

TOWNSHIP OF WILMOT

DELEGATION OF POWERS AND DUTIES OF COUNCIL POLICY

Effective Date: December 10, 2007
Subject: Delegation of Powers and Duties of Council
Authority: Approved by Council

PURPOSE:

The *Municipal Act, 2001* (the Act) requires that all municipalities adopt and maintain a policy with respect to the delegation of Council's legislative and administrative authority. The purpose of this policy is to set out the scope of the powers and duties which Council may delegate its legislative and administrative authority and to establish principles governing such delegation. This policy has been developed in accordance with the Act in order to comply with its other applicable sections, including section 270.

APPLICATION:

This policy applies to all committees of Council, departments and staff.

DEFINITIONS:

Legislative Powers

Includes all matters where Council acts in a legislative or quasi-judicial function including enacting by-laws, setting policies, and exercising decision making authority.

Administrative Powers

Includes all matters required for the management of the corporation which do not involve discretionary decision-making.

POLICY STATEMENT:

The Council of the Municipality, as a duly elected municipal government is directly accountable to its constituents for its legislative decision-making, policies, and administrative functions. Council's decisions are generally expressed by by-law or resolution of Council carried by a majority vote. The efficient management of the municipal corporation and the need to respond to issues in a timely fashion require Council to entrust certain powers and duties to committees and staff while concurrently maintaining accountability, which can be effectively accomplished through the delegation of legislative and administrative functions. Council authority will be delegated within the context set out in the Act and will respect the applicable restrictions outlined in the Act.

POLICY REQUIREMENTS:

1. All delegations of Council powers, duties or functions shall be effected by bylaw.
2. Unless a power, duty, or function of Council has been expressly delegated by bylaw, all of the powers, duties and functions of Council remain with Council.
3. A delegation of a power, duty or function under any bylaw to any member of staff includes a delegation to a person who is appointed by the CAO or selected from time to time by the delegate to act in the capacity of the delegate in the delegate's absence.
4. Subject to section 3, a person to whom a power, duty or function has been delegated by bylaw has no authority to further delegate to another person any power, duty or function that has been delegated, unless such sub-delegation is expressly permitted.
5. Legislative matters may be delegated by Council where they are minor in nature or where Council has explicitly provided for the terms and conditions under which the powers shall be exercised, and must take into account the limitations set out in the Act.
6. Administrative Matters may generally be delegated to staff subject to the conditions set out in the delegation and in this policy, and must take into account the limitations set out in the Act.
7. In exercising any delegated power, the delegate shall ensure the following
 - Any expenditure related to the matter shall have been provided for in the current year's budget (or authorized by the purchasing by-law).
 - The scope of the delegated authority shall not be exceeded by the delegate.
 - Where required by the specific delegated authority, reports shall be submitted to Council advising of the exercise of a delegated power and confirming compliance with the delegated authority and this policy.
 - delegates shall ensure the consistent and equitable application of council policies and guidelines