



ADR
C H A M B E R S

Integrity Commissioner Office
for the City of Richmond Hill

CHARLES A. HARNICK
Integrity Commissioner
City of Richmond Hill
Email: integrity@adr.ca

October 18, 2023

Sent via Email:

Stephen M.A. Huycke
Director of Legislative Services, City Clerk
City of Richmond Hill, ON, L4B 3P4
stephen.huycke@richmondhill.ca

Re: File No.: IC-24471-0523: City of Richmond Hill - Integrity Commissioner Annual Report- Operating Period May 12, 2022, to May 11, 2023

Dear Mr. Huycke:

Thank you for the opportunity to act as the Integrity Commissioner (or “IC”) for the City of Richmond Hill (the “City”) over the past year. In accordance with the terms of our agreement with the City, and pursuant to section 223.6(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, we are providing our annual report for the operating period of May 12, 2022 to May 11, 2023.

As you know, the IC’s role is to help Members of Council (“Members”) ensure that they are performing their functions in accordance with the City Council’s Code of Conduct (the “Code”) and the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* (“MCIA”). The Integrity Commissioner is available to educate and provide advice to Members on matters governing their ethical behaviour and compliance with the Code and the MCIA.

The Integrity Commissioner is also responsible for receiving, assessing, and investigating appropriate complaints respecting alleged breaches of the Code or the MCIA.

Requests for Advice

During this operating period, the Integrity Commissioner received and responded to four requests for advice.

Code of Conduct/MCIA Complaints

During this operating period, the Integrity Commissioner received six Code complaints. One of the complaints involved twenty-nine allegations and the IC opted not to investigate eleven of them. Among the remaining eighteen, only three were considered valid. These valid allegations led to a finding of a breach of the Code and a reprimand was recommended. Two interim reports were also provided for this investigation along with a final report. One complaint received was incomplete and the complainant decided not to proceed with the complaint thus, the file was closed. One complaint was received during the election moratorium and therefore terminated. One complaint resulted in a finding of no breach of the Code and was dismissed. Two of the complaints were deemed frivolous and vexatious and there were insufficient grounds to investigate. Six MCIA complaints were also received, and the IC decided to not investigate these complaints on the grounds that they were vexatious.

Billings

A summary of billing for the year is included in this annual report as Appendix 1.

Yours very truly,

Charles A. Harnick
Office of the Integrity Commissioner for the City of Richmond Hill

APPENDIX 1
Summary of Billing

Billing for the year to date has totaled **\$92,753.23** as detailed below.

Date	Fees	HST	Total
06/07/2021	\$13,885.00	\$1,805.05	\$15,690.05
07/08/2021	\$1,650.00	\$214.50	\$1,864.50
08/05/2021	\$46,891.25	\$6,095.86	\$52,987.11
09/02/2021	\$2,527.50	\$328.58	\$2,856.08
10/06/2021	\$1,000.00	\$130.00	\$1,130.00
11/05/2021	\$1,000.00	\$130.00	\$1,130.00
12/07/2021	\$3,921.25	\$509.76	\$4,431.01
01/07/2022	\$1,000.00	\$130.00	\$1,130.00
02/08/2022	\$1,000.00	\$130.00	\$1,130.00
03/08/2022	\$7,207.50	\$936.98	\$8,144.48
04/06/2022	\$1,000.00	\$130.00	\$1,130.00
05/09/2023	\$1,000.00	\$130.00	\$1,130.00
TOTAL	\$82,082.50	\$10,670.73	\$92,753.23