

BYLAW 749/16
TOWN OF ELK POINT #043

A BYLAW OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE TOWN OF ELK POINT IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, FOR THE PURPOSE PROVIDING CERTAIN BASIC RULES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS WITHIN THE TOWN OF ELK POINT SO THAT THEY MAY CARRY OUT THEIR ENTRUSTED DUTIES WITH IMPARTIALITY AND DIGNITY, RECONGNIZING THAT THE FUNCTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS IS, AT ALL TIMES, SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY AND THE PUBLIC.

WHEREAS under the authority and subject to the provisions of the municipal Government Act, revised Statues of Alberta, Chapter M-26 and amendments thereto, Council may pass bylaws respecting the conduct of Council, Council committees and other bodies established by the Council;

AND WHEREAS the proper operation of democratic local government requires that elected officials independent, impartial and duly responsible to the people and it is imperative that:

1. Government decisions and policy be made through the proper channels government structure;
2. Public office not be used for personal gain; and
3. The public have confidence in the integrity of its government;

NOW THEREFORE certain ethical principles should govern the conduct of Members of Council in the Town of Elk Point in order that they shall maintain the highest standards in Public Office and faithfully discharge the duties of office;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Elk Point duly assembled hereby enacts as follows:

Title

1. This Bylaw may be referred to as the "Code of Conduct Bylaw"

Code of Conduct

- a) The primary obligation of Council Members is to represent the best interests of the Town of Elk Point. This accountability supersedes all other interests.
- b) Councillors shall consider the welfare and interest of the municipality as a whole and bring to Councils attention anything that would promote the welfare or interest of the municipality.
- c) Council Members will observe a high standard of professionalism when representing the Town of Elk Point in their dealings with the community. Councillors shall hold themselves to the highest standard when engaging in

any form of public conduct.

- d) Council Members interactions with the public, press or other entities must recognize the same limitation of any Council Member to speak for Council, except to convey explicitly stated Council decisions.
 - e) All members of Council shall communicate and work toward the effective and consistent implementation of the positions and decisions of the Council, even if they disagree with the Council decision. In this way, Councilors will foster respect for the democratic decision making process.
 - f) Debate shall be considered healthy and be limited to the decisions that affect the programs of the Town of Elk Point. Councils will show respect for all other Members of Council and the Town of Elk Point staff.
 - g) Councilors will take all points of view into account when making decisions.
 - h) Council members will think independently and refrain from forming allegiances with faction within Council.
 - i) Council Members shall not, directly or indirectly release, or make public or in any way divulge any information which is deemed to be confidential unless expressly authorized by Council or required by law to do so. This includes keeping confidential any aspects of in-camera deliberation, any information required to be kept in confidence as prescribed by Privacy Legislation and information subject to solicitor-client privilege.
2. No member of Council shall solicit or accept a reward, gift or benefit of any kind, personally or through a family member or friend which is connected directly or indirectly with the performance or duties of office; however members of Council are not precluded from accepting;
- a. Rewards, gifts or benefits not connected with the performance or duties of office;
 - b. Political contributions that are accepted in accordance with applicable law;
 - c. Reasonable quantities of food and beverages at banquets, receptions, ceremonies or similar events;
 - d. Food, lodging, transportation and entertainment provided by other levels of government or by other local governments, boards or commissions;
 - e. A reimbursement of expenses incurred in the performance of duties or office;
 - f. Token gifts such as souvenirs, mementos and commemorative gifts that are given in recognition of service or for attending an event;

Officer or his or delegate.

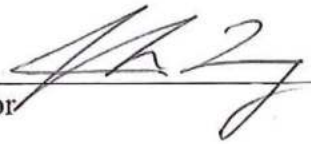
10. No Member of Council shall commit the Town of Elk Point to any specific course of action, expenditure, or use of municipal resources.
11. All personal matters shall be dealt with in-camera.
12. Members of Council shall not discriminate against anyone on the basis of their race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, age, record of offenses, marital status, same-sex partnership status, family status or disability.
13. Council Members shall not harass anyone where, in accordance with the Human Rights Code, harassment shall mean engaging in a course of vexatious comment or conduct that is known or out reasonably to be known to be unwelcome.
14. Any Member of Council who believes that this Bylaw has been contravened by another Member of Council is to advise the member and the Mayor in writing of the complaint. If the Mayor is the subject of the complaint, then the complaint shall be provided to the Deputy Mayor. The matter will then be referred to the next Regular Council meeting to be discussed in camera.
15. Council will determine, as a whole whether or not there is validity to any complaint brought forward pursuant to this Bylaw, regarding any Member of Council.
16. If Council determines that a complaint reviewed under this Bylaw is valid then Council, by resolution, may impose one or more of the following sanctions against the offending party(s):
 - a. Verbal reprimand provided by the Mayor or Deputy Mayor;
 - b. Written Censure;
 - c. Termination of the Council Member's appointment to one or more committees or boards;
 - d. Request for an inquiry under Section 572 of the Municipal Government Act;
 - e. Initiation of legal action under Section 175 of the Municipal Government Act.

FIRST READING THIS 11TH DAY OF APRIL, 2016

Mayor

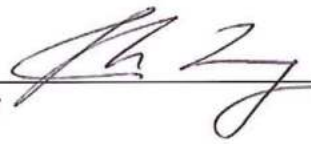
Chief Administrative Officer

SECOND READING THIS 11TH DAY OF APRIL, 2016

Mayor 

Chief Administrative Officer 

THIRD AND FINAL READING THIS 11TH DAY OF APRIL, 2016

Mayor 

Chief Administrative Officer 