

## **Minister's Appointee to Black River – Matheson Report – May 31, 2024**

**To:** Honourable Paul Calandra, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

**From:** Kathy Horgan, Minister's Appointee

**Date:** May 31, 2024

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On April 29, 2024 by Minister's order (the Order), I was appointed to exercise the duties and obligations of the Township of Black River - Matheson council, including making decisions, as necessary, in relation to the by-election for a new council and making any other decision that would otherwise be made by council, if required, in accordance with the duties and obligations of council as set out in the Municipal Act, 2001, any by-law or policy of the Township or any other applicable legislation.

The Order also requires that I report to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of each month on the exercise of my duties and obligations under the Order. This report, along with prior reports, will be posted on the municipality's website in its dedicated [Minister Appointee Reports](#) webpage.

### **Labour Dispute**

The agreement negotiated between the Township and the CUPE Local 1490 negotiating committees was ratified by the workers on May 24, 2024. I passed a council resolution approving the memorandum of settlement to give effect to a new collective agreement at the May 28, 2024 meeting. Workers will return on June 3, 2024. The Township and CUPE have prepared a joint statement which will be posted on the Township's website as soon as possible.

### **Meetings**

A regular meeting was held on May 28, 2024, during which routine business was dealt with, including adopting a backlog of meeting minutes from the previous council, committees and local boards, as well as several staff reports that provided updates on initiatives undertaken by the various departments. Township staff reports contain valuable information that would be of interest to the general public and can be found in the agenda package for the May 28, 2024 meeting.

### **Integrity Commissioner Reports**

The May 28, 2024 meeting also included reports and notices in relation to Integrity Commissioner reports.

- I received and made public the investigative findings report by the Integrity Commissioner concerning the six former councillors. Consideration of this report, including any presentations by the Integrity Commissioner was deferred to the new council.
- I gave notice that two additional Integrity Commissioner investigative reports will be received at the June 11, 2024 regular council meeting in accordance with the Township's Integrity Commissioner Protocol.
- I also received ten dismissal letters in relation to code of conduct complaints filed against the former mayor.

The reports and dismissal letters are currently available in the agenda package for the May 28, 2024 meeting on the municipality's website and will be posted on the new Integrity Commissioner webpage once the site is fully functional.

### **By-Election**

Starting June 1, 2024, qualified individuals interested in running for any of the 7 council seats (1 mayor and 6 councillors) may submit a nomination form with the clerk. Additional information about the Township clerk's election processes can be found on the municipality's [by-election 2024 webpage](#). More information about the rights and responsibilities of candidates and voters can be found in the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's [Candidates Guide](#) and [Voter's Guide](#) on the Ministry's website.

The next report from the Minister's Appointee will be submitted on June 15, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,



Kathy Horgan  
Minister's Appointee  
Township of Black River – Matheson