

## Statement from the City of Mount Pearl

**June 26, 2020** - The City of Mount Pearl stated today that Steve Kent's Facebook Messenger was found on his city owned iPad through banner notifications on the screen. The CAO left the iPad unlocked and his Facebook account logged in such that the preview ribbon popped up on the screen and the full messages were available without any need for password. It became obvious that there was continuous communication by Steve Kent related to the harassment investigation and other City related issues that would be considered inappropriate behaviour of someone currently under investigation. It is also important that the City clarify that neither the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, nor the Acting Director of Corporate Services had access or visibility to the iPad or the Facebook Messenger account.

The iPad was a City owned device provided to assist the CAO with his duties and subject to the City's Appropriate Use of IT Resources Policy. The Policy reads that the City provides IT resources for business use only and encourages employees not to use its resources outside of business activities. It also provides that any record retained on a City-owned device is in the custody and control of the City and may potentially be subject to an access to information request.

The CAO can reset his password to his Facebook account remotely or otherwise change the settings so that the information in his account cannot be captured or accessed on his City iPad; however, he had not done this. There was no password required, it was open and available.