

Schedule A

Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

Principles

1.1 The Province of Ontario endorses the following principles in relation to the duties of members of councils and of local boards under this Act:

1. The importance of integrity, independence and accountability in local government decision-making.
2. The importance of certainty in reconciling the public duties and pecuniary interests of members.
3. Members are expected to perform their duties of office with integrity and impartiality in a manner that will bear the closest scrutiny.
4. There is a benefit to municipalities and local boards when members have a broad range of knowledge and continue to be active in their own communities, whether in business, in the practice of a profession, in community associations, and otherwise. 2017, c. 10, Sched. 3, s. 1.

Section Amendments with date in force (d/m/y)

Indirect pecuniary interest

2 For the purposes of this Act, a member has an indirect pecuniary interest in any matter in which the council or local board, as the case may be, is concerned, if,

- (a) the member or his or her nominee,
 - (i) is a shareholder in, or a director or senior officer of, a corporation that does not offer its securities to the public,
 - (ii) has a controlling interest in or is a director or senior officer of, a corporation that offers its securities to the public, or
 - (iii) is a member of a body,

that has a pecuniary interest in the matter; or

- (b) the member is a partner of a person or is in the employment of a person or body that has a pecuniary interest in the matter. R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50, s. 2.

Interest of certain persons deemed that of member

3 For the purposes of this Act, the pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, of a parent or the spouse or any child of the member shall, if known to the member, be deemed to be

also the pecuniary interest of the member. R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50, s. 3; 1999, c. 6, s. 41 (2); 2005, c. 5, s. 45 (3); 2021, c. 4, Sched. 11, s. 23 (4).

DUTY OF MEMBER

Influence

5.2 (1) Where a member, either on his or her own behalf or while acting for, by, with or through another, has any pecuniary interest, direct or indirect, in any matter that is being considered by an officer or employee of the municipality or local board, or by a person or body to which the municipality or local board has delegated a power or duty, the member shall not use his or her office in any way to attempt to influence any decision or recommendation that results from consideration of the matter. 2017, c. 10, Sched. 3, s. 4.

Exception

(2) However, if a municipality delegates a power to suspend the remuneration paid to a member under subsection 223.4 (5) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* or subsection 160 (5) of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* to a person or body, and the person or body is considering exercising that power with respect to a member, subsection (1) of this section does not prevent the member from attempting to influence any decision or recommendation of the person or body that results from consideration of the matter. 2017, c. 10, Sched. 3, s. 4.

RECORD OF DISCLOSURE

Disclosure to be recorded in minutes

6 (1) Every declaration of interest and the general nature thereof made under section 5 shall, where the meeting is open to the public, be recorded in the minutes of the meeting by the clerk of the municipality or secretary of the committee or local board, as the case may be. R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50, s. 6 (1).

THE CORPORATION OF
THE TOWN OF NIAGARA ON THE LAKE
BY-LAW NO. 5061-18

10.0 Improper Use of Influence

10.1 Members shall not use the influence of their office or appointment for any purpose other than the exercise of his or her official duties in the public interest.

10.2 Members shall not use the status of their position to influence the decision of another person to the private advantage or non-pecuniary interest of themselves, their parents, children or grandchildren, spouse, or friends or associates, or for the purpose of creating a disadvantage to another person or for providing an advantage to themselves.

10.3 Members who are asked to support charitable activities within the community may do so by accepting honorary roles, lending their names to organizations or events and encouraging public support of events. In doing so, Members shall ensure that they do not have a conflict between their private interest and their duties to the public. Members shall not directly solicit funds nor receive funds for charitable purposes in their role as a Member. Members shall remain at arms-length from financial aspects of external events which they support in their public capacity and shall not participate in decisions concerning the disbursement of funds or determining the beneficiaries of the funds.

11.0 Conflicts of Interest

11.1 Members shall avoid conflicts of interest, both pecuniary and non-pecuniary. Members shall take proactive steps to mitigate conflicts of interest in order to maintain public confidence in the Town and its elected officials. Members are encouraged to seek guidance from the Integrity Commissioner (if enabled by legislation to do so) and/or legal advice when they become aware that they may have a conflict between their responsibilities to the public as a Member and any other interest, pecuniary or non-pecuniary.