

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CLERKS AND PLANNING SERVICES

DESCRIPTION

Re: Compliance Audit Committee – 2022 Municipal Election

RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Director of Clerks and Planning Services be received;
And that the Council authorize the establishment of the Compliance Audit Committee for the purposes of the 2022 Municipal Election in cooperation with the Town of Blind River, the Township of the North Shore and the Town of Spanish;
And that the Committee be composed of the Clerks (or designates) of the four municipalities as per the Terms of Reference.

BACKGROUND

The Municipal Act, 1996 (MEA 1996) requires an outgoing Council to establish a Compliance Audit Committee on or before October 1st in the year of an election. The powers and functions of the Committee are provided under the MEA.

An elector who is entitled to vote in an election and believes on reasonable grounds that a candidate has contravened a provision of the MEA, 1996 relating to election campaign finances may apply for a compliance audit of the candidate's election campaign finances.

ANALYSIS

The City of Elliot Lake, the Town of Blind River, the Township of the North Shore and the Town of Spanish have established Compliance Audit Committees for previous elections with the membership consisting of the Municipal Clerks (or designates). To date, all three have agreed and have been appointed by their respective councils to establish the Compliance Audit Committee for the purpose of the 2022 election.

In 2010 Elliot Lake's City Clerk attended meetings in the Township of the North Shore as a result of 2 elected members.

In 2014 no meetings were required as no Compliance Audit requests were received.

In 2018 Elliot Lake hosted meetings as a result of Compliance Audit requests of 9 candidates.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

As per the Terms of Reference and should a meeting be necessary, there may be significant costs incurred. These include but are not limited to

- administration costs for items such as printing and mailing - to be absorbed within the City's Administration Budget
- The cost for engaging the services of an Auditor - to be borne by the community which is the origin of the Compliance Audit Committee
- The cost of engaging a solicitor for legal advice necessary to support the working of the committee
- Per diem - payable to the three members in attendance for any meetings held outside the regular business hours of any Clerk
- Mileage – payable to each member according to the current municipal rate for the City of Elliot Lake

The 2010 and 2014 elections had no costs associated with them. The 2018 election had a cost of approximately \$13,000.

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

The establishment of the Compliance Audit Committee is a legislated requirement.

SUMMARY

It is recommended that council pass a resolution to establish the 2022 Compliance Audit Committee consisting of the Clerks of the Town of Blind River, the Township of the North Shore the Town of Spanish and the Clerk of the City of Elliot Lake.