



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

MEMORANDUM

TO: Patti Bridal, Chief Administrative Officer **FILE:** 0530-13
PC: Kevin Poole, Director, Community Safety, Lands and Administration **DATE:** March 20, 2023
FROM: Janice Nicol, Manager, Legislative Services
SUBJECT: DRAFT COUNCIL CODE OF RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT POLICY

At the January 9, 2023 Regular Meeting, the requirement for a Council Code of Conduct was reviewed, various resources discussed and the following resolution passed:

'THAT Council receive the memorandum titled "Council Code of Conduct" dated December 20, 2022 and respectfully submitted by the Manager, Legislative Services;

AND FURTHER, that Administration be directed to schedule a workshop for Council to consider and begin development of a Code of Conduct for City of Vernon Council.

CARRIED

In response to the increased recognition that municipalities will benefit from an established set of shared standards and expectations for the conduct of members of Council, attached is a **draft** Council Code of Responsible Conduct Policy (Attachment 1) for Council's consideration. As per legislation, the Council Code of Conduct Policy must be in place by May 14, 2023 (six months after Council's first regular meeting of November 14, 2022). The Working Group of Responsible Conduct (WGRC) is a joint initiative of the Union of BC Municipalities, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the Local Government Management Association and they have developed the *Foundational Principles of Responsible Conduct*, which are:

- Integrity
- Accountability
- Respect
- Leadership & Collaboration.

Many communities across B.C. have already adopted code of conduct policies. Administration has reviewed the various policies adopted and developed the **draft** for the City of Vernon, based on the review and research of those communities as well as guidelines developed through the WGRC.

The **draft** policy provides general standards of conduct that reflect the foundational principles and includes both an informal and formal complaint procedure. Proposed remedies, as recommended by the Forging the Path to Responsible Conduct guide, are also included for Council's consideration. This Policy is intended to be a living document, to be reviewed and amended from time to time.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receive for information the memorandum titled "Draft Council Code of Conduct Policy" dated March 13, 2023 and respectfully submitted by Manager, Legislative Services;

AND FURTHER, that Council adopt the Council Code of Responsible Conduct Policy, as presented at the March 27, 2023 Committee of the Whole meeting.

ALTERNATIVE RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receive for information the memorandum titled "Draft Council Code of Conduct Policy" dated March 13, 2023 and respectfully submitted by Manager, Legislative Services;

AND FURTHER, that Council direct Administration to amend the draft Code of Conduct Policy as follows: *(to be cited by Council)*.

Respectfully submitted:



Janice Nicol
Manager, Legislative Services

Attachment 1 - Draft Policy – Council Code of Responsible Conduct

Approved for the Agenda by the CAO

