissioner: An Introduction**

**Presentation to the Town of Essex Council**

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# Why Do We Have Codes of Conduct?

## ▶ **Key Judicial Inquiry Reports on Municipal Governance:**

- Justice Bellamy: City of Toronto Computer Leasing Inquiry; Toronto External Contracts Inquiry (2005)
- Justice Cunningham: Mississauga – Updating the Ethical Infrastructure (2011)
- Justice Marrocco: Collingwood – Transparency and the Public Trust (2020)

# Duties of the Integrity Commissioner

- Advice and Recommendations:
  - Is an Ethics and Integrity Resource to Council and the Municipality
- Education and Outreach
- Annual Report
- Complaint Investigation
  - Enforces the Code of Conduct and MCIA Rules through the application of the Complaint Procedure

# Who is the new Integrity Commissioner

-since 2008, I have served as the Integrity Commissioner, Closed Meeting Investigator, Lobbyist Registrar and provided general ethics, governance and human rights training to over 30 municipal organizations

-I have extensive experience in and have conducted investigations, provided education sessions and assisted in policy development in respect of municipal codes of conduct, lobbying rules, workplace harassment and discrimination, closed meetings and human rights.

# Integrity Commissioner: statutory officer who reports directly to Council

## My role:

work to clarify, if needed, the rules of the Code through education sessions and information memos, to ensure that the rules are clear, to not only Members, but the public and staff

I am a resource to the Council, to assist in understanding Members' roles and responsibilities under the Code

Complaint Investigation is down on the list of my duties. The effectiveness of my role and Member compliance with the Code, depends on an **understanding and commitment by each Member**. Facilitating a clear understanding of what the Code and MCIA rules mean, and what a Member's obligations are, is my most important role in fulfilling my duties as Integrity Commissioner.