



Memorandum

Office of the City Clerk
Fax: 623-5468
Telephone: 625-2230

TO: Members of Council
FROM: Ms. D. Earle, Deputy City Clerk
DATE: Thursday, January 30, 2020
SUBJECT: **New Business**
Committee of the Whole – February 3, 2020

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

New Business

1. Memorandum from Ms. K. Power, City Clerk, dated January 29, 2020, relative to Interim Integrity Commissioner.

/kp

Memorandum

Office of the City Clerk
Fax: 623-5468
Telephone: 625-2230

TO: Members of Council

FROM: Ms. K. Power, City Clerk

DATE: January 29, 2020

SUBJECT: Interim Integrity Commissioner
New Business – February 3, 2020 – Committee of the Whole

As members of council are aware, municipalities are required to appoint an Integrity Commissioner to perform certain responsibilities and functions, including managing the process as it relates to the receipt of complaints and associated investigations relative to the Code of Conduct and the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* in addition to training for Council on relative matters.

The City of Thunder Bay's contract with its current Integrity Commissioner, Mr. Brian Tario, MNP LLP, expires as of February 7, 2020. My office is in the process of issuing a new Request for Proposal (RFP) for Integrity Commissioner Services for an initial five (5) year period. As this process takes time and our contract with Mr. Tario will expire shortly, the City of Thunder Bay is required to make arrangements with an Integrity Commissioner from another municipality to provide all the responsibilities of an integrity commissioner, while it seeks to appoint a new one, in accordance with section 223.3(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001*.

In consultation with the City Solicitor, Ms. P. Robinet, Principles Integrity has been secured to provide integrity commissioner services until the RFP process is complete and a new Integrity Commissioner is appointed by Council. This interim assignment does not preclude Principles Integrity from participating in the RFP process. We are estimating that this process will take several months.

The principals of Principles Integrity are experienced lawyers with over 30 years each in a variety of Ontario Municipalities. Mr. Jeff Abrams was called to the Bar in 1985, Ms. Janice Atwood-Petkovski was called to the Bar in 1987, and each have practiced as municipal lawyers and governance experts. In 2017, Mr. Abrams and Ms. Atwood-Petkovski formed Principles Integrity, a partnership focused on accountability and governance matters for municipalities. The firm has been appointed as Integrity Commissioner to serve over forty Ontario municipalities and other bodies.

c.c. Norm Gale, City Manager
Patty Robinet, City Solicitor
Jeff Abrams & Janice Atwood-Petkovski, Principles Integrity