

Life in a Fishbowl

From the Shadows to the Spotlight:

Your Time as the Partner of an

Elected Official



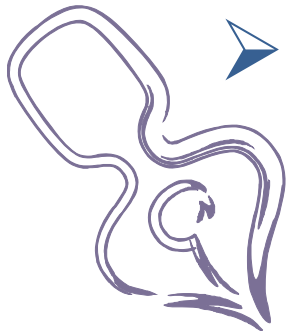
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Fred Dean
ROMA 2017

Some Basics...

- **What can municipalities do?**
- **Complex, technical and regulated**
- **Powers**
 - **From the Province**
 - **Exercised by Council**
- **Council sets policy and makes decisions**

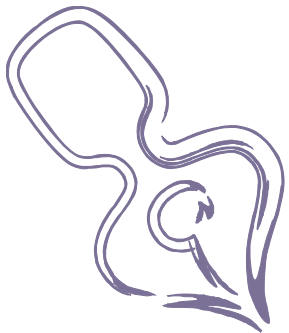


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Accountability & Transparency

- Theme of municipal legislation
- Accountability & Transparency Policy
- Transparent
 - Ability to see how decisions are made
- Accountable
 - Corporate
 - Personal



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Personal Accountability

- **Declaration of Office**
 - High standard of public office
- **Confidential information**
- **Municipal Conflict of Interest Act**
- **Code of Conduct**
- **Personal liability of a Member of Council**



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Declaration of Office

I do solemnly promise and declare that:

- 1. I will truly, faithfully and impartially exercise this office to the best of my ability and knowledge**
- 2. I have not received and will not receive any payment or reward, or promise thereof, for the exercise of this office in a biased, corrupt or in any other improper manner**



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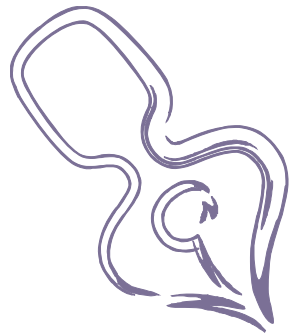
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Declaration of Office

3. I will disclose any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in accordance with the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

4. I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth...

And I make this solemn promise and declaration conscientiously... knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath



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Duty of Confidentiality

- **Members must act in best interest of municipality**
- **Documents**
- **Closed meeting deliberations**
- **Coffee shop**
- **“Pillow talk”**



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Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

- **Applies to members**
- **Indirect pecuniary interests – family**
- **Consequences of a breach**
- **Insurance**
- **New, expanded ability to bring a complaint**



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Code of Conduct for Members

- **Adopted by Council**
- **Discretionary but soon to be mandatory**
- **Codifies expected conduct of members**
- **Integrity Commissioner investigates**



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Personal Liability

- **Roads**
 - No personal liability
- **Water**
 - Personal liability
 - Standard of care
- **Insurance**
- **Act in best interests of municipality**



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Personal Liability

- **Cannot commit municipality unless authorized by Council**
- **Councillors do not speak on behalf of the municipality**
- **Insurance**
- **Act in best interests of municipality**



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Life in a Fishbowl

- **Public officials**
- **24/7**
- **You are not the public official...but**



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