

Town of Hanley

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Press Release - For Immediate Release

Town of Hanley Concludes Code of Ethics Investigation, Strengthening Commitment to Transparency and Ethical Governance

Hanley, November 12, 2024 – The Town of Hanley has concluded an independent investigation into allegations of ethical misconduct involving a Council member, which was initiated to address concerns of professionalism, bias, and potential conflicts of interest. Conducted by Bloom CME, a municipal governance consultancy, the investigation has resulted in the successful completion of sanctions by the Council member in question and has highlighted several recommendations to enhance transparency, accountability, and good governance within the Town Council.

Investigation Overview and Key Findings

The investigation was launched following complaints related to a Council member's interactions with the Agricultural Society and other Council matters. The inquiry, which involved comprehensive interviews and reviews of evidence, found that a personal conflict influenced the Council member's actions, resulting in perceived bias that affected Council's decision-making. Additional findings revealed a need for improved conflict resolution and communication protocols within the Council to support clear, unbiased governance.

Council Member Compliance and Sanctions

In response to the findings, the investigator recommended a set of corrective actions, all of which were completed by the Council member. The sanctions included:

- Mandatory ethics and governance training,
- A written and verbal public apology to Council and the community,
- A three-month monitoring period to ensure adherence to Council standards,
- Recusal from matters related to the Agricultural Society.

The Council member demonstrated full compliance with these requirements, underscoring their commitment to restoring professionalism and alignment with the Town's ethical standards.

Recommendations for Improved Governance

The investigation report has prompted several recommendations aimed at strengthening the Town's governance framework and fostering a constructive relationship between Council and community organizations. Key recommendations include:

- Ongoing ethics and governance training for all Council members,
- Implementing formal communication and conflict resolution protocols,

• Continued monitoring of interactions between Council and community groups to support impartiality and transparency.

Moving Forward

The Town of Hanley is dedicated to learning from this process to reinforce an environment of ethical leadership and public trust. With the adoption of these recommendations, the Town Council aims to foster stronger relationships within the community and ensure decisions are made impartially and in the best interests of all residents. The Town of Hanley is committed to establishing Memorandum of Understanding with all accepting Hanley Committees.

For further information, please contact the town office 1-306-544-2223 townahanley@sasktel.net

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