

Request for Decision United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria Council

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Tuesday, July 24, 2018				Report Date	Monday, July 16, 2018			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

Clerk's - Report #24/07/18/802 – Follow Up

Subject: Follow Up - Comments/Notes from Friday's Training

This report is the intro to the report created for the June Council meeting – the policies drafted below through the working group and completed by the Wishart Law Firm staff are included for your information, review and adoption.

Council can decide to adopt now or wait until September....your decision.

WHEREAS Council has approved staff training through Wishart Law Group and Expertise for Municipalities which has resulted in the attached law firm verified policies as required under Bill 68;

AND WHEREAS policies have been prepared which will meet municipal council purposes prior to and after March 1, 2019 when the last sections of this Bill come into effect;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Mara does hereby adopt the following policies as presented:

1. Council Code of Conduct
2. Council-Staff Relations Policy
3. Integrity Commissioner Inquiry Protocol
4. Integrity Commissioner Inquiry Protocol – Post March 1, 2019

On Friday, June 8, 2018 I attended council approved training in Burk's Falls by Expertise for Municipalities and Wishart Municipal Law Group. Wishart and E4M are taking a unique position on providing municipal assistance by focusing on prevention of issues, preparation of legally enforceable documents through a supervised joint creation of required policy and by-laws and sharing of information.

All municipalities, no matter the size require legal expertise. Most municipalities are left to draft new policy on their own, or "borrow" from others due to the costs of having a law firm do them. Occasionally those documents will be challenged and the municipality could find itself in an indefensible situation. Through this process, municipalities work together to create a document that considers the unique challenges of each participant municipality to ensure a solid working document at session end which has been legally vetted.

The specific session attended this week focused on the new Code of Conduct – as required under Bill 68, but also updated current Codes for those municipalities who already have one in place.

Additionally, a Complaint Protocol and the Bill 68 required Council/Staff Relationship Policy was drafted.

Every attendee received answers to their specific questions and had the opportunity to submit changes, enhancements etc. and question the existing content. In the end, each participating municipality will have a final document fully vetted and insured by a law firm to use in their municipality. When these documents are eventually needed, they will stand up in court.

The group's plan is to hold another session to have municipalities ensure that their Procedure By-Laws are up to date and complete – prior to new councils coming to seat in November.

The policies reviewed and identified under Report #12/06/18/1203 – Bill 68 Changes are being completed by E4M and Wishart staff and will be available in their completed form for municipal adoption in the near future.