

## **PROCEDURE**

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TITLE: Process to seek Independent Legal APPROVAL DATE: August 27, 2019

Advice for Council

POLICY: 122, Independent Legal Advice for Council REVISION DATE:

**SECTION:** Administration

RESPONSIBLE

**DEPARTMENT:** Legislative Services

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Procedure is to establish the process for how and when an Elected Official shall seek independent legal advice. Requests shall comply with the Council Code of Conduct, Sections 4.57 and 4.59 regarding Elected Official's responsibility to seek independent legal advice for situations that may result in questions of a Pecuniary Interest or of a Conflict of Interest.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

The provision of independent legal advice by an Elected Official will be arranged through the office of Legislative Services, which is responsible for managing the legal expenses incurred by the City of Grande Prairie, including those incurred on behalf of Elected Officials.

When an Elected Official requires independent legal advice because of a potential Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest the Elected Official must:

- 1. Contact the office of Legislative Services prior to seeking independent legal advice.
- 2. Select an independent law firm from the list of approved firms provided by Legislative Services.
- 3. Obtain a corresponding file number generated by Legislative Services.
- 4. Provide the file number to the selected law firm.