

## **Staff Report**

**Report To: Council Meeting** 

From: Jana Nethercott, Clerk

**Date:** 2022-05-26

Subject: 2022 Municipal Election – Establishment of Joint Compliance Audit

Committee

## **Recommendation:**

That West Elgin Council hereby receives the report from Jana Nethercott, Clerk re: 2022 Municipal Election – Establishment of Joint Compliance Audit Committee for information purposes; and

That West Elgin Council consider the by-law to establishing an Election Joint Compliance Audit Committee for the 2022 Municipal Election in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* as amended, in the By-law portion of the agenda.

## Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to establish a joint compliance audit committee for the 2022 Municipal Election in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act*, 1996.

## **Background:**

Section 88.37 of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as amended requires each municipal Council to establish a Compliance Audit Committee before October 1<sup>st</sup> in an election year to deal with matters regarding election campaign finances and contributions.

Historically, Member Municipalities within Elgin County have established a "Elgin Election Joint Compliance Audit Committee" to deal with matters provided for in Sections 88.33, 88.34, 88.35 and 88.36 of the *Municipal Elections Act*, 1996.

Establishment of a joint committee offers numerous efficiencies in terms of committee member recruitment, review of the committee terms of reference and notice obligations, while remaining compliant with relevant provisions of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*.

The attached draft Elgin Election Joint Compliance Audit Committee Terms of Reference provides for the Committee Term, Meeting Overview, Mandate, Composition, Appointment Process, Compensation, Role of Staff, Application Process, Roles and Responsibilities and Appeal overview.

Once all Elgin County Member Municipalities have established a Joint Compliance Audit Committee and approved a Committee Terms of Reference by By-Law, recruitment for committee members will begin. Advertising for prospective Committee Members will include the placement of ads in local newspapers, contacting previous members of the Joint Committee from 2018 and by posting ads on each respective municipal website. More information about the Committee Member Appointment Process is outlined in Section 7 of the attached Terms of Reference.