


Sent by Email

October 31, 2023

The Honourable Premier Doug Ford
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Room 281
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
premier@ontario.ca

Subject: Re: Legislative Amendments to Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement
File: A-1400

 Corporate Services Department Legislative Services Division	
Date & Time Received:	October 31, 2023 4:00 pm
Original To:	CIP
Copies To:	
Take Appropriate Action	<input type="checkbox"/> File <input type="checkbox"/>
Notes/Comments:	

The Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering considered the above matter at a Meeting held on October 23, 2023 and adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, all Ontarians deserve and expect a safe and respectful workplace;

And Whereas, municipal governments, as the democratic institutions most directly engaged with Ontarians need respectful discourse;

And Whereas, several incidents in recent years of disrespectful behaviour and workplace harassment have occurred amongst members of municipal councils;

And Whereas, these incidents seriously and negatively affect the people involved and lower public perceptions of local governments;

And Whereas, municipal Codes of Conduct are helpful tools to set expectations of council member behaviour;

And Whereas, municipal governments do not have the necessary tools to adequately enforce compliance with municipal Codes of Conduct;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering:

1. Supports the call of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario for the Government of Ontario to introduce legislation to strengthen municipal Codes of Conduct and compliance with them in consultation with municipal governments; and,
2. That the legislation encompass the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's recommendations for:

- a) Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment;
 - b) Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario;
 - c) Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province;
 - d) Allowing municipalities to apply to a member of the judiciary to remove a sitting member, if recommended through the report of a municipal Integrity Commissioner; and,
 - e) Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office.
3. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to The Premier, Durham MPP's, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, The Regional Municipality of Durham, and lower-tier Durham Municipalities.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 905.420.4660, extension 2047.

Yours truly,



Carol Redmond
(Acting) Deputy Clerk

CR:am

Copy: The Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
 The Honourable Charmaine Williams, Associate Minister of Women's Social and Economic Opportunity;
 The Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP, Pickering – Uxbridge;
 The Honourable Todd McCarthy, MPP, Durham;
 Patrice Barnes, MPP, Ajax;
 Lorne Coe, MPP, Whitby;
 Jennifer French, MPP, Oshawa;
 Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock;
 Alexander Harras Regional Clerk, Director of Legislative Services, Region of Durham;

Nicole Cooper, Director of Legislative & Information Services, Town of Ajax;
June Gallagher, Municipal Clerk, Municipality of Clarington;
Chris Harris, Clerk, Town of Whitby;
Fernando Lamanna, Clerk, Township of Brock;
Debbie Leroux, Clerk, Township of Uxbridge;
Mary Medeiros, City Clerk, City of Oshawa;
Ralph Walton, Interim City Clerk, Township of Scugog;
Association of Municipalities of Ontario;
Chief Administrative Officer