



724-2009

Date: November 3, 2009

Moved by: *Mayor Morrison* Seconded by: *J. deBoer*

**WHEREAS** we believe that all Members of Council have an obligation to hold ourselves to the highest possible standard of conduct while entrusted with the responsibility of managing the community's physical assets, our resident's tax dollars and as stewards of the future of our community; and

**WHEREAS** the Council and staff of the Town of Caledon continue to demonstrate a commitment to public accountability through such initiatives as the establishment of an Audit Committee; and

**WHEREAS** all Members of Council recognize this accountability to the residents of Caledon requires us to undertake the business of the Town in an open and transparent way both in terms of our legislative and ethical responsibilities; and

**WHEREAS** we have seen and are continuing to see in many of our neighbouring municipalities, the minimum requirements of The Municipal Act are not enough to fully protect members of Council and Boards from the increasing complexities brought about by virtually continuous changes in Provincial priorities, policies and legislation, combined with global influences that have in previous times had minimal impact on local government administration; and

**WHEREAS** by acting now, Caledon Council is proactively addressing matters that affect the quality of life of our community; a Caledon hallmark, a tradition that has seen our Town recognized as the greenest community in Canada, the safest community in Canada and a number of other initiatives that maintain our community's preeminence nationally and, indeed, internationally; and

**WHEREAS** by acting proactively, Caledon Council can avoid the potentially crippling costs of legal or judicial reviews as seen in other jurisdictions and perhaps most importantly, avoid irreparable damage to the very favorable and advantageous reputation our community and Town administration currently enjoy; and

**WHEREAS** the Town is currently entering its 2010 budget cycle, the evaluation of cost for developing a formal mechanism to providing the community with the assurance that their Town

RECORDED VOTE	YES	NO	CONFLICT	ABSENT
Councillor Beffort	✓			
Councillor deBoer	✓			
Councillor Groves				✓
Councillor McClure	✓			
Mayor Morrison	✓			
Councillor Paterak	✓			
Councillor Payne				✓
Councillor Thompson	✓			
Councillor Whitehead	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>			<b>2</b>

MAYOR: *D. Beffort*

✓ CARRIED	LOST
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Administration is fully accountable and transparent can be examined within the context of our 2010 and future operating priorities;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Town of Caledon establish an Accountability & Transparency Committee, whose terms of reference shall include but not be limited to:

- Developing a Code of Conduct for Members of Council and staff,
- Specifically, reviewing the Town’s current policies and practices as they pertain to confidentiality, accountability and transparency and making recommendations for inclusion in a Code of Conduct,
- Developing a protocol for handling complaints from the public concerning the application and enforcement of a Code of Conduct;
- Evaluating and making recommendations to Council regarding the efficacy of hiring or contracting as needed an independent integrity officer;
- Recommend an appropriate communications plan to inform the public of ongoing improvements in public accountability and transparency in the Town of Caledon; and

**FURTHER THAT** the membership of the Accountability and Transparency Committee include:

- The Mayor (or Designate)
- Regional Councillor Whitehead
- Area Councillor Beffort
- The CAO
- The Town Solicitor
- The Town Clerk
- Two (2) Members of the Public – with preference to individuals with legal and/or ethics background; and

**FURTHER THAT** the Accountability & Transparency Committee prepare a business case for the allocation of expenses for an integrity officer; and

**FURTHER THAT** the Accountability & Transparency Committee report back to Council with recommendations in January 2010.

<b>RECORDED VOTE</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>CONFLICT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
Councillor Beffort				
Councillor deBoer				
Councillor Groves				
Councillor McClure				
Mayor Morrison				
Councillor Paterak				
Councillor Payne				
Councillor Thompson				
Councillor Whitehead				
<b>TOTAL</b>				

**MAYOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

<b>CARRIED</b>	<b>LOST</b>
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