



**ADR**  
C H A M B E R S

Integrity Commissioner Office  
for Niagara Region

**MICHAEL L. MAYNARD**  
Interim Integrity Commissioner  
Niagara Region  
E-mail: [integrity@adr.ca](mailto:integrity@adr.ca)

September 13, 2022

**SENT BY EMAIL TO:**

Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk - Region of Niagara  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, P.O. Box 1042  
Thorold, ON L2V 4T7  
[Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca)

Dear Ms. Norio

**Re: Niagara Region Integrity Commissioner Annual Report**  
**File No.: IC-19353-0822 - Operating Period August 17, 2021 to August 16, 2022**

Thank you for the opportunity to act as the Interim Integrity Commissioner ("IC") for the Region of Niagara (the "Region") over the past year.

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 Municipality's *Code of Conduct* ("the *Code*"), and the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* ("MCIA"). The IC is available to educate and provide advice to Members on matters governing their ethical behaviour and compliance with the *Code* and the *MCIA*.

The IC is also responsible for receiving, assessing, and investigating appropriate complaints made by Council as a whole, its individual Members, and members of the public respecting alleged breaches of the *Code* by Council Members or complaints by electors of the Municipality, or persons demonstrably acting in the public interest, that a Council Member has contravened the provisions of the *MCIA*.

I am hereby providing my Annual Report for the operating year of the Office of the Integrity Commissioner ("OIC") covering the period of August 17, 2021 to August 16, 2022.

## **Complaints**

The OIC received two complaints during this reporting period. Both complaints dealt with the same subject matter and they were joined together in a single investigation.

In addition to these, two Complaints which were received late in the previous reporting period (2020-21) were investigated and reported on during this reporting period (2021-22).

Three of these complaints were investigated, and a final report was issued in respect of each with a finding of a *Code* contravention and a suspension of remuneration was recommended in each matter.

One complaint was investigated with a report to the Parties indicating that no contravention of the *Code* was found.

## **Education and Training Session**

The IC provided an education session to the Niagara Transit Commission on June 22, 2022. The session covered the role of the IC, the Region's Code of Conduct and Members' obligations under the *MClA*

## **Requests for Advice**

Two requests for advice from Members were received and responded to during this operating period.

The advice to Members is always provided in writing, and in accordance with the provisions of the Region's *Code* for Members and the applicable provisions of the *Municipal Act* and the *MClA*. Advice from the IC should not be considered to constitute legal advice, and Members are always encouraged to seek the advice of their personal solicitor should they believe legal advice is necessary.

## **Other Services**

Upon request, the IC attended a Procedural Bylaw Review Committee meeting on January 24, 2022, and again on February 28, 2022, and April 11, 2022 regarding the Code of Conduct/Complaint Protocol. The IC conducted a review of draft Codes of Conduct and prepared and provided memoranda to the committee members.

**Billings**

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

**Final Comments**

It has been a pleasure to assist the Region and its Members in contending with the issues which have arisen in connection with the administration of its *Code* and the *MCI*. I look forward to continuing to provide my services as Interim Integrity Commissioner.

Yours very truly,



Michael Maynard  
Interim Integrity Commissioner, Niagara Region

**APPENDIX 1**  
**Summary of Billing**

Billing for the year to date has totalled \$ 60,325.09, as detailed below.

<b>Invoice Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Fees</b>	<b>HST</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>7289</b>	09/02/2021	\$5,670.00	\$737.10	\$6,407.10
<b>8062</b>	11/05/2021	\$6,657.50	\$865.48	\$7,522.98
<b>8094</b>	12/07/2021	\$16,592.50	\$2,157.03	\$18,749.53
<b>8151</b>	02/08/2022	\$13,247.50	\$1,722.18	\$14,969.68
<b>8175</b>	03/08/2022	\$8,487.50	\$1,103.38	\$9,590.88
<b>8242</b>	05/09/2022	\$1,330.00	\$172.90	\$1,502.90
<b>8307</b>	07/07/2022	\$1,400.00	\$182.00	\$1,582.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>53,385.02</b>	<b>6,940.07</b>	<b>\$60,325.09</b>

\*\*Complaint IC-13656-0521 was completed and reported on in last year's operating period but billed in this operating period in invoice 7289.