



The Corporation of the Town of LaSalle

To: Mayor and Members of Council

Prepared by: Dale Langlois

Department: Finance

Date of Report: April 3, 2023

Report Number: FIN-12-2023

Subject: Actions taken regarding TikTok use on Town devices

Recommendation

That the report of the Director of Finance dated April 3, 2023 (FIN-12-2023) regarding the actions taken regarding TikTok on Town devices be received.

Report

As council will recall, the following motion was moved at the March 14, 2023 Council meeting:

Councillor Burns may move, or cause to have moved,

Whereas Cyber security is a matter for all employees of the Town of LaSalle;

And Whereas identifying risks to the cyber profile of the municipality is designed to protect the information of the employees, residents and those that visit our community;

And Whereas Mona Fortier, the President of the Treasury board, has indicated that the Chief Information Officer of Canada has determined that TikTok “presented an unacceptable level of risk to privacy and security...On a mobile device, TikTok’s data collection methods provide considerable access to the contents of the phone”.

And Whereas the Government of Canada, the European Union, and US Government have blocked TikTok on their owned and issued devices;

Be it resolved that the Town of LaSalle prohibits the installation of TikTok on any corporately owned devices and issued devices.

Be it further resolved that should TikTok be installed on any corporately owned or issued devices that the holder of said devices shall delete the application immediately.

Be it further resolved that the Town of LaSalle prohibits the installation or use of TikTok on any municipal website, webpage, or device whether stand alone or connected to the internet.

Be it further resolved that any staff member who is uncertain as how to proceed that they contact the division of IT for assistance.

Decisions made by Federal and Provincial Governments

The Federal Government of Canada banned the social media app TikTok from all government mobile devices on February 28, 2023 because it presents an “unacceptable level of risk to privacy and security” and the company’s data collection methods create vulnerabilities to cyber attacks.

“Effective February 28, 2023, the TikTok application will be removed from government-issued mobile devices. Users of these devices will also be blocked from downloading the application in the future. Following a review of TikTok, the Chief Information Officer of Canada determined that it presents an unacceptable level of risk to privacy and security,” Treasury Board President, Mona Fortier said in a statement.

“The decision to remove and block TikTok from government mobile devices is being taken as a precaution, particularly given concerns about the legal regime that governs the information collected from mobile devices, and is in line with the approach of our international partners. On a mobile device, TikTok’s data collection methods provide considerable access to the contents of the phone,” she added.

The Ontario government banned TikTok from all provincial government-issued devices effective March 9, 2023.

"The decision to block the TikTok application from government-issued and personal devices is a proactive and precautionary approach to ensuring the protection of government data and networks," Treasury Board President, Prabmeet Singh Sarkaria said in the statement.

"While no data breaches have occurred, our government takes all allegations and concerns about data integrity incredibly seriously," he added.

Actions Taken the Town of LaSalle

Since this motion was moved, the division of IT has taken the following measures to ban TikTok from all Town owned devices:

- 1) Performed a review of the Town's Cisco Meraki MDM (mobile device management) application which allows the division of IT to monitor the apps that are installed on cell phones, tablets, etc. For any employee who had TikTok on their device, an email was sent to request they remove the app.
- 2) Audits will be conducted periodically through the mobile device management system to ensure that TikTok is not on any Town owned mobile device.
- 3) A blocking rule has been applied to the Town's firewall, preventing staff that are on the corporate network from gaining access to the TikTok website.
- 4) Going forward, all new Town staff will be made aware that TikTok is not allowed on any Town device during their orientation.

Consultations

Division of IT

Financial Implications

None

Prepared By:



Director of Finance/Treasurer

Dale Langlois, CPA, CA

Link to Strategic Goals

1. Enhancing organizational excellence - No
2. Strengthen the community's engagement with the Town - No
3. Grow and diversify the local economy - No
4. Build on our high-quality of life - No
5. Sustaining strong public services and infrastructure - No

Communications

None

Notifications

None

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	FIN-12-2023 Actions taken regarding Tik Tok on Town devices.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Apr 4, 2023

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



Chief Administrative Officer

Joe Milicia