

Summary of the Proposed Code of Conduct Bylaw Changes

- General Purpose
 - Expanded in General Propose area to list the various federal and provincial legislation that Councillors must follow.
- Representing and Communicating
 - Participate in meetings.
 - Follow the chain of command and let the reeve speak on behalf of Council, no lying.
 - Be open, and transparent.
 - Decisions are made by Council as a whole.
- Respectful of staff, public, and other Councillors
 - Edited the formatting so there is no longer two sections of MUST and MUST NOT they are listed as one under section 8.
- Confidentiality
 - There was no definition of confidentiality or what was needed to remain confidential. Expanded on areas that are impacted by FOIPP and that could negatively impact the County or third parties if shared.
- Conflict of interest
 - Expanded on giving preferential treatment.
- Legal Advice
 - Added that it's a Councillors individual responsibility to seek legal advice at their expense. This expense will not be covered by the County.
- Municipal Assets
 - In this section, it previously stated that no personal use of County items could result in personal benefit.
 - Expanded to say that resources that are offered to the general public can also be used by Councillors for personal use along the same terms as general public.
 - Technology such as iPads can be used for personal matters, just not for personal gain.
- Complaint Process
 - In the current Bylaw, this would all be completed internally with Council handling the complaints, the investigation process, and the sanctions against a Councillor. The proposed Bylaw will have the Council select an external Ethics Commissioner, which is typically a mediator, at the Annual Organization meeting.

- This Ethics Commissioner is agreed upon before any issues arise by all members of Council. The Ethics Commissioner will handle the assessment of the complaint, if it is valid or not, the facilitation and reporting of the complaint, the formal investigation and reporting and provide recommendations to Council on sanctions.
 - By hiring an Ethics Commissioner it removes the personal aspect of dealing with a complaint as Council will have a working relationship with that Councillor.
 - Moving to an external Ethics Commissioner also relieves pressure from both Council and Chief Administrative Officer.
- Sanctions
 - If the Ethics Commissioner recommends sanctions, Council can accept or reject them. This means Council will not be able to pick and choose the sanctions they deem appropriate as this could get quite personal. This will streamline decisions and make the recommendations impartial, not personal.