

Pecuniary Interest Guidelines

Legislation: The Municipal Conflict of Interest Act sets out the provisions of pecuniary interest. Understanding these provisions allows Council members to perform their public duties in compliance with legislation.

Pecuniary Interest: Members must disclose a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in matters that are before Council for consideration. Although not defined in the Act, the dictionary defines pecuniary as "relating to money". The direct interest relates to the private members interest (directly profiting or losing money), while indirect interests are public. For example a Councillor employed by the province indirectly has interest in the province (a public interest). Pecuniary interest of a spouse, child or parent of a member is also deemed to be an interest.

Procedures for Disclosure: If a matter comes before Council that a member believes he or she has a pecuniary interest in, there are clear procedures to follow. The member should:

1. Declare the pecuniary interest at the commencement of a Council meeting. When

the matter of pecuniary interest is before Council, leave the meeting room until discussion and voting on the matter are concluded.

2. Refrain from attempting in any way whether before, during or after the meeting to influence the voting on any such matter.
3. Return to the meeting after the matter has been discussed and a decision has been made.
4. Complete and submit the Disclosure of a Pecuniary Interest Form to the Clerk on the same day the matter is before Council.

These procedures apply to all regular and special meetings of Council.

Vote Implications: When pecuniary interest has been declared, the member of Council making the declaration must refrain from voting. Quorum is then established with the remaining members. For example: In a sixteen member Council, if one member of Council declares a pecuniary interest then quorum is established with the remaining fifteen members.

Disclosure of a Pecuniary Interest Form

Open Meeting

Closed Meeting

Please complete and submit to the Clerk on the same day the pecuniary interest is being declared.

I, _____, am declaring direct or indirect pecuniary interest as it relates to agenda item number _____ regarding _____.

1. My pecuniary interest is: ___ Direct ___ Indirect
2. Relates to: ___ myself ___ my spouse ___ my child ___ a parent
3. The nature of my interest is as follows:

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date Submitted to the Clerk: _____