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Mississauga council sets conduct code

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Mississauga has a pricey new integrity commissioner and a code of conduct to govern the actions of the next mayor and council.

In one of its last acts before the Oct. 25 municipal election, Mississauga council appointed lawyer George Rust-D'Eye to be interim integrity commissioner for one year at \$625 an hour, when his services are required.

Mayor Hazel McCallion, who voted along with the rest of council to unanimously support the code and the hiring of an integrity commissioner, said all of council was happy with the decision.

The code of conduct sets new standards for the politicians who will be sworn in Dec. 1.

The code dictates that members of council "should be committed to performing their functions with integrity and to avoiding the improper use of the influence of their office and conflicts of interest" and that councillors not give "preferential treatment to family members, organizations or groups" in which they have an interest.

Council also voted Wednesday to authorize up to an additional \$2 million funding for the inquiry into McCallion's involvement in a land deal involving her son, Peter.

It also cast aside a request from Peter McCallion for an additional \$250,000 to cover his legal expenses, a discussion from which the mayor absented herself. Council has already given him \$150,000 to pay for two lawyers.

But council hopes to recover that money and approved a motion asking Peter McCallion to assign his shares in World Class Developments to allow the city to make a claim against the company to recoup the funds.

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