



The Municipo			

## Tom Barnes

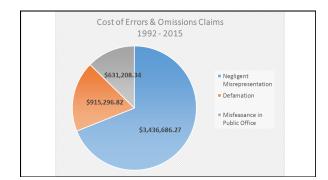
CEO and General Counsel

## Megan Chorlton

Director of Member Services and Assistant General Counsel

The Municipal Insurance Association of BC  A self-insured pool of 167 local governments  Liability coverage  Bodily Injury (Occurrence) Property Damage (Occurrence) E&O (Claims made)  Property and ancillary coverage  \$35,000,000 coverage per claim	
What We Do  Respond to liability claims made against our members.  Facilitate non-claim related legal advice.  Provide risk management education and training.	
Where does liability exposure of elected officials arise?	









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Representation is <u>untrue</u>, <u>misleading or inaccurate</u>

"Special <u>relationship"</u>

Insufficient care in making the representation

Reasonable <u>reliance</u>

A loss



Defamation	
Publication by which other present are likely to be induced to them, excel, related or designed has	

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Words used had a negative impact on the plaintiff

Words referred to the plaintiff

Communication made to third party

## Real life examples...

Accusing a mayor to have been misusing taxpayers' money to further his own career.

Accusing a police officer of being drunk on duty.

Calling another council member a "sick son of a bitch".

Suggesting another council member is one of the "biggest jokes" to have been elected in a long time.

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#1 Be 110% sure or qualify your answer	
and never hold a meeting with a developer at the White Spot.	
#2 Have a communication plan.	

#3 Don't make promises	
you can't keep.	
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Claims Management Philosophy	
We investigate all claims thoroughly.	
If member is liable, we negotiate and resolve the claim quickly and in accordance with exposure.	
If member not liable, we deny the claim and defend vigorously.	
If member somewhat liable we negotiate settlement and seek contribution from other parties.	
We <u>do not</u> pay "nuisance" claims.	
We <u>do not</u> pay for economic or financial reasons.	
QUESTIONS?	