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McFadden withdraws request to probe McCallion's alleged 'bullying'

Sun Mar 13 2011

Mississauga Councillor Sue McFadden has withdrawn her request to have the city's integrity commissioner probe Mayor Hazel McCallion's alleged "bullying" behaviour. Ms. McFadden, who filed the request last Wednesday, said she had reached her breaking point after multiple instances in which the Mayor publicly shunned and criticized her. But after consulting with integrity commissioner George ...

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Ms. McFadden, who filed the request last Wednesday, said she had reached her breaking point after multiple instances in which the Mayor publicly shunned and criticized her. But after consulting with integrity commissioner **George Rust-D'Eye**, Ms. McFadden determined the costs of such a probe would be excessive.

"I don't want to cost the taxpayers any more unnecessary costs," Ms. McFadden said in a weekend interview. "I am taking the high road. I look forward to a renewed effort at respect and co-operation on behalf of the residents of Mississauga."

Many politicians at the municipal, provincial and federal levels have found themselves at the sharp end of Ms. McCallion's tongue, but Ms. McFadden said the "verbal harassment" she suffered was interfering in her ability to do her job. The Ward 10 councillor alleges she was singled out and criticized by the Mayor at public events, including a recent Chinese New Year celebration where Ms. McCallion talked about "her intention to get rid of me as one who asks embarrassing questions and continues to make council dysfunctional."

The Mayor's allies, meanwhile, have suggested Ms. McFadden needs to develop a thicker skin, and immediately protested the costs of the proposed investigation. Mr. Rust-D'Eye earns upwards of \$600 an hour, and his controversial probe into leaked documents recently cost the City of Mississauga more than \$16,000.

National Post

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