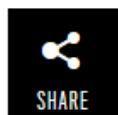




The city of Montreal's inspector general's office. PHIL CARPENTER / MONTREAL GAZETTE FILES



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What's scarier: shutting down a Hells Angels bunker or facing a pack of reporters at city hall, a journalist jokingly asked Montreal's new inspector general.



ADJUST

Oh, the journalists, quipped Brigitte Bishop, whose five-year appointment was unanimously approved by city council on Monday.

As a crown prosecutor for 27 years, Bishop helped shut down several bunkers belonging to biker gangs and confiscate millions of dollars worth of property acquired with the proceeds of crime.



COMMENT

Now, as head of the Bureau de l'Inspecteur Général (BIG), responsible for rooting out corruption and collusion at the city of Montreal, Bishop said she would "do everything in my power to live up to the confidence (members of city council) have placed in me."



PRINT

"We will keep up the pressure in our struggle against corruption and for integrity," she said in her first meeting with reporters at city hall.

Bishop replaces previous Inspector General Denis Gallant, to whom she was second-in-command until his departure in June to head the Autorité des marchés publics. She has been serving as interim director since then.

As inspector general, Bishop is in charge of scrutinizing city contracts, investigating construction

sites, and lifting the cover on the city's secretive non-profit organizations.

Her 32-member staff includes lawyers, detectives, engineers, IT specialists and accountants.

Priorities for the next year include investigations into large city contracts, contaminated soil, and enforcing new transparency rules for municipal non-profit organizations, she said.

Previous mayor Denis Coderre created the BIG in 2014, appointing Gallant, a star prosecutor for the Charbonneau Commission into corruption and collusion.

Reporting to city council, the IG has the power to enter any city department, including the mayor's office, and search through documents and computer records. She can also investigate companies providing products or services for the city.

"It's clear that I will maintain continuity with what the Bureau de l'Inspecteur Général has been doing since 2014," Bishop said.

"I will continue running the BIG with the same values and the same mission."

advised me she changed into averaging \$ninety five however I see the way it works now. I experience masses freedom now that i'm my non-public boss. that is what I do.....GOOD LUCK ●

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