### City of New Westminster

### Council Code of Conduct Bylaw

Amy O'Connor



### 1. Renumbering

- Certain sections have been combined for clarity and ease of reference, for example:
  - Sections 16 & 17 are now section 16
  - Sections 19 to 22 are now section 18



#### 2. New Definitions

- "Director" see section 18(a)(iii)
- "Confidential Information" and "Personal Information" see sections 22 to 24



### 3. Wordsmithing of "Risky" Sections

- Sections that may have been susceptible to inadvertent breaches have been re-worded at the request of Council
  - See section 18



#### 4. Interactions with Staff

- Section 18 adds requirement to treat Staff professionally and respectfully
- Addresses Mayor's concerns re staff protections and power imbalance



#### 5. Interactions with Public and Media

 Requirement not removed, as it is not a high bar, but new addition for social media (see section 20) to alleviate Council concerns



### 6. Conduct of Meetings

- Rearranged and one addition see section 21:
  - not using other forms of communication with Council Members during a meeting, such as text message or email;



#### 7. Reimbursement of Costs

Section 81 now permits Councillors to be reimbursed where they have previously breached the Code, but the Ethic Commissioner determined that they took all reasonable steps to avoid the breach, or that the breach was trivial or done inadvertently or due to an error in judgment made in good faith.



# **Questions/Comments**

