

From: [Jennifer Borne](#)
To: [Andrew Black](#)
Cc: [Becky Goodwin](#)
Subject: FW: FORMAL COMPLAINT: Alleged Breach of Code of Conduct – Councillor Josh Goguen
Date: Monday, May 4, 2026 9:09:08 AM
Attachments: [Appendix A.pdf](#)
[Appendix B.pdf](#)
[Formal Complaint re Josh Goguen.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Good morning Mayor Black,

Please find below a Code of Conduct that was submitted to our info@tantramarnb.com as well as attachments.

Jenn

Jennifer Borne
Chief Administrative Officer

(506) 364-4930
j.borne@TantramarNB.com
www.TantramarNB.com



We respectfully acknowledge that Tantramar, and the experiences within it, take place on the unceded traditional lands of the Mi'kmaq Peoples.

Any correspondence with the employees, agents, or elected officials of Tantramar may be subject to disclosure under the provisions of the Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act of the Province of New Brunswick.

From: Info <info@tantramarnb.com>
Sent: May 4, 2026 8:46 AM
To: Jennifer Borne <j.borne@tantramarnb.com>
Cc: Jeff Taylor <j.taylor@tantramarnb.com>
Subject: FW: FORMAL COMPLAINT: Alleged Breach of Code of Conduct – Councillor Josh Goguen

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: May 2, 2026 2:38 PM
To: Info <info@tantramarnb.com>; jborne@sackville.com
Cc: LGC-CGL@gnb.ca; [REDACTED]
Subject: FORMAL COMPLAINT: Alleged Breach of Code of Conduct – Councillor Josh Goguen

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you

recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Jennifer Borne and the Clerk of the Municipality of Tantramar,

Please find attached a formal complaint regarding an alleged breach of **Bylaw No. 2025-19 (Code of Conduct)** and the **Local Governance Act** by Councillor Josh Goguen.

This complaint concerns Councillor Goguen's participation in and administration of a public-facing forum in which I, a private citizen and constituent, was subjected to sustained personal harassment and disparagement over a period of several days.

Attached to this email, you will find:

- **The Formal Complaint Letter:** Outlining the specific facts, grounds of complaint, and requested resolutions.
- **Appendix A:** Chronological screenshots of the thread, including timestamps and the current status of the offending comments as of May 2, 2026.
- **Appendix B:** Documentation of direct communication with Councillor Goguen dated May 3, 2026.

Given my family's history of documented systemic stigmatization and prior human rights issues in this community, the failure of an elected official to maintain a respectful and safe environment is of particular concern and has caused significant harm.

I trust that this matter will be handled with the seriousness and impartiality required by provincial legislation. Please acknowledge receipt of this email and advise me of the next steps regarding the investigation process.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted contact information]

[Redacted contact information]

To: Clerk, Municipality of Tantramar
Re: Formal Complaint Regarding Councillor Josh Goguen
Bylaw No. 2025-19 (Code of Conduct) and the Local Governance Act

Dear Clerk,

I write to submit a formal complaint regarding Councillor Josh Goguen's conduct in connection with the Facebook group "Sackville Community Chatter," of which he is an administrator. This complaint concerns Councillor Goguen's participation in, moderation of, and failure to promptly address a thread in which I was subjected to repeated personal attacks, disparagement, and hostile commentary between April 29 and May 2, 2026.

I ask that this complaint be investigated under Bylaw No. 2025-19 and the Local Governance Act, and that a determination be made as to whether Councillor Goguen breached the applicable standards of conduct.

1. Background

During the period from April 29 to May 2, 2026, a thread in the "Sackville Community Chatter" Facebook group contained multiple personal attacks directed at me. These comments were not isolated or trivial. They included attacks on my mental health, character, family life, and political or religious views.

Specifically, the thread included the following comments:

- [REDACTED] stated, "I think that woman is a little crazy." This comment remained visible as of May 2, 2026.
- [REDACTED] stated, "holy what a psycho." This comment remained visible as of May 2, 2026.
- [REDACTED] stated, "maybe she should look after her kids on [REDACTED] smoking dope and hollering all night long or maybe she should clean her house." This comment was removed only after approximately 19 hours.
- [REDACTED], identified as an [REDACTED] of Dorchester Area Happenings, stated that she was reading the attacks "with a big smile on [her] face." This comment remained visible as of May 2, 2026.
- Other users described me as an "Ultra conservative Christian" and a "typical liberal," while additional commentary alleged that the group was "moderated by a bunch of extreme right ppl." These comments remained visible as of May 2, 2026.

Screenshots documenting the full thread, timestamps, and the status of the comments as of May 2, 2026 are attached as Appendix A.

2. Councillor Goguen's Knowledge, Participation, and Moderation

Councillor Goguen had actual knowledge of the thread and its tone through his direct participation. The thread grew more hostile after his interventions. His own statements show that he exercised moderation authority over the group and understood that certain content could be removed if he chose to act.

During the exchange, Councillor Goguen stated:

"as long as everyone is being respectful, we keep the posts up... keep it friendly and we won't have a reason to remove you."

At the same time, comments such as "crazy" and "psycho" remained visible in the thread. His statement therefore coincided with the continued presence of openly derogatory remarks, and his moderation was not applied in a consistent or timely manner.

On May 1, 2026, in direct communication with me, Councillor Goguen stated:

"Sadly because of the election im not as involved with moderation thats mostly ([REDACTED])"

This message is significant because it confirms that he remained aware of moderation issues while also acknowledging that he had reduced oversight. Despite that acknowledgment, he removed the comment attacking my children only after I contacted him directly. The other disparaging comments remained visible for several days.

Councillor Goguen also made light-hearted remarks in the same thread while residents were discussing serious matters, including references to the Portapique tragedy. His participation in the thread, combined with his moderation role, contributed to the appearance that the forum had official credibility and that the standards being applied were inconsistent.

3. Grounds of Complaint

I submit that Councillor Goguen's conduct gives rise to the following grounds of complaint:

(a) Failure to uphold respectful interactions

As administrator of the group and a sitting councillor, Councillor Goguen had the ability to intervene when the thread became abusive. Instead, multiple personal attacks were allowed to remain visible for an extended period. The continued presence of those remarks reflects a failure to maintain the standard of respectful interactions expected under the Code of Conduct.

(b) Lack of professionalism and decorum

The content of the thread was openly personal, disparaging, and humiliating. Councillor Goguen's participation in that environment, including his light-hearted remarks during a serious discussion, fell short of the professionalism and decorum reasonably expected of an elected municipal official.

(c) Inconsistent and selective moderation

Councillor Goguen's public statement that posts would remain up so long as people were "respectful" was not applied consistently. Although one comment was eventually removed after I directly raised the issue, other offensive comments remained visible. This selective enforcement undermines the neutrality and credibility of the moderation process.

(d) Enhanced credibility and public influence arising from official status

Councillor Goguen's role as a municipal councillor increased the perceived credibility of the group and of his moderation decisions. His official position gave added weight to the forum, and his participation signaled to members that the discussion was being monitored by a public official. In that context, his failure to promptly address personal attacks had greater significance than it would have in a private discussion among ordinary users.

(e) Undermining public trust

By allowing repeated personal attacks to remain visible while participating in the thread himself, Councillor Goguen undermined public confidence in the impartiality, professionalism, and integrity expected of elected officials. His conduct created the appearance that standards were being applied unevenly and that personal attacks could be tolerated when directed at certain individuals.

4. Requested Resolution

I respectfully request that the Municipality of Tantramar:

1. open a formal investigation into Councillor Goguen's conduct in relation to the thread;
2. determine whether his conduct breached Bylaw No. 2025-19 and the Local Governance Act;
3. issue appropriate findings and reasons;
4. impose appropriate remedial measures, including a reprimand and mandatory training; and
5. require clarity regarding the separation between Councillor Goguen's municipal role and his moderation of private online platforms where his official status may affect public perception.

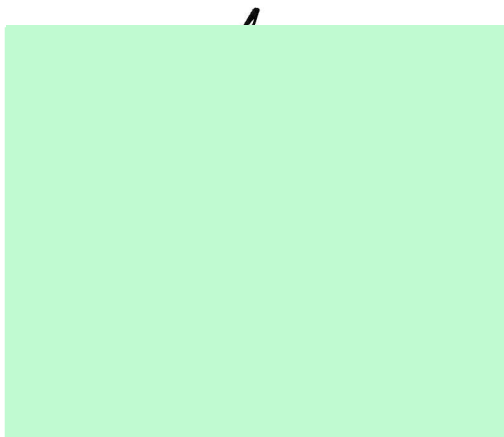
5. Supporting Materials

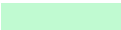
The following materials are provided in support of this complaint:

- Appendix A: Screenshots of the Facebook thread, including timestamps and comment status as of May 2, 2026;
- Appendix B: Direct communications with Councillor Goguen regarding moderation and removal of content.

6. Aggravating Context and Impact This failure of leadership is particularly egregious given that my family has a documented history of systemic stigmatization in this community. The Councilor's decision to allow a public forum for the disparagement of my children and home life is not a victimless oversight; it is a direct contribution to the ongoing marginalization of a resident. This context necessitates a higher standard of care which the Councilor failed to meet.

I trust that this complaint will be reviewed promptly and impartially. Please confirm receipt and advise me of the next steps in the complaint process.



From: 
To: [Andrew Black](#)
Cc: [Becky Goodwin](#); [Jennifer Borne](#)
Subject: Re: Code of Conduct Submission
Date: Monday, May 4, 2026 3:28:31 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-A black an.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Black,

Thank you for the prompt acknowledgement of my complaint. In response to your invitation to provide additional comments for the Council's consideration this afternoon, I submit the following:

This complaint is not merely about a social media dispute; it is about the standard of conduct required of an elected official who chooses to host and moderate a public-facing community forum and the weight that their presence and ownership bring to these online groups and discussions.

The disparaging comments directed at my character, my mental health, and—most egregiously—my children and household, remained visible for several days (and may still be visible) while the Councillor actively participated in the thread. As a regulated professional (RMT) and a constituent, I find the selective enforcement of "respectful" behavior both unprofessional and deeply harmful.

Furthermore, given my family's history of systemic stigmatization in this community, the Councillor's failure to promptly intervene in a "mob" environment on his own platform represents a significant breach of the public trust. It is my expectation that the Municipality of Tanramar will treat this matter with the administrative gravity required by Bylaw No. 2025-19 and the Local Governance Act.

I trust that Council will review the evidence—specifically the duration of the offending posts—and recognize that the integrity of municipal office depends on the consistent application of these standards.

Sincerely,

