



INFORMATION AND LEGISLATIVE SERVICES *Staff Report*

REPORT NO: ILS-2022-23

TO: Council

SUBMITTED BY: Arthur Flach, Acting Clerk / Election Administrator

PREPARED BY: Chad Curtis, Deputy Clerk

REVIEWED BY: Sharon Chambers, CAO

DATE: September 12, 2022

SUBJECT: Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee - Appointments

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Staff Report ILS-2022-23 be received for information.

SUMMARY:

The *Municipal Elections Act* (the Act) requires all municipalities in Ontario to establish a Compliance Audit Committee. Since 2010, the Township of Wilmot has participated in a joint Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee to fulfill the requirements of the Act.

In 2010 Council approved a terms of reference and appointment process for the Committee and established a joint Committee amongst most municipalities within the Region. In 2014, the Terms of Reference was amended to include the City of Cambridge and in 2018 it was further amended to include the City of Guelph.

Appointments to this Committee are delegated to the Municipal Clerks in the Region and the City of Guelph. Recruitment for this Committee was coordinated by the Region of Waterloo and the Clerks met on Friday, August 26, 2022 to review applications.

BACKGROUND:

The Act requires the establishment of a Compliance Audit Committee to consider applications from an eligible elector who believes on reasonable grounds that a candidate or third-party registrant has contravened a provision of this Act relating to election campaign finances. The Compliance Audit Committee must be established by October 1st of an election year.

In 2010, Council approved the creation of a Joint Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee (MECAC) along with the Region of Waterloo, City of Kitchener, City of Waterloo, Township of North Dumfries, Township of Wellesley and Township of Woolwich. In 2014, the Terms of Reference was amended to include the City of Cambridge and in 2018 the City of Guelph. The Committee meets only as required if a compliance audit is requested pursuant to Section 88.33(1) and 88.35(1) of the Act.

The Region coordinated recruitment for the 2022-2026 term in June and included advertising in The Waterloo Chronicle, The Record, other local community newspapers and posting on the websites of participating municipalities. Recruitment specifically looks for individuals with financial, accounting or legal expertise and knowledge of the municipal election processes and campaign financing.

The following individuals have been appointed to the Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee by the municipal Clerks in the Region of Waterloo and City of Guelph:

Theresa Bisch
Kristine Fletcher
Dave Jaworsky
Murray Stoddart
Tingting Su
Rosita Tse
Robert Williams
Carl Zehr

ALIGNMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT STRATEGIC PLAN:

Though the establishment of the Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee is a legislated requirement, communications about MECAC, the opportunity to serve on MECAC and the work completed by MECAC aids in the communication of municipal matters and strengthen customer service which help create an engaged community.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The financial implications are incurred if a compliance audit is requested. Expenses related to a compliance audit request will be assumed by the applicable municipality and funded via the election reserve fund.

ATTACHMENTS: NIL