
Disciplinary Action Policy

Date Approved by Council: November 22, 2016

Resolution: 2016-11-22-04

Review Date: September

Related Bylaw: N/A

Amendments: 2023-09-14-645

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines of what is considered acceptable and unacceptable conduct and behaviour, and to provide for disciplinary action for employees when these guidelines are not met.

Guidelines

Employees are responsible for adhering to rules of conduct that are normally accepted as standard in a business or government enterprise.

Appropriate conduct and behaviour includes but is not limited to:

- Adherence to published policies, practices and procedures;
- Competent performance of all job duties assigned;
- Courtesy to and respect for co-workers, ratepayers, suppliers or any other person who deals with the Village in the conduct of its business;
- Wearing proper attire during working hours, appropriate to the job performed;
- Employees must not engage in, or condone behaviour which causes unnecessary mental or physical distress or loss of dignity, privacy or autonomy to a ratepayer, the general public, suppliers or other employees.

Those who, in good faith, report concerns of inappropriate or unacceptable conduct or behaviour will be protected by the Village of Hussar.

Inappropriate conduct and behaviour includes but is not limited to:

- Loitering or loafing;
- Leaving work early without permission;
- Using obscene or abusive language;
- Spreading malicious gossip or rumours;
- Creating or contributing to unsanitary conditions;
- Poor or careless work;
- Excessive personal use of telephones, cell phones or computer facilities.

Unacceptable conduct or behaviour includes:

- Harassing, threatening, intimidating or coercing any person at any time;

- Reporting to work or working while under the influence of alcohol, non-prescribed drugs, or prohibited substances;
- Perceived inappropriate comments directed at an individual related to the person's sex, sexual orientation, racial background, religion, or physical ability;
- Possession of guns, weapons or explosives except as specifically authorized in relation to an employee's duty;
- Unsafe driving of Village of Hussar vehicles;
- Theft, pilfering and/or falsification of Village of Hussar records;
- Threat of/or actual physical contact of any kind when there is a perception of physical violence;
- Sexual harassment of any kind include remarks or jokes causing embarrassment or offence, unwelcome solicitation or advance, suggestive or obscene comment or gestures, leering or physical touching, the display of sexually suggestive material, etc.
- Fighting;
- Not adhering to any written procedure, policy or bylaw of the Village or the laws of any other jurisdiction including federal and provincial legislation.

Disciplinary action may consist of the following, dependent upon the nature of the misconduct in question and the employee's record of past conduct.

- Verbal warning
- Written warning
- Suspension of duties without pay
- Termination

Suspension of duties or termination will be communicated in writing to the employee.

Allegations of misconduct or harassment against an employee will be dealt with by the CAO, unless the employee in question is the CAO.

Allegations of misconduct or harassment against the CAO will be dealt with by Council.

Upon the receipt of a complaint by either the CAO or Council, the individuals designated to deal with the complaint will speak to the individuals deemed responsible, directly identifying the problem, and seeking to resolve the concern.

If further action is required a formal inquiry to validate the complaint and appropriately deal with the issue will be initiated.

Need for further action or more stringent measures will be assessed and applied immediately or as soon as possible, taking into account the seriousness of the violation as well as any failure to cooperate in any investigation in relation to any violation.

Vexatious or frivolous accusations of inappropriate or unacceptable behaviour are considered another form of inappropriate interaction.