



Town of Fort Macleod

BOX 1420, FORT MACLEOD, ALBERTA, CANADA TEL: (403)553-4425 FAX (403)553-2426 WWW.FORTMACLEOD.COM

March 28th, 2022

Councillor Marco Van Huigenbos
Box 2311
Fort Macleod, AB
T0L 0Z0
marco.vanhuigenbos@fortmacleod.com

Re: Letter of Reprimand – Breach of Council Code of Conduct Bylaw

Dear Marco,

Further to the resolution of Council passed on February 24th, 2022, I am writing to express Council's grave concerns about your recent behaviour.

Our citizens expect the highest standards of conduct from the members it elects to Council for the Town of Fort Macleod. As a member of Town Council you are a public figure and your words and actions reflect not only on yourself, but also on Council as a whole and the Town at large.

The Council Code of Conduct Bylaw states, in part:

5.1 Members shall:

[...]

(d) arrange their private affairs and conduct themselves in a manner that promotes public confidence and will bear close public scrutiny.

[and]

8.1 Members shall uphold the law established by the Parliament of Canada and the Legislature of Alberta and the bylaws, policies and procedures adopted by Council.

Additionally, you were elected to a position of public trust and as such have a duty to act in good faith and in the best interests of the Town of Fort Macleod at all times.

Provincial, and even national, media reports quote you as being "one of the organizers" and "a spokesperson" of the Coutts border blockade and identify you as being a "town councillor in Fort Macleod". Your admitted, and very public, involvement with the Coutts border blockade is in direct violation of your obligations under the Council Code of Conduct Bylaw. To be clear, Council respects the right of peaceful protest, but that does not extend to organizing an illegal blockade of a highway and border crossing that halted international travel and trade for over two weeks and disrupted our municipal neighbour the Village of Coutts.

Simply put, Council does not tolerate such behaviour.

In accordance with Council's direction, this letter is being issued to you as a Formal Letter of Reprimand and will be posted publicly on the Town's website for purposes of accountability and transparency.

Any further instance of unacceptable behaviour by you, as deemed unacceptable by the Council Code of Conduct Bylaw, may result in further sanction in accordance with this bylaw or such other remedy as may be available under statute or the common law.

Moving forward, I trust you will ensure your conduct is without fault and that, as a councilor, you will focus your energy and attention on serving the welfare and interests of the Town of Fort Macleod.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brent Feyter', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Brent Feyter
Mayor, Town of Fort Macleod

cc: Members of Council