

September 9, 2026

Questions from Candidates

What are the restrictions and regulations around conflict of interest and advocating and voting on an issue you may have a conflict on?

Elected Officials are required to adhere to the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act (MCIA).

Under regulations, staff are not permitted to provide guidance or make rulings on if a Member of Council may or may not have a conflict. Members of Council are encouraged to seek an opinion from the Integrity Commissioner who provides advice and an opinion on the matter. If a Member does have a conflict, they are required under the Act to disclose the interest and recuse themselves from the matter. The Member must also disclose the interest and general nature of the interest, must not take part in the discussion, must not vote on the matter or attempt to influence the vote.

The role of staff when a conflict is disclosed is to note the conflict in the minutes, receive the written declaration of conflict, and make public a list of all conflicts of interest that have been declared.

Elected Members of Council will be given training on the Act as well as the Code of Conduct. Lanark County will be hosting two dates for joint training on November 5 at 6:00pm at the Lanark County Offices or November 12 at 6:00pm in Carleton Place.