

Legislative
Assembly
of Ontario



Assemblée
législative
de l'Ontario

Office of the Integrity Commissioner
The Honourable J. David Wake, Commissioner

Bureau du commissaire à l'intégrité
L'Honorable J. David Wake, Commissaire

CONFIDENTIAL

January 31, 2023

The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier
Room 281, Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

I write further to our telephone discussion on January 25, 2023. You advised that your office received a media inquiry with respect to the guest list and gifts received by your daughter at her stag and doe party and wedding, which took place on August 11, 2022, and September 25, 2022, respectively. The media inquiry identified various developers whom you confirmed were in attendance. You indicated that they are personal friends some of whom you have known for decades. You also confirmed that you were not involved in the planning of the wedding and you have no knowledge of any of the gifts that were given to your daughter and son in-law or from whom they were given. You also confirmed that you did not receive any money from any of the guests to help pay for the wedding or the stag and doe party.

Based on the information provided, it is my opinion that it was permissible to invite personal friends who happen to be government stakeholders to events such as a wedding and stag and doe provided that there is adherence to the *Members' Integrity Act, 1994* ("Act"). You confirmed that no government confidential information was discussed at these events. Nor is there anything to suggest that the invitations were designed to benefit anyone improperly.

The gift provisions in the Act pertain to gifts or benefits received by MPPs that are connected with the performance of their duties of Office. As such, the gift rule is not applicable to any gifts received by your daughter and son in-law at the wedding or at the stag and doe.

Accordingly, based on this information, it is my opinion that there was nothing to indicate non-compliance with the Act.

My opinions pursuant to section 28 of the Act are confidential but may be released with the member's consent. I confirm that I have received your authorization to release information contained in this letter in response to a media inquiry.

Sincerely,

[original signed by]

The Honourable J David Wake
Integrity Commissioner