

Resolution

Moved By

Last Name Printed

Resolution No.:

469-19

Seconded By

Last Name Printed

Council Date:

December 2, 2019

WHEREAS at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on November 25, 2019, Council considered a Memo from the Municipal Clerk/Manager of Legislative Services, regarding the appointment of the Town of Cobourg Municipal Ombudsman; and

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WHEREAS the six (6) other municipalities in Northumberland and eighteen (18) other comparative Ontario municipalities have appointed the Ombudsman of Ontario to review any municipal complaints; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Ombudsman is an independent and impartial Officer of the Ontario legislature with authority to address complaints about the administrative conduct of municipalities, universities, school boards, and provincial government organizations, as well as complaints about services for children and youth and French language services; and

WHEREAS the Ombudsman's role with respect to municipalities is to review and investigate complaints about municipal government administration. When problems are identified, the Ombudsman may make recommendations or share best practices with a municipality to improve its processes, as well as to strengthen local governance and accountability; and

WHEREAS once an individual has exhausted their local complaint options, the Ontario Ombudsman can review the steps taken by the municipality to address the complaint. In addition the Ontario Ombudsman is impartial officer of the Province and the investigations conducted from the Office of the Ontario Ombudsman are free of charge.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council select the Ontario Ombudsman for all its municipal Ombudsman complaints effective immediately.