

1927

c 232 Bureau of Municipal Affairs Act

Ontario

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Bibliographic Citation

Bureau of Municipal Affairs Act, RSO 1927, c 232

Repository Citation

Ontario (1927) "c 232 Bureau of Municipal Affairs Act," *Ontario: Revised Statutes*: Vol. 1927: Iss. 3, Article 96.

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SECTION XIV.

MUNICIPAL MATTERS.

1. MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS GENERALLY.

CHAPTER 232.

The Bureau of Municipal Affairs Act.

1. In this Act,

Interpre-
tation.

- (a) "Bureau" shall mean The Bureau of Municipal Affairs established under the provisions of this Act; "Bureau."
- (b) "Director" shall mean the Director of the Bureau. "Director."
1917, c. 14, s. 2.

2. There is hereby established a branch of the Public Service of Ontario to be known as "The Bureau of Municipal Affairs." 1917, c. 14, s. 3. Establishment of Bureau.

3. The Bureau shall be attached to such one of the departments of the Public Service as may be designated by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, and shall be under the direction and control of the Minister in charge of that department. 1917, c. 14, s. 4. Bureau to be attached to Department.

4.—(1) The Lieutenant-Governor in Council may appoint an officer to be known as the Director of the Bureau of Municipal Affairs, and such engineers, inspectors, auditors, officers, clerks and servants as may be deemed advisable. 1917, c. 14, s. 5. Director and officers.

(2) The Director may be a member of The Railway and Municipal Board, and in such event shall be paid his salary as such member in addition to his salary as Director. 1919, c. 48, s. 2, *part*. Director may be member of Ry. & Mun. Bd.

Director's rank.

Rev. Stat. c. 16, 25.

5. The Director for the purposes of *The Public Service Act* and *The Audit Act* shall rank as the deputy head of a department and in respect to matters assigned to the Bureau shall exercise and perform the powers and duties of the deputy head of a department. 1917, c. 14, s. 6.

Director to preside over Bureau.

6. The Director, acting under the direction of the Minister, shall preside over the Bureau and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council or by the Minister. 1917, c. 14, s. 7.

Officers to report to director.

7. Wherever by any Act of this Legislature an officer engaged in the administration of the law relating to any of the matters assigned to the Bureau by this Act is directed to report to the Minister, the report shall, unless the Minister otherwise requires, be made to the Director, and every such officer shall act under and obey the directions of the Director. 1917, c. 14, s. 8.

Administration of Rev. Stat. c. 243.

8.—(1) There shall be assigned to the Bureau the administration of *The Municipal and School Accounts Audit Act*.

Certain Officers attached to Bureau.

(2) The Provincial Municipal Auditor shall be an officer of the Bureau.

Returns to Bureau.

(3) All returns required by any Act to be made to the Secretary of the Bureau of Industries by any municipal officer shall hereafter be made to the Director. 1917, c. 14, s. 9.

Superintendence of bookkeeping etc., of public utilities.

9.—(1) The Bureau shall superintend the system of book-keeping and keeping accounts of the assets, liabilities, revenue and expenditure of all public utilities as defined by *The Public Utilities Act* which are operated by or under the control of a municipal corporation or a municipal commission, and may require from any such municipal corporation or commission such returns and statements as to the Bureau may seem proper, and may extract from such returns and statements such information as, in the opinion of the Bureau, may be useful for publication, and may embody such portions of such returns and statements in the annual report of the Bureau as to it may seem proper.

Rev. Stat. c. 249.

Penalties.

(2) A municipal corporation or commission which refuses or neglects to comply with the provisions of this section shall incur a penalty not exceeding \$100 for every week it may be in default, recoverable under *The Summary Convictions Act*, and in addition the Bureau may authorize an auditor to secure such returns and statements at the expense of the municipal corporation or commission.

Rev. Stat. c. 121.

Section not to apply to electric power commission.

(3) This section shall not apply to a public utility for the development or distribution of electrical power or energy operated or controlled by a municipal corporation or commission. 1917, c. 14, s. 10.

10. It shall be the duty of the Bureau to

Duties of Bureau.

- (a) Issue from time to time and send to the clerk of every municipality bulletins dealing with the administration of each branch of municipal affairs in order to secure uniformity, efficiency and economy in such administration ; Bulletin.
- (b) Collect such statistical and other information respecting the affairs of municipal corporations in Ontario as may be deemed necessary or expedient from time to time ; Statistics.
- (c) Inquire into, consider and report upon the operation of laws in force in other provinces of the Dominion and in Great Britain and in any foreign country having for their object the more efficient government and administration of the affairs of municipal corporations, and make such recommendations and suggestions thereon as may be deemed advisable ; Inquiry into laws in force in other countries.
- (d) Consider and report when requested by the Minister upon any petition for or suggestion of a change in the laws of Ontario relating to the powers and duties of municipal corporations ; Report on proposed changes in law.
- (e) Prepare and transmit to the Lieutenant-Governor in Council annually a report upon the work of the Bureau during the preceding year together with such statistics and other information as may have been collected in the Bureau ; Annual report.
- (f) Perform such other duties as may from time to time be assigned to it by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. 1917, c. 14, s. 11. Other duties.

11. Nothing in this Act shall affect any of the powers conferred by any Act on The Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario, The Railway and Municipal Board, the Department of Health, or any functionary, body or officer, and if any matter affecting any of such powers comes to the Bureau it shall be transferred to the proper functionary, body or officer to be dealt with. 1917, c. 14, s. 12. Powers conferred on certain bodies and officers not affected.