

Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act Summary of Changes

January 2026

Summary of amendments to the ***Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*** (EFCDA) contained in Bill 14: *Justice Statutes Amendment Act*, which came into force December 11, 2025.

Registration, requirements and records

- Amended clauses regarding political party names to not allow registration of a political party or a name change of a registered political party if the proposed name or abbreviation of the name of a political party to:
 - so nearly resemble the name or abbreviation of the name of a registered party or local political party that the proposed name or abbreviation of the name has the potential to be confused with it; or
 - uses a distinctive word or phrase uniquely associated with a registered party. (s.7(3)(a)); or
 - was the name or abbreviation of the name of, or so nearly resembles the name or abbreviation that it has the potential to be confused with, or uses a distinctive word or phrase that is uniquely associated with, a predecessor party or registered predecessor party (s.7(3)(a.2) and s.7(3.1)(a) and s.7(3)(b.2)).
- This does not apply if the proposed name or abbreviation is the name or abbreviation of a predecessor or registered predecessor party to the political party or registered political party (s.7(3.2)).
- Added a list of distinctive words or phrases that cannot be used:
 - advantage,
 - communist,
 - conservative,
 - democratic,
 - green,
 - independence,
 - liberal,
 - pro-life,
 - reform,
 - republican,
 - solidarity, or
 - wildrose (s.7(6)).
- An application for candidate for an election or Senate election registration must include a statement from the leader of the registered party attesting they have been endorsed as a candidate of registered party (previously, one of the principal officers of the registered party or applicable constituency association could make this attestation). (s.9(2.1)(a)(i)).
- Removed “registered” from predecessor party. (s.10(1.2)).

Transitional Provisions

- If a political party filed an application for registration between July 4, 2025, and December 10, 2025, and the name no longer meets the requirements of the amended legislation (s.57(2)), the political party may change its application for registration within 60 days of December 11, 2025, to reflect a name that meets the new requirements. (s.57(3)). If it does not amend its application,
 - if the CEO has not registered the political party, the application is deemed to never have been made (s.57(4)(a)).
 - if the CEO has registered the political party, the CEO must cancel the registration (s.57(4)(b)).
- If a registered party notified the CEO of a change to their party name between July 4, 2025, and December 10, 2025, and the name no longer meets the requirements of the amended legislation (s.57(5)),
 - the political party may change its notification within 60 days of December 11, 2025, to reflect a name that meets the new requirements (s.57(6)).
 - if it does not change its notification, the application is deemed to never have been made and the CEO will revert the registration back to reflect the name or abbreviation of the party to what it was before the notification. (s.57(7)).



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