**Minutes – Executive Policy Committee – September 10, 2019**

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

**Item No. 3 Independent Fairness Commissioner – Summary Report Recommendations**

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Executive Policy Committee, in its capacity as the Audit Committee, concurred in the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service and received the report as information.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Gillingham,

That the recommendation of the Winnipeg Public Service be concurred in.

Carried

# ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

**Title:** Independent Fairness Commissioner - Summary Report Recommendations

**Critical Path:** Audit Committee

## AUTHORIZATION

| Author | Department Head | CFO | CAO |
|---|---|---|---|
| B. Mansky | B. Mansky | | |

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since January 2018, the Independent Fairness Commissioner has been reviewing real estate transactions and submitting the associated compliance reports to the SPC PDHDD. After reviewing the findings from twenty-five (25) completed transaction audit reports issued by the IFC, the City Auditor requested the IFC to summarize the key observations and identify recommendations to address the issues.

The recommendations contained within the attached report have been reviewed with management and includes their plan to address the noted deficiency. Follow-up on the status of implementation will be included in the Quarterly Report Card process.

## RECOMMENDATION

This report be received as information.

## REASON FOR THE REPORT

Council mandated the creation of the IFC role reporting under the authority of the City Auditor.

The report is being submitted in accordance with the City Organization By-law 7100/97 section 19(d)(iv) that the Audit Committee will “receive and review audit reports, and table such reports with its recommendations at a regular meeting of Executive Policy Committee.”

## IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS

The most important component of an audit recommendation is its implementation. The Public Service is responsible for providing a management response to the report; their responses have been included in the attached report. In the event that the Public Service does not agree to implement a recommendation, the City Auditor's responsibility is to report to Council on what the residual risk to the City is for not implementing the recommendation.

## HISTORY/DISCUSSION

Winnipeg City Council created the role of the Independent Fairness Commissioner (IFC) to have the power to review all Real Estate Transactions and Management Services before they are presented to the Standing Policy Committee and/or Council.

In June 2017, the City Auditor engaged Deloitte LLP to provide certain services as part of the IFC role. The first six (6) months of the contract was devoted to developing a Compliance Framework, which is used as the basis for the performance of compliance audits, and creating a report template to ensure consistency in presentation of audit findings to Committee members. Since January 2018, Deloitte has been reviewing specific real estate transactions and submitting the associated IFC compliance reports to the SPC PDHDD.

After reviewing the findings from the IFC reports issued, the City Auditor identified that a report summarizing the IFC observations would provide meaningful information. A summary report was presented to SPC PDHDD on March 4, 2019. This report focusses on the IFC's recommendations and management's plans to address. Follow-up on the status of implementation will be included in the Quarterly Report Card process.

## FINANCIAL IMPACT

**Financial Impact Statement** **Date:** August 12, 2019

**Project Name:**

**Independent Fairness Commissioner - Summary Report Recommendations**

**Comments:**

There are no financial implications related to the recommendation of this report.

*Original Signed by*
Melissa Wensel
Acting Manager of Finance (Campus)
Corporate Finance Department

## CONSULTATION

Planning, Property & Development

## OURWINNIPEG POLICY ALIGNMENT

01-3 Prosperity - Direction 1 - Provide Efficient and Focused Civic Administration and Governance

This report supports the demonstration of accountability through reporting and to continuously pursue innovative, streamlined service delivery and decision-making processes.

## SUBMITTED BY

Department: Audit
Prepared by: B. Mansky, City Auditor
Date: August, 2019

Attachment:
Independent Fairness Commissioner Summary Report Recommendations March 2019