DATE: April 10, 2012

TO: Chair and Members of Governance Committee
Meeting Date: April 16, 2012

FROM: Mary Ellen Bench, BA, JD, CS
City Solicitor

SUBJECT: Appointment of Integrity Commissioner – Update

RECOMMENDATION: That the report titled “Appointment of Integrity Commissioner – Update” dated April 10, 2012 from the City Solicitor be received for information.

BACKGROUND: General Committee at its meeting of January 23, 2012 considered the report of the City Solicitor dated January 17, 2012 titled “Amending the Council Code of Conduct in Response to the Recommendations of the Judicial Inquiry”. The recommendations respecting the issuance of a Request for Proposal (“RFP”) for the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner was amended by the Committee and approved by City Council at its meeting of March 28, 2012.

COMMENTS: The RFP for the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner for a five-year term will be advertised in the April 13, 2012 edition of the Globe and Mail, will be posted on the City’s website in addition to Biddingo, and copies will be sent to all individuals who have expressed an interest in this contract in the past. Potential bidders will have until
May 2, 2012 to ask any questions, and the City will have until that date to distribute any addenda. The RFP will close on May 8, 2012 and an independent evaluation of the bids received will commence immediately thereafter. It is anticipated that staff will present a short list of bidders for the meeting of the Governance Committee to be held on May 14, 2012 and arrangements will then be made for the approved short list of bidders to be interviewed by the Governance Committee. It is anticipated that if the Governance Committee is able to make a recommendation on a new Integrity Commissioner by early June, an agreement to retain an Integrity Commissioner, substantially in the form attached to the RFP, can be finalized and presented to Council for approval by its meeting of July 4, 2012.

Assuming that Council is able to appoint a new Integrity Commissioner by its July 4, 2012 meeting, it is anticipated that staff can work with the successful proponent over the summer and report back to Council in the fall concerning recommendations to amend the Code of Conduct for Mayor and Members of Council, arising out of Commissioner Cunningham’s report and subsequent input from the Governance Committee, for consideration by the Governance Committee in September.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

CONCLUSION:
The advertisement respecting the issuance of a Request for Proposal for the appointment of an Integrity Commissioner for a five-year term will be advertised in the April 13, 2012 edition of the Globe and Mail, and will be posted on the City’s website and on Biddingo at the same time. It is anticipated that staff will be able to recommend a short list of bidders to be interviewed by the Governance Committee, and that a recommendation can be made to City Council for approval of a new Integrity Commissioner by Council’s meeting of July 4, 2012. Staff will work with the newly appointed Integrity Commissioner over the summer months to again review Commissioner Cunningham’s report
and make recommendations to the Governance Committee concerning possible amendments to the Council Code of Conduct.

Mary Ellen Bench, BA, JD, CS
City Solicitor

Prepared By: Mary Ellen Bench, City Solicitor