



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

**Integrity Commissioner Office**  
for Niagara Region

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

October 30, 2024

**SENT BY EMAIL TO:**

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

**Re: File No.: IC-35088-1024: Niagara Region - Integrity Commissioner Annual Report  
- Operating Period August 17, 2023 to August 16, 2024**

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Dear Ms. Norio:

Thank you for the opportunity to act as the Integrity Commissioner (or “IC”) for the Region of Niagara (the “Region”) over the past year. In accordance with the terms of the agreement with the Region, and pursuant to section 223.6(1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* (or “the Act”), we are providing our annual report for the operating period of August 17, 2023 to August 16, 2024.

As you know, the IC’s role is to help Members of Council (“Members”) ensure that they are performing their duties and functions in accordance with the Region’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.

### **Code/MCIA Complaints**

Our office received five Code of Conduct Complaints during this operating period and they were each dismissed on preliminary grounds, without a full inquiry – the billings for which will be noted in the next annual report.

Three complaints were initiated in the previous operating period. Two of these Complaints were investigated and dismissed with no finding of a Code contravention. The third complaint was dismissed on a variety of grounds without proceeding to a full investigation.

We also received and reviewed a variety of information related to a proposed informal complaint process that was ultimately dropped by the Complainant.

### **Requests for Advice**

During this operating period, we received and responded to eight Requests for Advice. We always welcome the opportunity to provide advice to Members to assist them in carrying out their duties ethically. We accordingly thank Members for continuing to seek out advice.

### **Education and Training**

During this operating period, I presented an education seminar to the Region's Council regarding various issues that were raised by Councillors.

### **Billings**

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

### **Final Comments**

I look forward to assisting the Region and its Members in contending with any issues that

may arise in connection with the administration of its Code and/or the MCIA in the coming year. It is a pleasure to work with Council Members and staff at the Region.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Maynard', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Maynard  
Integrity Commissioner

APPENDIX 1Summary of Billing

Billing for the year to date has totalled \$ 45,065.78, inclusive of HST, as detailed below.

<b>Invoice Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Fees</b>	<b>HST</b>	<b>Total</b>
8802	09/08/2023	\$7,625.00	\$991.25	\$8,616.25
8810	09/15/2023	\$1,972.50	\$256.43	\$2,228.93
8840	10/06/2023	\$5,565.00	\$723.45	\$6,288.45
8880	11/09/2023	\$12,630.00	\$1,641.90	\$14,271.90
8986	02/09/2024	\$840.00	\$109.20	\$949.20
9017	03/07/2024	\$2,520.00	\$327.60	\$2,847.60
9062	04/10/2024	\$1,345.00	\$174.85	\$1,519.85
9099	05/10/2024	\$5,703.72	\$741.48	\$6,445.20
9130	06/07/2024	\$700.00	\$91.00	\$791.00
9195	08/09/2024	\$980.00	\$127.40	\$1,107.40
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$39,881.22</b>	<b>\$5,184.56</b>	<b>\$45,065.78</b>