



## **The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle**

**To:** Mayor and Members of Council

**Prepared by:** Angela Toole, Council Coordinator

**Department:** Council Services

**Date of Report:** May 9, 2021

**Report Number:** CS-2022-07

**Subject:** 2022 Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee

### **Recommendation**

That the Report of the Council Coordinator dated May 9, 2022 (CS-2022-07) regarding the establishment of a Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee for the 2022 Municipal Election be received;

And that the Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee Terms of Reference included as Schedule 1 be approved;

And that the Clerk be authorized to bring forward recommendations to Council to appoint members to the Committee.

### **Report**

Section 88.37 of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as amended (the "Act"), requires municipalities to establish a Compliance Audit Committee before October 1 in a regular election year; and further outlines the composition and eligibility requirements for members appointed to the Committee. The purpose of the Compliance Audit Committee is to consider applications for compliance audits of candidates' or registered third parties' campaign finances and determine if an audit is required.

A qualified elector who has reasonable grounds to believe that a candidate or registered third party has contravened a provision of the *Act* relating to election campaign finances may apply for a compliance audit of those election campaign finances. The *Act* outlines the process for conducting such an audit. Applications must be submitted to the Clerk who then forwards the application to the Compliance Audit Committee for further review and decision.

## **Reviewing Contribution and Reporting Requirements**

In addition to considering an application filed by an elector for a compliance audit under section 88.33 or 88.35 of the *Act*, the Committee is also responsible for reports that are forwarded by the Clerk with respect to campaign contributions.

Within 30 days of the filing date, the Clerk shall review the financial statements submitted by candidates and registered third parties, and prepare a report identifying each contributor who appears to have exceeded the contribution limits under the *Act*. The Committee must review the report and decide whether to commence a legal proceeding against the contributor for an apparent contravention.

## **Committee Composition**

Due to the nature of the responsibilities of this Committee Administration recommends that the Committee be comprised of persons with accounting and audit, academic or legal backgrounds, and/or other individuals with knowledge of election campaign finances. Members should have a demonstrated knowledge and understanding of municipal election campaign finances; proven analytical and decision-making skills, experience sitting on a committee, task force, or similar body; and good oral and written communication skills.

## **Consultations**

Jennifer Astrologo, Director of Council Services/Clerk

## **Financial Implications**

Advertising costs may be incurred to encourage applications for appointment to the Election Compliance Audit Committee.

Staff resources will be required to support the Election Compliance Audit Committee. The amount of staff time required is unknown at this time and is dependent on the number of complaints received.

The Terms of Reference, attached as Schedule 1, provide that each member shall receive \$100.00 per diem for attendance at each meeting.

**Prepared By:**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Toole". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Angela Toole  
Council Coordinator

**Link to Strategic Goals**

1. Enhancing organizational excellence - Not Applicable
2. Strengthen the community's engagement with the Town - Yes
3. Grow and diversify the local economy - Not Applicable
4. Build on our high-quality of life - Not Applicable
5. Sustaining strong public services and infrastructure - Not Applicable

**Communications**

None.

**Notifications**

None.

**Report Approval Details**

Document Title:	2022 Election Compliance Audit Committee.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	May 25, 2022

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:



Director, Council Services/Clerk

Jennifer Astrologo



Chief Administrative Officer

Joe Milicia