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Governance Review Sub-Committee Report 24-001)
CM: September 25, 2024 Ward: City Wide

Bill No. 170

CITY OF HAMILTON

BY-LAW NO. 24-

To Amend By-law No. 16-290, Council Code of Conduct

WHEREAS Section 223.2(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* requires the City of Hamilton to establish a code of conduct for members of the Council of the municipality and of its local boards; and

WHEREAS, Hamilton City Council deems it desirable to amend the Council Code of Conduct, By-law No. 16-290, to include standards relating to communication, including use of social media;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Hamilton enacts as follows:

1. The amendments in this By-law include any necessary indexing, grammatical, numbering and lettering changes.
2. That By-law No. 16-290 be amended by adding the following Section:

SECTION 14 STANDARDS RELATING TO COMMUNICATION

14.1 Members are responsible for making honest statements. No member shall make a statement, including through social media, when they know that statement is false or are reckless as to whether it is true. No member shall make a statement with the intent of misleading Council or members of the public.

14.2 Members will conduct their communications with each other and members of the public, including by means of social media, in ways that maintain public confidence in the office to which they have been elected or appointed, are open and honest, focus on issues rather than personalities, and avoid threatening, intimidating, offensive or abusive conduct.

3. This By-law comes into force on the day it is passed.

PASSED this 9th day of October, 2024.

A. Horwath
Mayor

M. Trennum
City Clerk