

Overview:

The *Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended*, requires Council, before October 1 of an election year to appoint a Compliance Audit Committee to consider applications made by an elector who is entitled to vote in an election and believes on reasonable grounds that a candidate or third party advertiser has contravened a provision of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended*, relating to election campaign finances.

Conclusion:

The Committee shall be comprised of a minimum of three (3) members (and not more than seven members) of the public. Council shall appoint committee members by By-law. In accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended*, members of Council or local Boards, Township employees or officers of the Township, candidates, and third party advertisers are prohibited from being appointed to the Committee. Careful deliberation should be made before considering appointing a member of the **public affiliated with any candidate's campaign. The intent of the Committee is to be 'arms length' and transparent.**

The Compliance Audit Committee has full delegation of the authority in the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended*, to address applications requesting an audit of a **candidate's or third party advertiser's campaign finances. This authority includes, but is not limited to, the following:**

- Review applications and grant or reject audit requests
- Where an audit is granted, to appoint an auditor, licensed under the Public Accounting Act, and review the audit report
- Where indicated, decide whether legal proceedings shall be commenced

Consider reports submitted by the Clerk regarding apparent contraventions of contribution limits and make decisions with regard to such reports.

A copy of the Terms of Reference (T of R) for the Committee is attached for to By-law 2018-55 for information. The other Townships in the County of Peterborough have worked together to establish the T of R and are also recommending that the following individuals be appointed throughout the County:

- Steven Brickell (retired City of Peterborough Clerk), Cheryl Healey (CA and business owner), Ruth Benson (retired Deputy Clerk-Treasurer for the former Douro Township) and Nancy Wright-Laking (former Clerk for a variety of municipalities).

Recommendation:

That the report to Council, dated September 12, 2018 regarding the Compliance Audit Committee be received and that By-law 2018-55 be passed to appoint certain members to the Compliance Audit Committee at the appropriate time in the Council Agenda.

Financial Impact:

Members of the Committee shall be paid \$75.00 per meeting (3 hour minimum). For meetings that are more than 3 hours, \$25.00 per hour will be paid for each additional hour. Mileage will be paid in accordance with the Township's approved mileage rate.

Strategic Plan Applicability:

Mission Statement: *The Township of Douro Dummer is committed to providing a high level of effective and efficient service throughout our municipality. We promise open responsible leadership, enhancing the quality of life, and building for the future while respecting our heritage.*

Sustainability Plan Applicability: N/A

Original Signed by:
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Clerk/Planning Coordinator

Original Signed by:
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C.A.O.