



Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE TAKES LEGAL ACTION AFTER DISCOVERING CONFIDENTIALITY BREACH No evidence that taxpayer or citizen information was involved

WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE, ON – The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville has recently discovered a confidentiality breach that requires legal action.

In the first week of June it was reported to Town Chief Administrative Officer, Roman Martiuk, that Mayor Justin Altmann distributed confidential information and personnel records to members of the public. This release of information relates to matters previously investigated by the Town's Integrity Commissioner involving a Code of Conduct complaint against the Mayor.

"There is no evidence any taxpayer or citizen information was disclosed," Martiuk said.

At this time, Mayor Altmann has not admitted any wrongdoing or provided assistance with facilitating the voluntary return of the confidential material. The Town is therefore commencing a legal action to compel Mayor Altmann to recover and return the material and provide the Town with information that will assist with its recovery efforts.

According to Martiuk, although the extent of the breach is not yet known, based on information received to date the Town believes:

- The personal and confidential information was photocopied and included in binders that were provided to approximately eight to ten individuals last summer.
- The personal and confidential information includes:
 - the personal information of 24 current and former employees, including information about overtime claims, salary information and information about employment history; and
 - 14 descriptions of closed session Council matters and closed session documents contrary to the Town's by-laws.

- The disclosed information did not include:
 - personal or confidential information about taxpayers or citizens; or
 - social insurance numbers, birth date information or home address information.

The Town will notify affected individuals shortly and encourages the full cooperation of anyone who received the confidential material. If you have any information regarding the binders or confidential material, please contact Roman Martiuk.

A report to Council is anticipated in the coming months.

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