

CORPORATION OF THE NATION MUNICIPALITY

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

Effective date: August 1st, 2012

Resolution: 436-2012

Table of Contents

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY	3
SUBJECT	3
PREAMBLE	3
APPLICATION	3
DEFINITIONS	3
POLICY STATEMENT.....	3
EFFECTIVE DATE.....	4

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

SUBJECT

Accountability and Transparency Policy of Council and staff of The Nation Municipality.

PREAMBLE

Section 270 of the Municipal Act, 2001 requires the adoption of various policies, namely a policy on the manner in which the municipality will ensure that it is accountable to the public for its actions and the manner in which the municipality will ensure that its actions are transparent to the public.

APPLICATION

As required by Section 270 of the Municipal Act, 2001, this policy applies to all municipal operations.

DEFINITIONS

“**Accountability**” is the manner in which the municipality will be responsible to its stakeholders for decisions made and policies implemented, including its actions and/or inactions.

“**Transparency**” is the manner in which the municipality will actively encourage and foster stakeholder participation and openness in its decision making processes. Additionally, transparency means that the municipal decision making process is open and clear to the public.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Nation Municipality will promote accountable and transparent municipal governance guided by the following principles:

- Decision making will be open and transparent;
- Municipal operations will be conducted in an ethical and accountable manner;
- Financial resources and physical infrastructure will be managed in an efficient and effective manner;
- Municipal information will be accessible so that it is consistent with legislative requirements;
- Inquiries, concerns and complaints will be responded to in a timely manner.

The municipality ensures accountability and transparency by way of the following principles:

1. Open Government and Legislated Requirements

The municipality is accountable and transparent by fulfilling various legislated responsibilities and disclosure of information according to the following statutes:

- Municipal Act, 2001
- Municipal Conflict of Interest Act
- Provincial Offences Act
- Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act
- Public Sector Salary Disclosure Act.

2. Financial Responsibility:

The municipality is accountable and transparent by identifying the source of municipal funds and how those funds are used to deliver services. The following policies and procedures demonstrate the municipality's financial responsibility:

- External auditor's report
- Annual financial statements
- Monthly summary of revenue and expenditures
- Report on remuneration and expenses of Council members
- Accounts submitted to Council for inspection and ratification
- Report of projects to be included in reserves at the end of the year.

3. Open Government:

The municipality is accountable and transparent in its operations through the Council Procedural By-Law, Public Notice By-Law and the public distribution of Council meeting agenda.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This policy comes into effect on August 1, 2012.