

Legislative Amendments to Improve Municipal Codes of Conduct and Enforcement

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

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

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

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

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

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

Now, therefore be it resolved that (MUNICIPALITY NAME) 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;

Also be it resolved that the legislation encompass the Association of Municipalities of Ontario's recommendations for:

- Updating municipal Codes of Conduct to account for workplace safety and harassment
- Creating a flexible administrative penalty regime, adapted to the local economic and financial circumstances of municipalities across Ontario
- Increasing training of municipal Integrity Commissioners to enhance consistency of investigations and recommendations across the province
- 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
- Prohibit a member so removed from sitting for election in the term of removal and the subsequent term of office.