

Municipal/Regional Comparison

Council Codes of Conduct re Gifts and Hospitality (Exceptions)

Municipality	Exceptions
Hamilton	<p>Exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. compensation authorized by law; b. such gifts or benefits that are an incident of protocol or social obligation; c. a political contribution otherwise reported by law; d. admission to a widely-attended event (e.g., conference, dinner, reception, etc.) offered by the organizer and in the Member’s official capacity (e.g., speaker, panel member, ceremonial function, etc.); e. admission to a charity or community organization for whose benefit the event is being held; f. admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees; g. services provided without compensation by persons volunteering their time; h. a suitable memento of a function honouring the Member; i. food, lodging, transportation and entertainment provided by other municipal, provincial, federal for international government; j. food and beverages consumed at banquets, receptions or similar events, if: attendance serves a legitimate business purpose, the organization extending the invitation is in attendance, and the value is reasonable and the invitations infrequent; k. communications to the office of a Member of Council, including subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals.
Brampton	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no:</p> <p>(f) (admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees).</p> <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business meals

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Burlington	No exceptions listed.
Halton Region	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions for (a) and (b) only.</p> <p>No mention of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (c) a political contribution otherwise reported by law; (d) admission to a widely-attended event (e.g., conference, dinner, reception, etc.) offered by the organizer and in the Member’s official capacity (e.g., speaker, panel member, ceremonial function, etc.); (e) admission to a charity or community organization for whose benefit the event is being held; (f) admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees; (g) services provided without compensation by persons volunteering their time; (h) a suitable memento of a function honouring the Member; (i) food, lodging, transportation and entertainment provided by other municipal, provincial, federal for international government; (j) food and beverages consumed at banquets, receptions or similar events, if: attendance serves a legitimate business purpose, the organization extending the invitation is in attendance, and the value is reasonable and the invitations infrequent; (k) communications to the office of a Member of Council, including subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals. <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
London	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (e) admission to a charity or community organization for whose benefit the event is being held (f) admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees. (k) communications to the office of a Member of Council, including subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals.

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	<p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of duties or office; • A reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred, and honorariums received in the performance of activities connected with municipal associations
Markham	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no: (f) (admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees).</p> <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business meals that serve a legitimate public duty purpose; • Sponsorships and donations for community events or initiatives organized or run by a Member, or a third party on behalf of a Member, where Council has authorized or endorsed the event or initiative.
Mississauga	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no: (f) (admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees).</p> <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gifts provided to the City of Mississauga, and which are logged, archived and/or publicly displayed as such. • No Member shall accept any Gift involving the use of property or facilities, such as a vehicle, office, club membership or vacation property at less than reasonable market value or at no cost. Notwithstanding this prohibition, with specific approval provided by Council, a Member may be sponsored to attend educational site visits connected with an identified project. • Gifts identified in Column B of Table ‘1’ may be accepted by a Member provided the Gift is disclosed in accordance with the conditions set out in Column ‘C’ (please see Appendix 1 for Table).

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gift Disclosure, where required, is to be accomplished by filing within 30 days of receipt of the gift or reaching the annual limit, a Councillor Information Statement in a form prescribed by the Integrity Commissioner and providing same to the City Clerk for posting on the City’s web site. • Gifts identified in Column B shall not be accepted, without the Integrity Commissioner’s specific approval, when the conditions set out in Column ‘D’ are applicable (please see Appendix 1 for Table).
Niagara Region	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no:</p> <p>(e) admission to a charity or community organization for whose benefit the event is being held</p> <p>(f) admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees.</p> <p>(k) communications to the office of a Member of Council, including subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals.</p> <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gifts of nominal value (for example, a baseball cap, t-shirt, flash drive, book, etc.); and • Any gift or benefit, if the Integrity Commissioner is of the opinion, before the gift or personal benefit has been accepted, that it is unlikely that receipt of the gift or benefit gives rise to a reasonable presumption that the gift or benefit was given in order to influence the Member in the performance of his or her duties.
Ottawa	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no:</p> <p>(e) admission to a charity or community organization for whose benefit the event is being held</p> <p>(f) admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees.</p> <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsorships and donations for community events organized or run by a Member or a third party on behalf of a member, subject to the limitations set in the Council Expense Policy; • Gifts of a nominal value (e.g., baseball cap, t-shirt, flash drive, book, etc.); and

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any other gift or personal benefit, if the Integrity Commissioner is of the opinion it was not likely given to influence the Member in the performance of his or her duties. <p>Acceptance of Event Tickets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All tickets of a value exceeding \$30 must be disclosed quarterly in the Gifts Registry, • A limit of two tickets for up to two events from one source in a calendar year is permitted, • Accepting any tickets for subsequent events from the same source is prohibited.
Peel	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no:</p> <p>(e) admission to a charity or community organization for whose benefit the event is being held</p> <p>(f) admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees.</p> <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Member shall accept any Gift involving the use of property or facilities, such as a vehicle, office, club membership or vacation property at less than reasonable market value or at no cost. Notwithstanding this prohibition, with specific approval provided by Council, a Member may be sponsored to attend educational site visits connected with an identified project.
Richmond Hill	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no:</p> <p>(a) compensation authorized by law</p> <p>(f) admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees.</p> <p>(k) communications to the office of a Member of Council, including subscriptions to newspapers and periodicals.</p> <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A

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Toronto	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no: (e) admission to a charity or community organization for whose benefit the event is being held (f) admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees.</p> <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsorships and donations for community events organized or run by a member or a third party on behalf of a member, subject to the limitations set out in the Council Member-Organized Community Events Policy.
Vaughan	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no: (e) admission to a charity or community organization for whose benefit the event is being held (f) admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees.</p> <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business meals • Sponsorships and donations for community events or initiatives organized or run by a Member of Council or a third party on behalf of a Member where Council has authorized or endorsed the event or initiative.
Waterloo Region	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no: (g) services provided without compensation by persons volunteering their time.</p> <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gifts of a nominal value (e.g., baseball cap, t-shirt, flash drive, book, etc.); • Use of property or facilities, such as a vehicle, office or vacation property at less than fair market value or at no cost shall be considered a gift.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a Member agrees to fundraise on behalf of any community organization, not-for-profit group, or community association, the Member should ensure that contributions are received by a means that does not involve cash. Contributions should be made directly to the applicable organization, group or association. • Tickets that are provided to a Member at less than face value shall be treated as gifts and disclosed when applicable.
Windsor	<p>Same or similar text Hamilton’s list of exceptions, except no:</p> <p>(e) admission to a charity or community organization for whose benefit the event is being held</p> <p>(f) admission to a training or education event related to the Member’s duties and in the interest of the City, including meals and refreshments provided to all attendees.</p> <p>Additional exceptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A

Appendix 1 - City of Mississauga

A	B	C	D
<u>Type of Gift</u>	<u>Examples</u>	<u>Gift Disclosure.</u> Apparent Value at which Gift, or the cumulative value from one source in a calendar year is disclosable	<u>Gift No Longer Allowable</u> Condition or Actual Value beyond which gift is not allowable (Value assessed on basis of single Gift or cumulative Gift value from one source in calendar year) (without IC approval)
Token of Appreciation	Plaques, Pens, Mugs, Vase, Event Photos, and similar	No need to record - Deemed Zero Value	Actual Value of a single gift is over \$1000 (allowable in extenuating circumstances with IC approval)
	Perishable (includes flowers, food)	No need to record - Deemed Zero Value	Excludes Alcohol with actual value over \$100
	Gift to City	Not a ‘Gift’. No need to record. City Clerk to record and take possession (but may be loaned out for display in areas normally visited by members of the public, including meeting rooms and Members’ offices). Deemed Zero Value	N/A
Course of	Publications	No need to record - Deemed Zero Value	N/A

Business	Art	\$250	\$1000
	Business Meals	\$250	\$500, \$1000 annual cumulative limit
	Business Hospitality	\$250	\$1000 More than two Event Tickets (Golf, Gala, Sporting, Entertainment) per event More than one event per year from the same person or organization (allowable in extenuating circumstances with IC approval)
	Official Hospitality	\$500	No limit

Appendix 2 – Peel Region

Gift Treatment and Disclosure

A	B	C	D
Type of Gift	Examples	Gift Disclosure	Gift No Longer Allowable
		<i>Apparent Value at which Gift, or the cumulative value from one source in a calendar year is disclosable</i>	<i>Condition or Actual Value beyond which gift is not allowable (Value assessed on basis of single Gift or cumulative Gift value from one source in calendar year) (without IC approval)</i>
Token of Appreciation	Plaques, Pens,	No need to record -	Actual Value of a single gift is
	Mugs, Vase, Event	Deemed Zero	over \$500
	Photos, and similar	Value	(allowable with IC approval)
	Perishable	No need to record -	Excludes Alcohol with actual
	(includes flowers,	Deemed Zero	value over \$100
	food)	Value	
	Gift to Regional	Not a ‘Gift’. No	N/A
		need to record.	
	Regional staff		
	(identify) to record		

		and take	
		possession unless	
		otherwise on public	
		display. Deemed	
		Zero Value	
Course of Business	Publications	No need to record - Deemed Zero Value	N/A
	Art	\$100	\$500
	Business Meals	\$100	\$500
	Business Hospitality	\$100	\$750 More than two Event Tickets (Golf, Gala, Sporting, Entertainment) per event More than one event per year from the same person or organization (allowable with IC approval)
	Official Hospitality	\$500	No limit