

City of Hamilton Local Board Code of Conduct

General Issues Committee
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Principles *Integrity*

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Why we are here today

- Recommend the adoption of a Code of Conduct for the City's Local Boards (boards, advisory committees, task forces...)
- Provide an Overview of the Local Board Code of Conduct
- Respond to the Committee's Questions

Code of Conduct for Local Boards

- Code Guidance is an Important Aspect of Good Governance
- Local Board Codes of Conduct, and Access to an Integrity Commissioner, is Required under *Municipal Act*
- Local Boards: Established by Council, Serving a City Interest, Membership appointed by Council (some exceptions)
 - Adjudicative
 - Non-Adjudicative, includes Advisory

Purpose of a Local Board Code of Conduct

- Provides Basis for Guidance to Committee/Board Members
- Provides Framework for Ethical Accountability
- Helps Ensure the Primacy of Council

Access to Advice, Training

- *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act (MCIA)*
- Education and training on Code & MCIA
- Access to Integrity Commissioner
- Confidential, binding advice
- Independent review of complaints

Comments on Draft Code

- Beyond mandatory minimum requirements
- Reflects typical Local Board Code
- Feedback:
 - Minor edits
 - Clarifications

Code as a Guide

- A Code of Conduct is a Policy Document (“Code’ in a sense is a misnomer)
- As a Policy - to be given Broad Liberal Interpretation
- Code acts as a Guide for Members
- Purpose is to Support Ability of Local Boards to Support Council’s Needs



Specific Questions from Feedback

- Members ability to advocate on an issue
- Cannot appear before own body
- When advocating, should not hold out status as member of body
- Questions pertaining to body should be referred: to City staff or to Chair as appropriate
- Complaint Protocol

Questions