

A REPORT OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

UNDER THE ELECTION ACT AND ELECTION
FINANCES AND CONTRIBUTIONS DISCLOSURE ACT



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November 2022

Chair, Standing Committee on Legislative Offices
6th Floor, Federal Building
9820 107 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1E7

Dear Chair:

It is my honour to submit to you, Elections Alberta's 2021-22 Annual Report on the *Election Act* and *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*.

This Report is submitted pursuant to section 4(7) of the *Election Act*, RSA 2000, Chapter E-1 and section 4(2) of the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*, RSA 2000, Chapter E-2. The Report also includes this Office's financial statements as of March 31, 2022.

Should you require clarification or additional information, I would be pleased to respond.

Sincerely,

[Original signed by Glen Resler, CPA, CMA]
Chief Electoral Officer and Election Commissioner

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from the Chief Electoral Officer	1
ABOUT US	3
Overview.....	3
Report Highlights.....	4
Our Organization	5
Core Services, Goals and Strategies	8
Business Cycle	9
Activity Timeline	10
Legislation We Administer.....	11
POLITICAL PARTICIPANTS	13
Overview.....	13
2021 Financial Summary	14
Financial Reporting Modernization.....	15
Political Parties	21
Registration	21
2021 Contributions to Parties	22
Party Contributions History.....	24
Annual Financial Statements	25
Reserved Party Names	26
Constituency Associations	27
Registration	27
2021 Contributions to Constituency Associations	28
Constituency Association Contributions History	29
Annual Financial Statements	30
Third Party Advertisers	31
Definitions.....	31
Registration	32
2021 Contributions to PTPAs	33
2021 PTPA Contributors	34
PTPA and ETPA Contributions History	35
Annual Financial Statements	36
Leadership Contestants	38
Registration	38
Leadership Campaign Financial Statements.....	38
COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT.....	41
Overview.....	41
Investigation Process	41
Complaints and Investigations	42
Complaint Types.....	43
Findings and Decisions	46
Letters of Reprimand and Administrative Penalties	47
Appeals, Judicial Reviews and Court Decisions.....	52

Penalty Framework Process Tested.....	57
Misinformation and Disinformation	57
WHAT'S NEW	59
Legislation.....	59
Election Act.....	59
Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act.....	60
Recall Act	61
Citizen Initiative Act	61
Preparation for the 31st Provincial General Election	62
Tax Credits for Contributions.....	64
Looking Ahead.....	66
Calgary-Elbow	66
Leadership Contests.....	66
Nomination Contests.....	68
RECOMMENDATIONS.....	73
Recommendations for the Election Act	73
Recommendations for the Local Authorities Election Act, Parts 5.1, 8 and 9.....	76
FINANCIAL RESULTS	87
Management's Responsibility for Financial Reporting	87
Results Analysis	88
Financial Statements	96
APPENDICES	115
Appendix A: 2021 Party Contributions by Quarter.....	115
Appendix B: 2021 Party Contributions up to \$250 & over \$250.....	115
Appendix C: Party Net Assets (Liabilities) as of December 31, 2021	116
Appendix D: 2021 Constituency Association (CA) Contributions by Quarter	116
Appendix E: 2021 Constituency Association (CA) Contributions up to \$250 & over \$250	117
Appendix F: Constituency Association Net Assets (Liabilities) as of December 31, 2021	117
Appendix G: 2021 PTPA Contributions by Quarter.....	118
Appendix H: 2021 PTPA Contributions up to \$250 & over \$250.....	119
Appendix I: PTPA Net Assets (Liabilities) as of December 31, 2021.....	120
Appendix J: ETPA Net Assets (Liabilities) as of December 31, 2021	121
Appendix K: Party Registrations of at March 31, 2022.....	121
Appendix L: Constituency Association Registrations as of March 31, 2022	122
Appendix M: Third Party Advertiser Registrations as at March 31, 2022	124
Appendix N: Amendments contained in Bill 81: <i>Election Statutes Amendment Act</i>	125

Message from the Chief Electoral Officer

I am pleased to provide the 2021-22 Annual Report. It reflects the third year in our electoral business cycle in preparing for the 2023 Provincial General Election. Significant effort by staff has been undertaken to implement our election plan and modernize Alberta's electoral process to better serve Albertans.

Key to our modernization plan are the legislative recommendations that were enacted under Bill 81, the *Election Statutes Amendment Act*, which came into force on March 31, 2022. One of the key changes was the setting of a fixed election date, with the 31st provincial general election being scheduled for May 29, 2023. Having the date of the election has allowed our returning office staff to engage in their communities early, booking facilities to use as voting places, renting returning office space, and working with facilities eligible for mobile voting, as well as Métis Settlements and First Nations on establishing preferred voting options. Changes to the electoral legislation not only impact how we conduct the election, but also have impacted registration and financial rules for political participants. My Office has commenced communications with all stakeholders on the legislative changes and modernizations for 2023 and will continue to share information in the lead up to the next Provincial General Election to ensure that both electors and political participants are prepared to participate in the process.



Changes to our processes, systems and resources will continue to be a major focus of my Office as we prepare for the general election. Our electoral management legacy system used to administer and monitor electoral events for over 20 years has served us well, but is currently being phased out as we customize a new solution. Significant resources have been directed into replacing the system and we had the opportunity to test portions of it in two recent by-elections in Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche and Brooks-Medicine Hat, with full implementation planned for 2023. Additionally, to address constraints and inefficient processing of payments for election officers and vendors through the government 1GX payroll/vendor management system, we engaged with an external payroll provider to allow election officers and vendors to be paid in a timely manner. A staffing module and payroll interface is also being built into the new election management system.

In addition to general election preparations, significant resources were dedicated throughout 2021-2022 to the October 18, 2021 local elections, which included the Senate Election and Referendum Vote. My Office provided oversight on the conduct of the Senate Election and

Referendum Vote and has released a report on our activities and recommendations related to that event on September 26, 2022. Additionally, as Election Commissioner, my Office was responsible for the enforcement of candidate campaign financing and third party advertising rules under the *Local Authorities Elections Act* (LAEA), which resulted in processing hundreds of complaints and allegations of non-compliance under the LAEA. The recommendations found in this report are largely a result of the activities, questions and issues that arose during the local elections.

Looking ahead, as we move into year four of our electoral business cycle, my Office is fully underway with election preparations including material and supply purchasing, staff recruitment and communications planning. All materials, equipment and supplies used to deliver an election are purchased centrally and distributed from our central warehouse to the 95 office locations across Alberta. Supply chain issues and increased costs have posed numerous challenges to our ability to purchase and receive the supplies that we need in a timely matter. We appreciate our vendors who have gone above and beyond to ensure that we can access the products and materials that are key to election delivery.

Efforts have also been made to ramp up our staffing resources both at Elections Alberta's head office and for the Returning Offices. Over the course of the electoral cycle, Elections Alberta increases from our core office staff of 36 to over 20,000 election workers. At this stage in the cycle, we are working towards hiring the 450 staff needed for the returning offices and increasing capacity at Elections Alberta to support the returning offices, as well as supporting key elector services such as special ballot processing and the call centre. With our rapid pace of recruitment, training is a vital component to our success and will absorb significant resources in the coming months.

Finally, with an eye to the legislative changes that will impact all electors, such as the new mandatory identification requirement, my Office is working on communication materials and our advertising campaign for 2023. Our mandate includes the responsibility to provide stakeholders with the information and means to participate in the democratic process and we do not want anyone to be caught off-guard by these changes. Elections Alberta will be very active in the months leading up to the general election to engage and communicate with electors. This has increased our budgetary, staffing and resource needs, however, is integral to providing an easily accessible electoral process to the electors of Alberta.

I look forward to delivering the 31st Provincial General Election, my 12th electoral event since becoming Alberta's Chief Electoral Officer.

[Original signed by Glen Resler, CPA, CMA]
Chief Electoral Officer and Election Commissioner

ABOUT US

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Overview











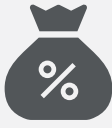
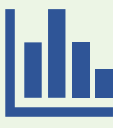

Elections Alberta is a **non-partisan, independent** office of the Legislative Assembly responsible for administering provincial elections, by-elections, and referenda.

*We conduct free and fair elections . . . and
much more.*

We **regulate** Alberta's electoral legislation to safeguard confidence in the election process. We **promote** the right to vote and to run for public office. We **educate** voters, future voters, and political participants to enable their lawful and peaceful participation. We **disclose** election results and political participants' financial activities to ensure transparency, fairness and to guard against undue influence. We **sanction** those who do not comply, or interfere, with election laws.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

This annual report covers the 2021-22 fiscal year, with a focus on financial reporting by political participants, our activities in compliance and enforcement, and our financial results.¹ Sections and highlights are outlined below.

1 About Us	2 Political Participants	3 Compliance & Enforcement	4 What's New	5 LAEA Recommendations	6 Financial Results	7 Appendices
Our operations and the provincial statutes we administer	Who we regulate and how much they raised and spent	Our compliance investigations activities	Our electoral news and events of interest	Our recommendations to the Local Authorities Election Act	Our budget and what we spent	Registration and financial data for political participants, and more
HIGHLIGHTS/PAGES						
						
Activity Timeline Page 10	2021 Financial Summary Page 14	Complaints and Investigations Page 41	Preparation for the General Election Page 62	Recommendations Page 73	Results Analysis Page 88	Party Contributions Data Page 115
						
Legislation We Administer Page 11	Financial Reporting Modernization Page 15	Findings and Decisions Page 46	Tax credit Data Page 64		Financial Statements Page 96	Constituency Association Contributions Page 116

¹ We publish separate reports following major electoral events.

OUR ORGANIZATION

Elections Alberta, in response to our expanding mandate and to meet the resourcing requirements of the 2023 Provincial General Election, initiated an organizational restructuring in 2021-2022.

Notable changes by department include:

EXECUTIVE structure was expanded by adding the Deputy Commissioner, Financial Compliance and Enforcement position. This position is responsible for all financial compliance and enforcement activities, as well as the Office's corporate finance. The Deputy Chief Electoral Officer retained the responsibility for overseeing the conduct and delivery of the election, as well as the Office's corporate services, operations, IT and geomatics activities. The Chief Electoral Officer and Election Commissioner continues to be a shared role.

COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT has brought on additional investigative resources to manage increasingly complex and expanding complaint volumes, arising, in part, out of the Election Commissioner's new oversight of Parts 5.1 and 8 of the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

ELECTORAL FINANCE was restructured under two team leads, one focused on managing, auditing and completing public reporting of political participant financial disclosures, while the other manages the corporate financial responsibilities for the Office, including the budgeting, management and payment of all expenses, leases, rentals, and payroll for the election.

CORPORATE SERVICES was expanded by moving the Office's human resources, advertising, writing and media relations responsibilities into this area. These changes reflect the importance of having dedicated personnel performing these functions and ensuring the cohesive and consistent application of policy and procedure in this critical area.

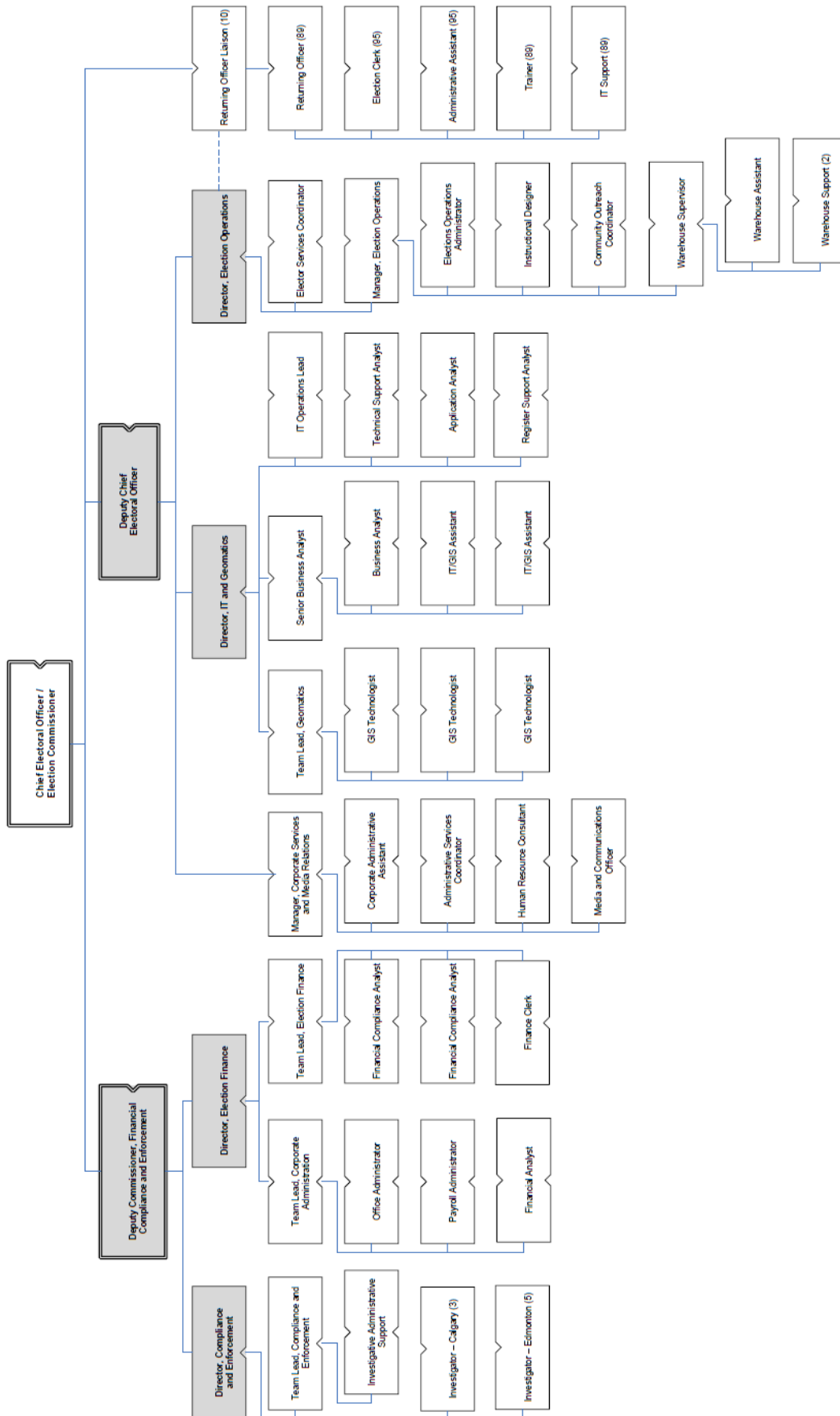
IT AND GEOMATICS added resources to provide additional focus on equipping our returning offices with phones, internet and computer hardware, software and services and to support our election management and financial reporting systems. They will also work with our returning officers on the redrawing of voting area boundaries and development of our election maps.

ELECTION OPERATIONS is ramping up for the Provincial General Election, with additional resources being added to support warehouse activities, as well as the recruitment, hiring, and opening of a provincial call centre and Special Ballot team. Additional resources are also anticipated to open six satellite returning offices during the election period. These offices will be located in large geographical electoral divisions, providing electors, candidates, and election officers with additional access to returning office services.



Elections Alberta's leadership team, from left to right:

LaRae Petrosky - Director Election Operations, Blair Edl - Director Compliance and Enforcement, Steve Kaye - Deputy Commissioner Financial Compliance and Enforcement, Glen Resler - Chief Electoral Officer and Election Commissioner, Pamela Renwick - Deputy Chief Electoral Officer, Sunday Akintunde - Director Election Finances, Ryan Phillips - Acting Director IT and Geomatics



Core Services, Goals and Strategies

Our core services and goals are summarized below. Our business plan for 2020-24, including key performance indicators, is posted on our website under Resources > Reports.

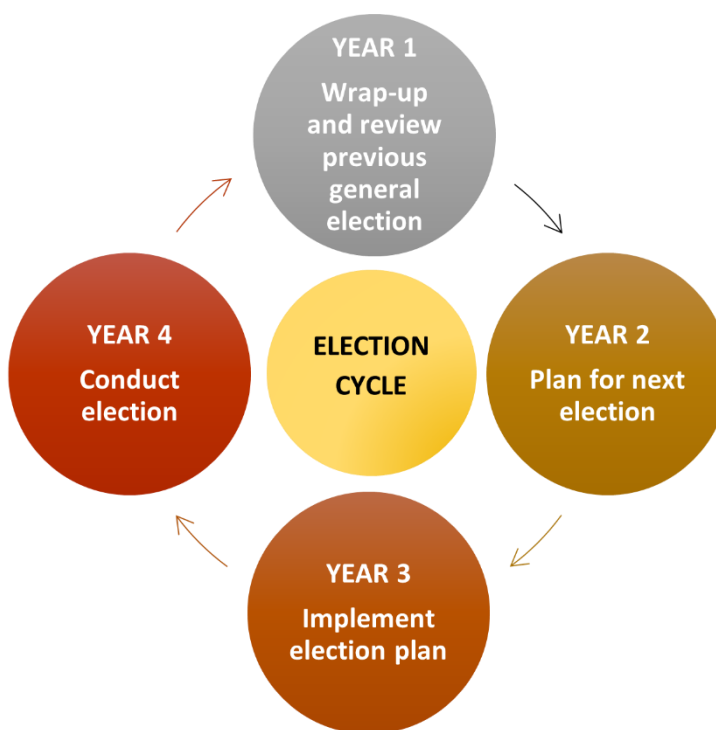
CORE LINES OF SERVICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Corporate Services• Election Operations• Financial Administration and Compliance• Voter Registration and Register Maintenance• Education, Communications, and Outreach
GOAL 1 INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF ELECTION ADMINISTRATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review and update the voting process, finding opportunities for modernization and cost savings, while maintaining a timely, efficient, and accessible system.• Collaborate with Municipal Affairs and with Alberta municipalities in preparing for the anticipated October 18, 2021, Senate Election and Referendum Vote.
GOAL 2 INCREASE SERVICES AND ACCESSIBILITY FOR STAKEHOLDERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide more accessible information to political participants.• Review and improve polling place and voting opportunities for electors, considering polling subdivision boundaries, standards for determining polling place locations, and communication of accessibility criteria.• Modernize the Register, IT infrastructure, Election Management System, and Geographic Information Systems to increase usability and efficiency.• Review and update register-to-vote activities using best practices to maintain and improve the quality of the Register of Electors.

Continued on the next page

GOAL 3 PROVIDE EFFECTIVE OVERSIGHT OF ELECTORAL FINANCE ACTIVITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributors and political participants are fully informed about electoral finance legislation and policies. • Systems and processes are in place to safeguard and strengthen public confidence in the electoral process. • Deliver efficient and cost-effective corporate finance services. • Investigation activities utilize a structured, best practice, balanced, non-partisan approach, centred on compliance, prevention, and intervention.
GOAL 4 INCREASE ALBERTANS' AWARENESS AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote knowledge and awareness between and during events, including sharing information on new legislation. • Strengthen ongoing community partnerships. • Expand educational outreach. • Build and communicate safeguards and structures to strengthen confidence in the electoral process.

BUSINESS CYCLE

We operate on a four-year cycle driven by the timing of provincial general elections. The cycle starts when an election ends, with the completion of financial filings and an evaluation of lessons learned. We assess, plan and develop new technologies and systems, and implement these changes to deliver an engaging, cost-effective and functional election at the end of the four-year cycle.



ACTIVITY TIMELINE

Our key electoral activities completed in 2021-2022 are noted below. Ongoing services and initiatives are over and above these activities.

LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS to the *Election Act* and *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* went into force on March 31, 2022. We updated our website content to align with the changes on March 31 and are working through full implementation of these changes for the 2023 Provincial General Election.

NEW LEGISLATION, the *Citizen Initiative Act* and the *Recall Act* came into force on April 7, 2022. Processes and forms were developed for both pieces of legislation, so that interested participants could be informed of the process.

The **SENATE ELECTION** and **REFERENDUM VOTE** was conducted on October 18, 2021 in conjunction with the municipal elections. Provincial results were released on October 25, 2021. Albertans selected three senate nominees. These individuals may be summoned to the Senate of Canada, to fill a vacancy or vacancies relating to Alberta. Albertans also responded to two referendum questions:

- Should section 36(2) of the *Constitution Act, 1982* – Parliament and the government of Canada’s commitment to the principle of making equalization payments – be removed from the constitution?
- Do you want Alberta to adopt year-round Daylight Saving Time, which is summer hours, eliminating the need to change our clocks twice a year?

The Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the Senate Election and Referendum Vote is available online at elections.ab.ca under Resources>Reports>Senate and Referendum

The Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche **BY-ELECTION** was held on March 15, 2022. The Chief Electoral Officer’s Report on the By-Election will be released in Early 2023.

LEGISLATION WE ADMINISTER

Legislative changes are critical to our planning and timelines. Elections Alberta currently has jurisdiction over seven *Acts*.

<div>Election Act</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct provincial elections, enumerations, by-elections and plebiscites• Maintain a permanent Register of Electors• Investigate complaints of possible violations, and consent to prosecution if warranted	<div>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act (EFCDA)</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enforce election finance rules through collection, review and disclosure of political participant financial reports• Maintain a register of political participants• Assist individuals and groups forming new political entities• Investigate complaints of possible violations, and consent to prosecution if warranted	
<div>Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA)</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Investigate complaints of possible violations related to candidate campaign finances• Investigate complaints of possible violations related to third party advertisers	<div>Alberta Senate Election Act (ASEA)</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Conduct</u> the vote for a senate election held with a provincial general election or as a stand-alone election• <u>Oversee</u> the vote for a senate election held with a local authority election	<div>Referendum Act</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Conduct</u> the vote for a referendum held with a provincial general election or as a stand-alone event• <u>Oversee</u> the vote for a referendum held with a local authority election
<div>Recall Act</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review, approve and verify petitions for the recall of a Member of Legislative Assembly• Conduct recall votes, where recall petitions are successful• Enforce election finance rules through collection, review and disclosure of political participant financial reports	<div>Citizen Initiative Act</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review, approve and verify petitions for legislative or constitutional referendum proposals• Refer successful petitions to the Legislative Assembly, or conduct initiative or referendum votes, as the case may be• Enforce election finance rules through collection, review and disclosure of political participant financial reports	

POLITICAL PARTICIPANTS

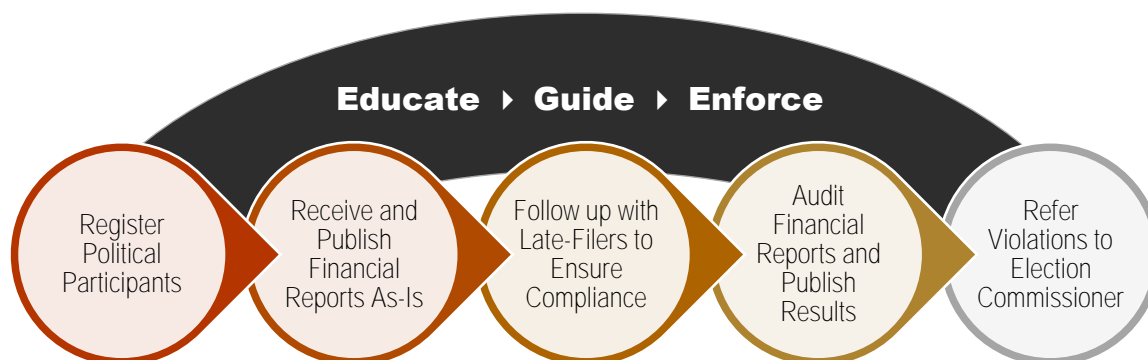
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Overview

Elections Alberta regulates the activities of provincial parties, constituency associations, candidates, nomination contestants, leadership contestants and third party advertisers. These political participants must follow political fund-raising and spending rules under the EFCDA.²

Participants must report their revenue sources and spending activities to us, which we publicly disclose. After examining the information submitted to our Office, we disclose the results of our audits. Violations are referred to our Compliance and Enforcement Unit.

Our objective is to apply continuous quality-improvement methods to identify and grow best practices in the regulation of election finances.

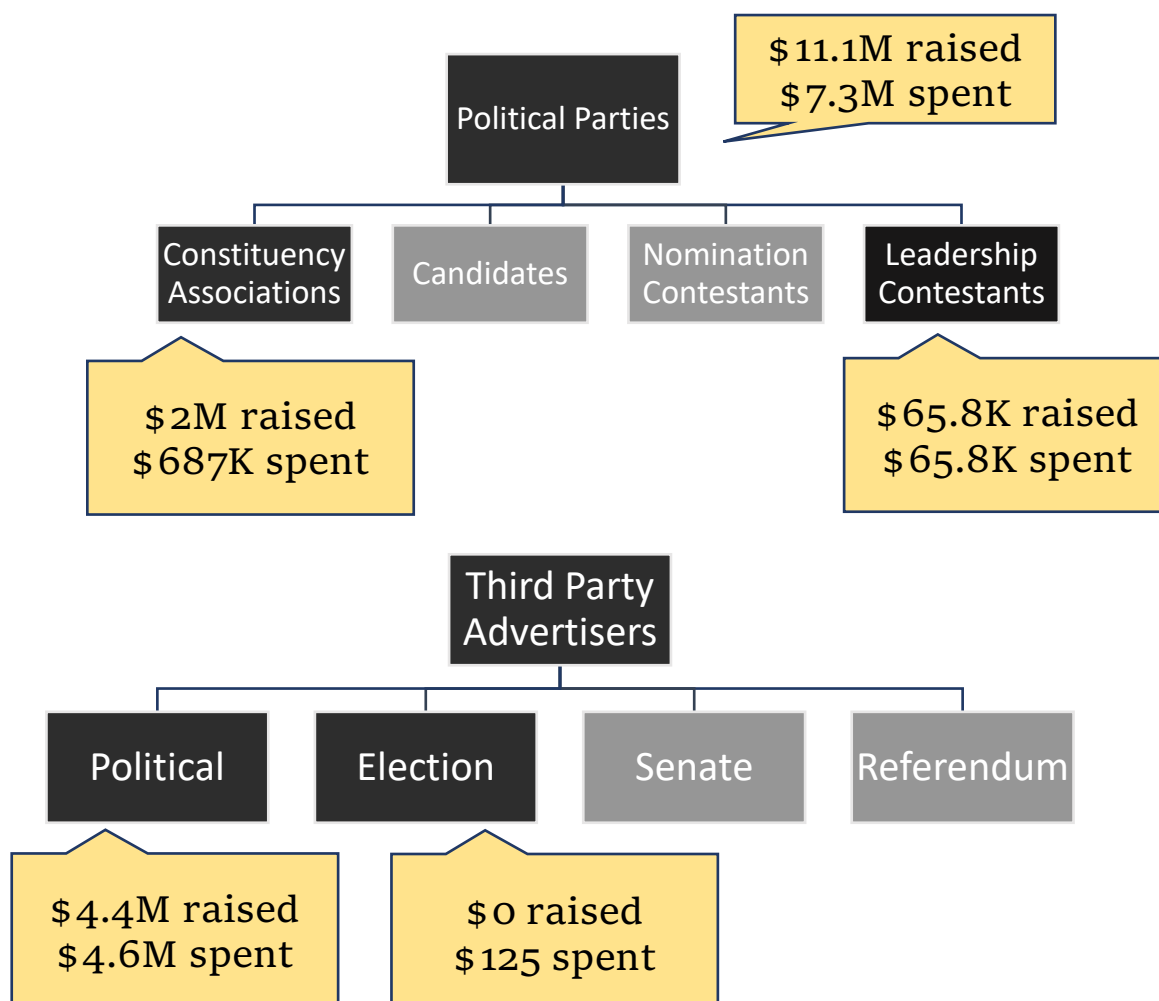


² Elections Alberta does not register political participants for local authorities elections. These participants register with their local authority and follow financing rules under the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

2021 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Parties, constituency associations, political third party advertisers (PTPAs), and election third party advertisers (ETPAs) have all filed their financial reports for the 2021 calendar year. As well, three parties held leadership contests, and their leadership contestants filed financial reports for their campaigns.³ The total revenues and expenses which were reported are provided below.

Figure 1: 2021 Total Revenue and Expenses Reported by Political Participants



³ Financial information filed by registered senate candidates, registered senate third party advertisers, and registered referendum third party advertisers appears in the *Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the October 18, 2021 Senate Election and Referendum Vote*. Financial information filed by registered by-election nomination contestants and registered by-election candidates and their parties, will appear in the *Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the March 15, 2022 Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche By-Election* to be released in Early 2023.

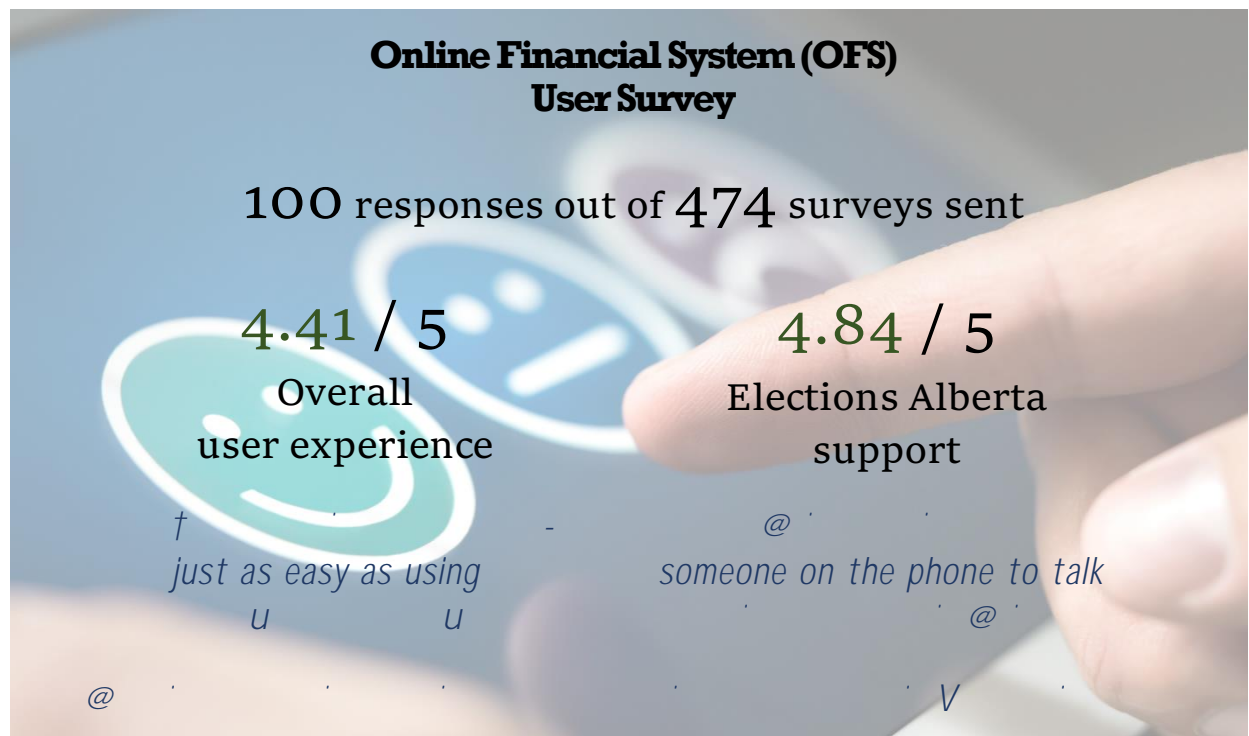
Financial Reporting Modernization

The development of our Online Financial System (OFS) has transformed how political participants report their financial activities, in addition to streamlining our compliance and review processes.

In 2021-22, we increased the systems functionality by adding additional financial statement modules. Participants, listed below, are now able to populate and submit their financial statements electronically:

- ▶ Parties
- ▶ Constituency Associations (CA's)
- ▶ Candidates
- ▶ Nomination Contestants
- ▶ Leadership Contestants
- ▶ Political Third Party Advertisers
- ▶ Election Third Party Advertisers

Our 2021 annual survey results are highlighted below.



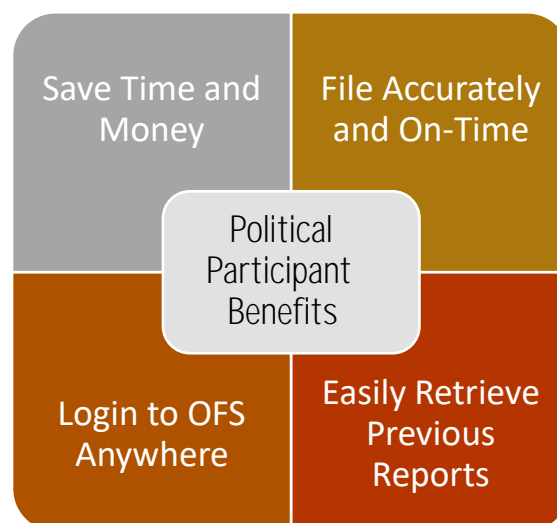
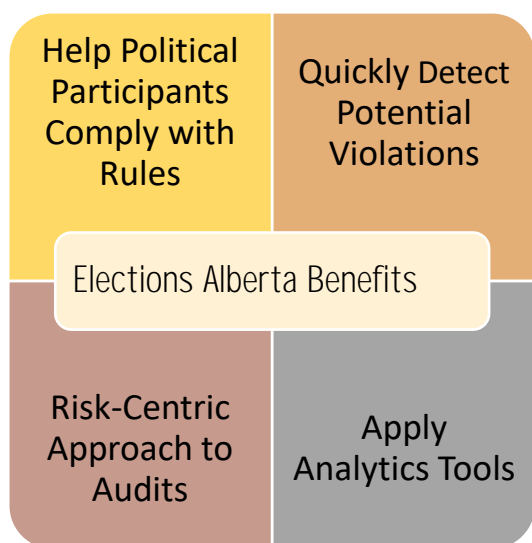
Key Benefits of Modernization



Improvements to financial reporting are beneficial for political participants as well as Elections Alberta, as the regulator.

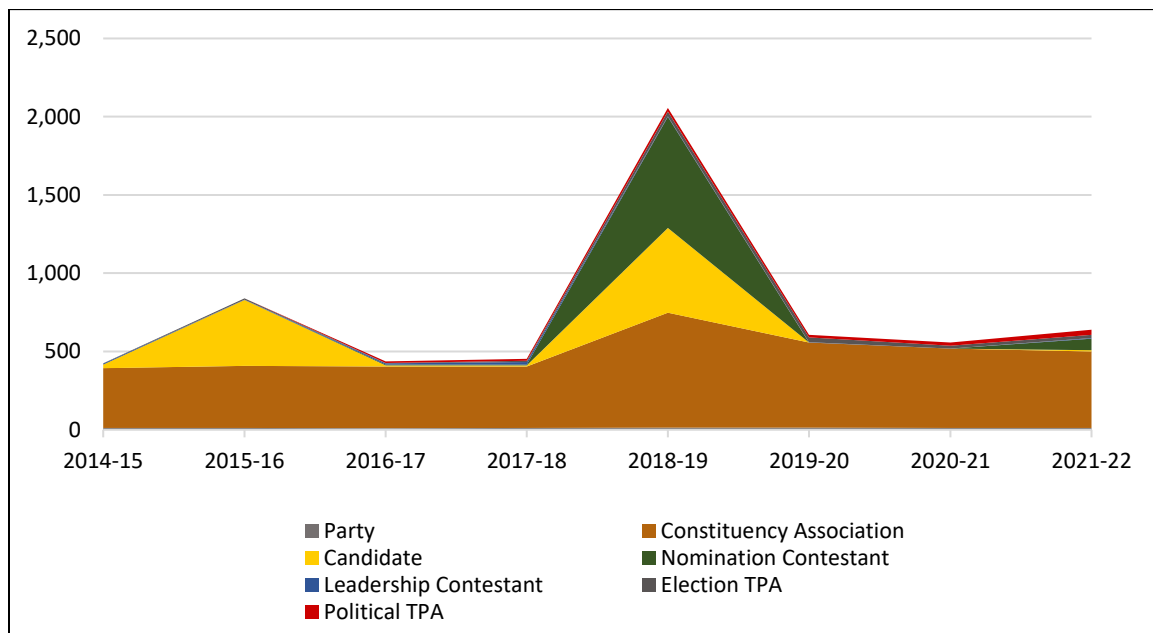
Participants can login to OFS from anywhere, save on printing and postage, avoid late fees, eliminate mathematical errors, and access previous reports to ensure accuracy.

Elections Alberta can apply a more risk-centric approach to improved allocation of election finance resources. Automation allows us to verify financial information to ensure reasonableness and accuracy, in addition to better detection and resolution of potential violations.



For the 2019 Provincial General Election there were over 2,000 registered political participants that were required to file financial returns and all were filed on paper. As the graph shows, the number of registrations follows the election cycle. We expect similar registration and financial return volumes for the 2023 Provincial General Election. We look forward to the convenience and benefits that electronic filing will provide.

Figure 2: Volume of Registered Political Participants

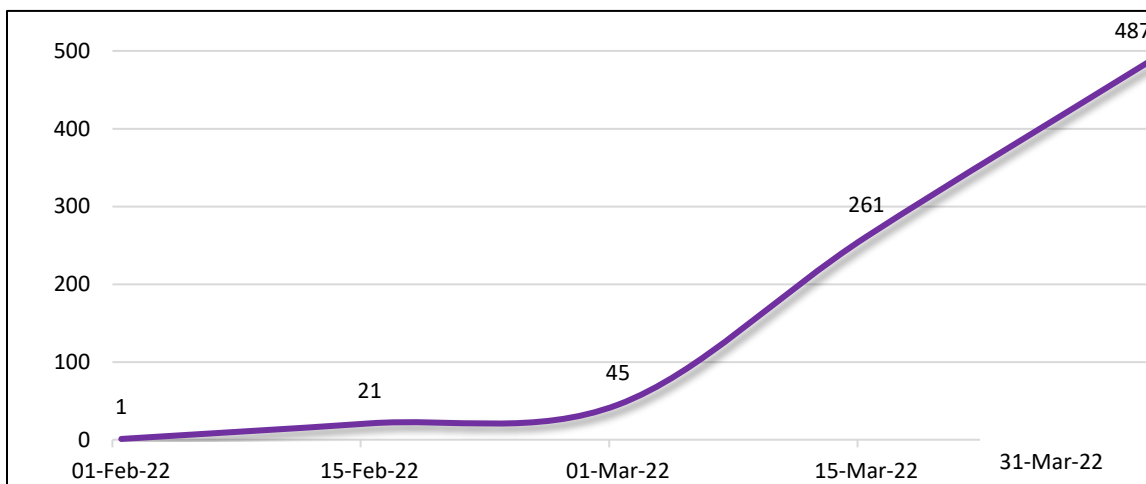


Financial Submissions

We can track, in real time, contribution reports and financial statements that we receive from political participants. We can filter the information for any event, entity, or status.

Figure 3 below shows the progress of 2021 constituency association financial statement submissions from February 1 to the filing deadline March 31, 2022.

Figure 3: Constituency Association Financial Statement Submissions February 1 - March 31, 2022



99.8% of 2021 constituency association financial reports were submitted online and on time.

Contributions

In 2021, individuals living in Alberta could contribute up to **\$4,243** to political participants.⁴

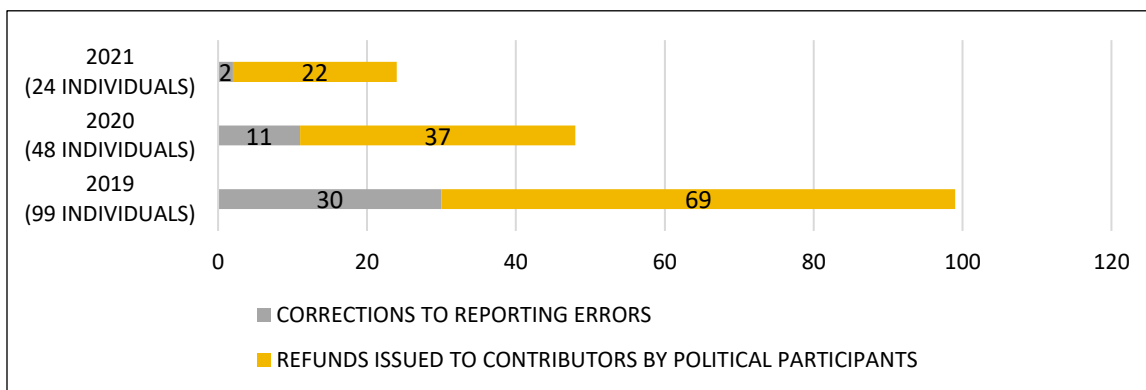
We continually monitor contributions reported in OFS and use an automated tool that aggregates contributions across all parties and participants. We follow up on over-contributions to ensure timely resolution.

24 over-contributors were identified out of 35,000 contributors in 2021. 100% were resolved.



Figure 4 shows the number of potential over-contributors identified during the quarterly contribution review process in 2021, compared to 2020 and 2019. Refunds to contributors before tax receipts were issued totalled **\$4,037** in 2021, and the remaining cases were reporting errors that required no refund. The timely resolution of these matters meant that no over-contributors were referred to the Election Commissioner for investigation. Bill 81 removed the requirement for Constituency Associations to report contributions on a quarterly basis. Elections Alberta will monitor to see if this results in an increase in over-contributors and investigations.

Figure 4: Over-Contribution Corrections and Refunds



⁴ The contribution limit does not apply to third party advertisers.

Audits

We conduct **financial audits** within OFS and track the progress of these audits. We use analytical tools to match and verify financial information, such as transfers reported between parties and their constituency associations.

We completed over 98.8% of our constituency association financial statement audits within 120 days after the filing deadline.

Once an audit is completed and approved, OFS automatically emails a notice of approval to the political participant. At the same time, we publish the finalized return on our disclosure website at efpublic.elections.ab.ca.

Financial information on the following pages reflects finalized information resulting from our audits. Revisions may occur as new information becomes available. Our public disclosure website provides the most up-to-date financial information for any given political participant.

Political Parties

REGISTRATION

There were 11 parties in Elections Alberta's Register of Political Parties as of December 31, 2021. All parties had reporting obligations for the 2021 calendar year, including quarterly contribution reports and annual financial statements.

Political parties aim to build membership and get candidates elected to the Legislative Assembly.

The Buffalo Party of Alberta (BPA) was registered effective January 20, 2022, and had no 2021 financial reporting requirements. Table 1 lists all the parties and their abbreviations as of March 31, 2022. See Appendix K for more details.



Table 1: Registered Political Parties

ADVANTAGE PARTY OF ALBERTA (APA) FORMERLY ALBERTA ADVANTAGE PARTY (AAP)
ALBERTA LIBERAL PARTY (LIB)
ALBERTA NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NDP)
ALBERTA PARTY (AP)
COMMUNIST PARTY – ALBERTA (CP-A)*
GREEN PARTY OF ALBERTA (GPA)
PRO-LIFE ALBERTA POLITICAL ASSOCIATION (PAPA)
REFORM PARTY OF ALBERTA (REF)
THE BUFFALO PARTY OF ALBERTA (BPA)
THE INDEPENDENCE PARTY OF ALBERTA (TIP)
UNITED CONSERVATIVE PARTY (UCP)
WILDROSE INDEPENDENCE PARTY OF ALBERTA (WIPA)

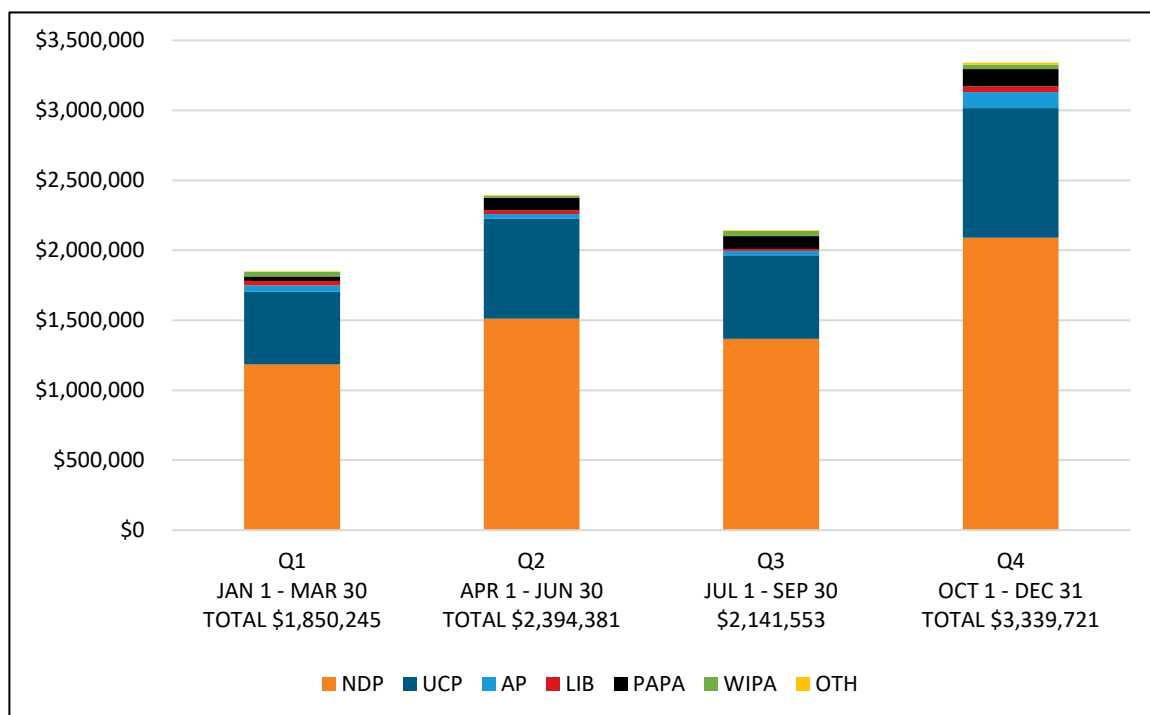
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2021 CONTRIBUTIONS TO PARTIES

Parties are required to report contribution details in OFS each quarter, and we publish this information on our financial disclosure website. Contributions are continually reviewed and corrected, to ensure “clean” data when parties generate official tax receipts to send to their contributors. Any errors or omissions must be addressed promptly.

Figure 5 summarizes contribution totals by quarter. Approximately **\$9.7 million** in contributions were reported by the various parties in 2021. See Appendices A and B for details by quarter.

Figure 5: 2021 Political Party Contributions by Quarter

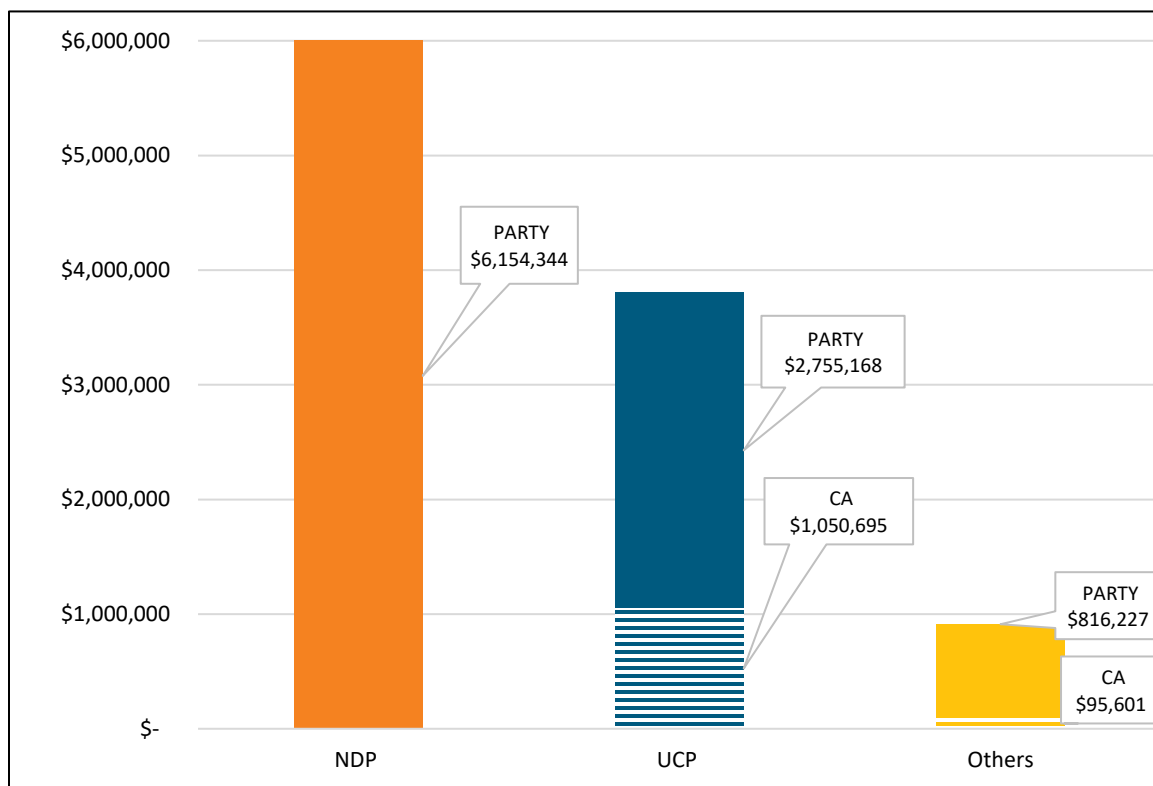


Parties can only receive contributions from individuals living in Alberta.

2021 Consolidated Contributions to Parties and Constituency Associations

Figure 6 provides a more complete picture of 2021 contributions to parties by also including contributions made to their constituency associations.⁵ For constituency association contributions only, refer to Appendix D.

Figure 6: 2021 Consolidated Contributions to Parties and Constituency Associations



⁵ Parties with registered constituency associations can decide if they are allowed to accept contributions directly. For example, the Alberta New Democratic Party requires its registered constituency associations to direct all contributions to the party, whereas the United Conservative Party allows its constituency associations to accept contributions directly.

PARTY CONTRIBUTIONS HISTORY

Figure 7 shows total contributions of **\$69 million** reported by parties from 2014 to 2021. All years, except for 2020 and 2021, include both annual and campaign contributions due to general elections and/or by-elections that were held in those years.

Figure 8 shows higher total contributions in general election years—2015 and 2019. After the 2015 Provincial General Election, corporate and union contributions were prohibited, and contribution limits were also significantly reduced. Despite these restrictions, 2019 saw higher contribution totals than 2015.⁶

Figure 7: 2014-21 Total Party Contributions

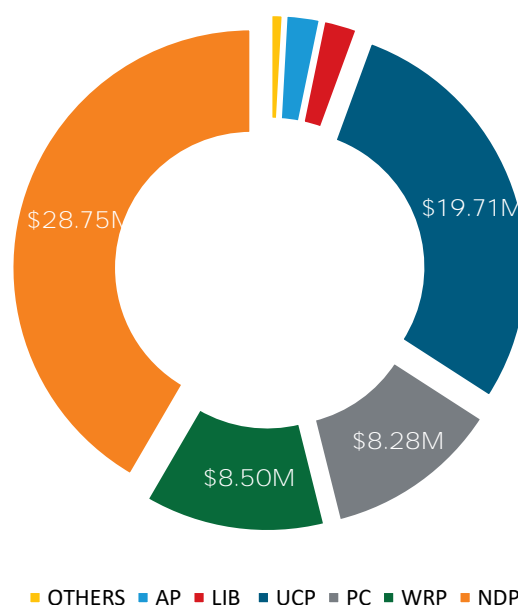
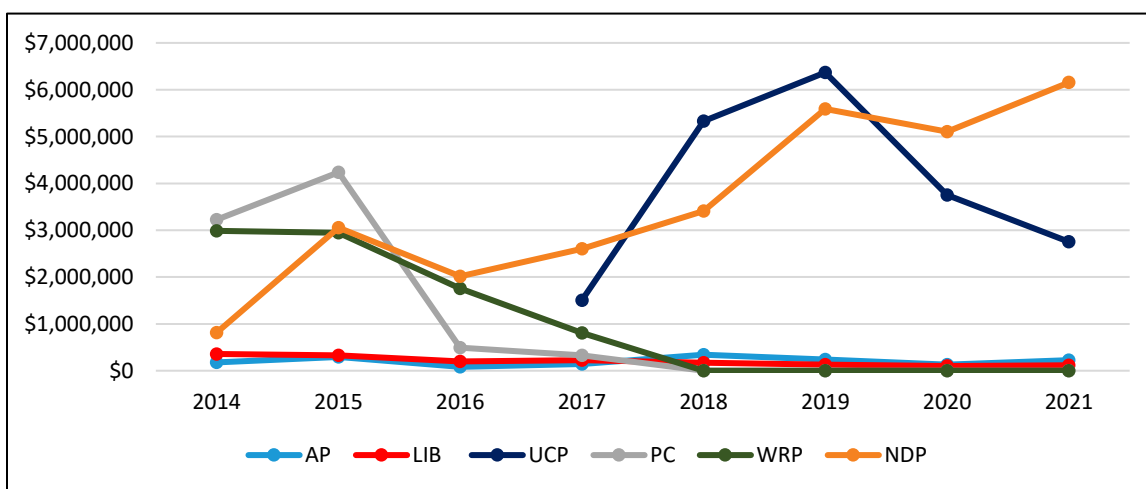


Figure 8: 2014-2021 Party Contributions by Year



⁶ "PC" is the Progressive Conservative Association and "WRP" is the Wildrose Party. Both parties were de-registered when they merged with the United Conservative Party (UCP) effective January 1, 2020.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

All registered parties submitted their 2021 annual financial statements by the due date of March 31, 2022. Nine parties had revenues or expenses over \$1,000 and were required to file audited financial statements. Table 2 shows that **\$11.1 million** was raised and that **\$7.3 million** was spent by parties in 2021. See Appendix C for a snapshot of each party's financial position as of December 31, 2021.

Table 2: 2021 Political Party Annual Revenues and Expenses

PARTY	OPENING BALANCE	R E V E N U E S			E X P E N S E S		NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)
		CONTRIBUTIONS	OTHER	TRANSFERS	OPERATING	TRANSFERS	
APA	\$247	\$1,190	\$2,425	\$-	\$1,995	\$-	\$1,867
LIB	\$36,596	\$114,158	\$1,394	\$1,666	\$100,648	\$-	\$53,166
NDP	\$2,552,628	\$6,154,344	\$277,926	\$-	\$2,860,490	\$603,200	\$5,521,208
AP	\$38,455	\$225,521	\$27,375	\$1,427	\$218,434	\$-	\$74,344
CP-A	\$476	\$300	\$-	\$-	\$302	\$-	\$474
GPA	\$35,014	\$13,033	\$3,317	\$375	\$7,439	\$-	\$44,300
PAPA	\$32	\$339,293	\$5,894	\$-	\$191,193	\$-	\$154,026
REF	\$156	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$126	\$-	\$30
TIP	\$2,389	\$7,403	\$6,662	\$-	\$10,618	\$-	\$5,836
UCP	\$470,760	\$2,755,168	\$943,326	\$97,207	\$2,975,183	\$149,631	\$1,141,647
WIPA	\$36,505	\$115,329	\$84,469	\$6,944	\$188,239	\$400	\$54,608
TOTAL	\$3,173,258	\$9,725,739	\$1,352,788	\$107,619	\$6,554,667	\$753,231	\$7,051,508

Other revenue can include income from membership sales, small donations up to \$50, annual general meetings, interest income, sales of goods, federal government assistance, etc.

Transfer amounts are mainly funds shared between the party and its constituency associations.

RESERVED PARTY NAMES

Elections Alberta assists groups wanting to register political parties in Alberta. We reserve party names and abbreviations for these groups as they work through the process to qualify for registration.

Reserved names as of March 31, 2022 are below. For a current list visit elections.ab.ca under Political Participants > Reserved Party Names.

- ▶ Albertans First Independents Coalition Party (AFICP)
- ▶ Alberta Statehood Party (ABSP)
- ▶ YES (YES)
- ▶ Alberta National Party (ANP)
- ▶ Liberty Alberta (LBA)
- ▶ True Alberta Party (TAP)
- ▶ United State of Alberta (USA)

Constituency Associations

REGISTRATION

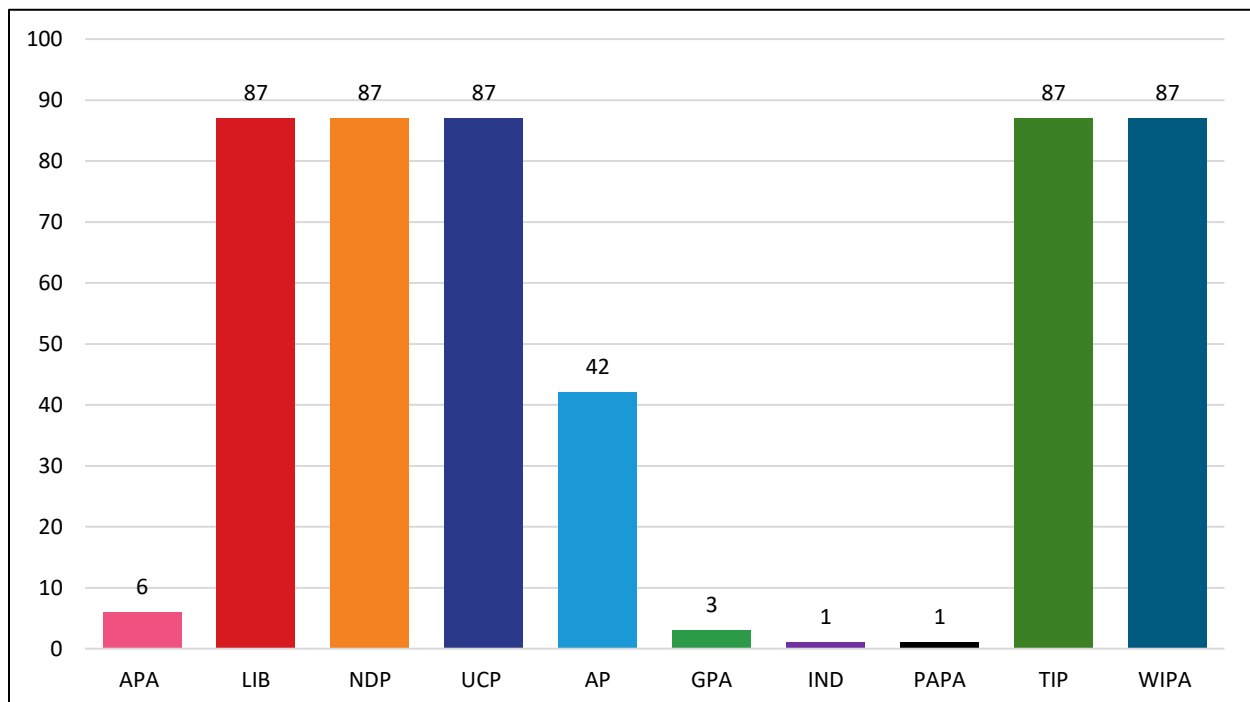
Out of 485 registered constituency associations, across nine political parties and one independent, 484 had 2021 annual financial statement reporting obligations. During 2021, two constituency associations were de-registered, and three constituency associations were registered.

By the end of the 2021-22 fiscal period, the number of registered constituency associations was 488.

Figure 9 provides a snapshot. The Communist Party – Alberta, Reform Party of Alberta, and Buffalo Party of Alberta had no registered constituency associations. See Appendix L for a detailed list.

Constituency associations help their parties at the electoral division level to build memberships and help get candidates elected.

Figure 9: Registered Constituency Associations by Party as of March 31, 2022

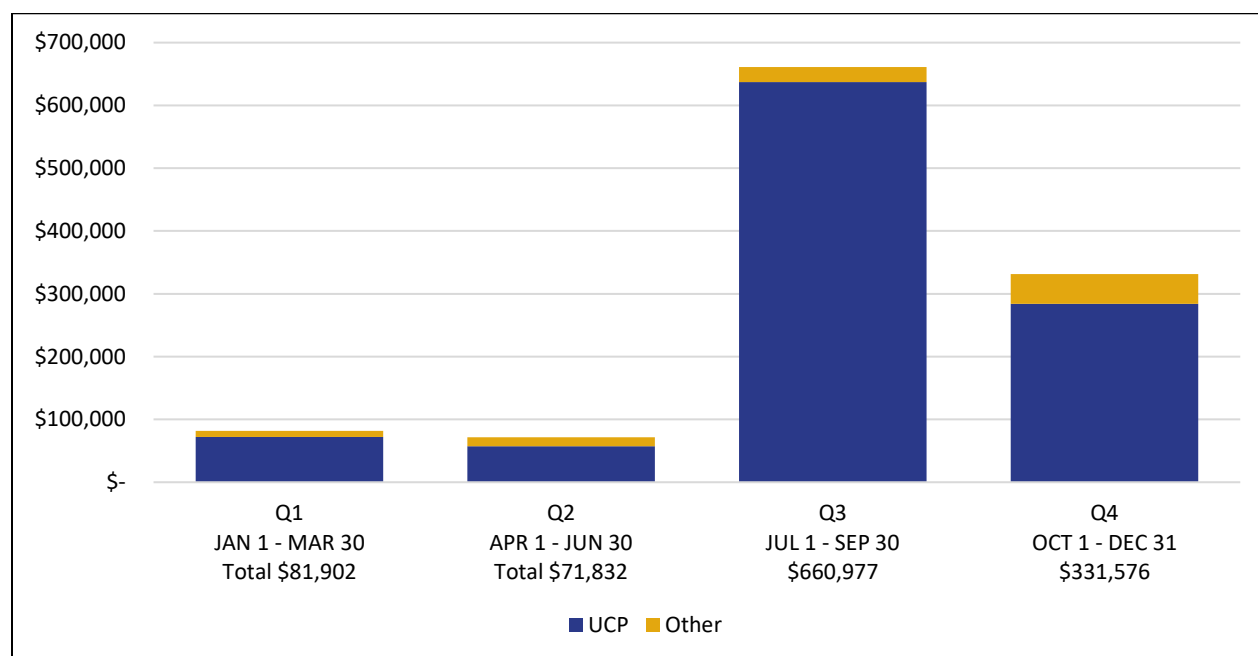


2021 CONTRIBUTIONS TO CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

During 2021, constituency associations reported contribution details in OFS each quarter, and we published this information on our financial disclosure website. Contributions are continually reviewed and corrected, to ensure “clean” data when they generate official tax receipts to send to their contributors. Any errors or omissions must be addressed promptly.

Figure 10 summarizes contribution totals by quarter. Over **\$1.4 million** in contributions were reported by constituency associations in 2021.⁷ See Appendices D and E for details by quarter and party.

Figure 10: 2021 Constituency Association Contributions by Quarter



Constituency associations can only receive contributions from individuals living in Alberta.

⁷ Parties with registered constituency associations can decide if they are allowed to accept contributions directly. For example, the Alberta New Democratic Party requires its registered constituency associations to direct all contributions to the party, whereas the United Conservative Party allows its constituency associations to accept contributions directly.

CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTIONS HISTORY

Figure 11 shows total contributions of approximately **\$8.6 million** reported by constituency associations from 2014 to 2021.⁸

Figure 12 shows contributions raised for the past eight years. Fluctuations can be due to new registrations and de-registrations, as well as pre- and post-election fundraising activity levels.

Figure 11: Total CA Contributions 2014-2021

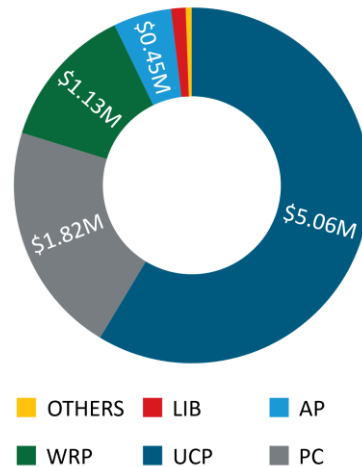
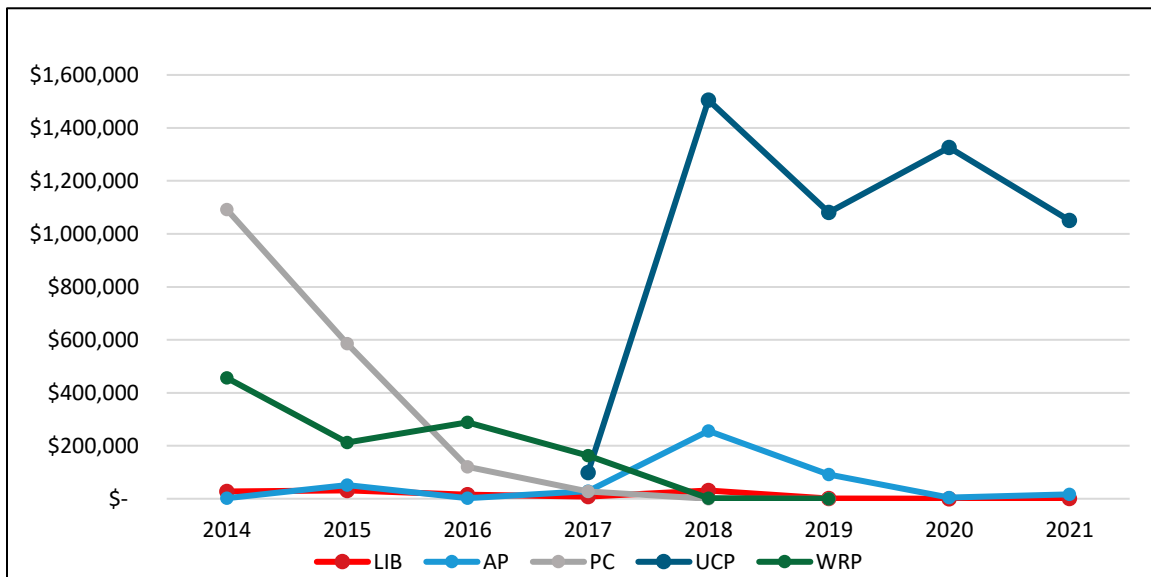


Figure 12: 2014-2021 Constituency Association Contributions by Year



⁸ The Wildrose Party (WRP) and Progressive Conservative Association (PC) CAs account for half of all contributions. Both parties were de-registered when they merged with the United Conservative Party (UCP) effective January 1, 2020.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

All but one of the constituency associations filed a 2021 annual financial statement, which were due by March 31, 2022. Table 3 shows that **\$2 million** was raised and **\$687 thousand** was spent in 2021. Constituency associations are not subject to any spending limits. See Appendix F for a snapshot of overall financial position of constituency associations by party as of December 31, 2021.

Table 3: 2021 Constituency Association Revenues and Expenses

PARTY*	OPENING BALANCE	R E V E N U E S			E X P E N S E S			NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)
		CONTRIBUTIONS	OTHER	TRANSFERS	OPERATING	OTHER	TRANSFERS	
APA (6)	\$542	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$542
LIB (87)	\$46,161	\$500	\$59	\$-	\$904	\$-	\$1,666	\$44,150
NDP (87)	\$1,177,328	\$	\$1,576	\$612,383	\$86,516	\$-	\$-	\$1,704,771
AP (42)	\$55,937	\$17,082	\$54	\$1,401	\$4,866	\$-	\$1,436	\$68,172
GPA (4)	\$11,604	\$2,200	\$-	\$-	\$37	\$-	\$-	\$13,767
IND (1)	\$-	\$6,513	\$10	\$-	\$3,628	\$-	\$-	\$2,895
PAPA (1)	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
TIP (87)	\$-	\$200	\$-	\$-	\$3	\$-	\$-	\$197
UCP (87)	\$1,847,921	\$1,050,695	\$106,217	\$178,316	\$407,333	\$1,674	\$139,195	\$2,629,947
WIPA (87)	\$9,150	\$69,106	\$17,104	\$555	\$33,680	\$-	\$7,026	\$55,208
TOTAL	\$3,143,642	\$1,146,296	\$125,020	\$792,655	\$536,966	\$1,674	\$149,324	\$4,519,649

*Number of constituency associations that filed financial statements.

Other revenue can include income from membership sales on behalf of the party, small donations up to \$50, interest income, sales of goods, etc.

Transfer amounts are mainly funds shared with the party and other constituency associations.

Third Party Advertisers

DEFINITIONS

In the 2021-22 fiscal year, Elections Alberta was responsible for regulating four types of third party advertisers (TPAs).

An individual person, corporation, trade union, or group can register as a TPA. Corporations and groups make up most of the TPAs currently registered with Elections Alberta, and can register as more than one type of advertiser, depending on the advertising subject matter and timeframe.

Third party advertisers promote or oppose political participants, and/or the political issues they are associated with.

Political TPA (PTPA)	Election TPA (ETPA)	Senate Election TPA (STPA)*	Referendum TPA (RTPA)*
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Advertises outside of elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Advertises during elections•Spending limit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Advertises during senate elections•Spending limit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Advertises during referendums•Spending limit

*Registration and financial information for registered STPAs and RTPAs appear in the *Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the October 18, 2021 Senate Election and Referendum Vote*.

We publicly disclose the financial activities of TPAs to ensure their operations are transparent. The public has the right to know who is paying for advertisements that are distributed to the public.

The following pages focus on reporting by PTPAs in 2021.

Few ETPAs had reporting requirements, and their activity was minimal.

REGISTRATION

Table 4 lists the registration (**R**) and de-registration (**D**) status of ETPAs and PTPAs for 2021-22, up to March 31, 2022. Abbreviations apply to this report only. Refer to Appendix M for more details.

Table 4: Status of Third Party Advertiser Registrations for 2021-22

TYPE*	ABBR.	THIRD PARTY ADVERTISER	ETPA	PTPA	NOTE
P	AVCA	A VERY CONCERNED ALBERTAN	-	R	NEW 2021
C	AFL	ALBERTA FEDERATION OF LABOUR INC.	R	R	
G	AFB	ALBERTA FIGHTS BACK	D	D	DE-REG 2021
C	AMA	ALBERTA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION	R	R	
C	AB-PROUD	ALBERTA PROUD	R	R	
C	ARAF	ALBERTA RESOURCE ADVOCACY FOUNDATION	-	R	NEW 2021
C	ARHCA	ALBERTA ROADBUILDERS AND HEAVY CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION	R	-	
G	ATA	ALBERTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION	-	R	NEW 2021
G	AUPE	ALBERTA UNION OF PROVINCIAL EMPLOYEES	-	R	NEW 2021
P	ADC	ANGRYDAD CANADA (GAMECHANGERS CANADA)	-	R	NEW 2021
G	AASUA	ASSOCIATION OF ACADEMIC STAFF UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA	-	R	NEW 2021
G	CAPE-AB	CANADIAN ASSOC. OF PHYSICIANS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT – ALBERTA COMMITTEE	R	-	
G	CUPE-AB	CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES - ALBERTA DIVISION	R	R	
G	CUPE-3550	CUPE LOCAL 3550	R	R	NEW 2021
G	CAUS	COUNCIL OF ALBERTA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS	-	R	
C	EZMSA	EDMONTON ZONE MEDICAL STAFF ASSOCIATION	-	R	NEW 2021
G	EFA	EQUALIZATION FAIRNESS ALBERTA	-	R	NEW 2021
G	EYESFWD	EYESFORWARD	-	R	
G	FAIR	FAIR ALBERTA INJURY REGULATIONS	-	R	
G	FFA	FIREFIGHTERS FOR ALBERTA	R	-	
G	FOM	FRIENDS OF MEDICARE	R	R	
G	HSAA	HEALTH SCIENCES ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA	R	R	
G	IBEW-424	INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL 424	-	D	DE-REG 2021
P	JV	JACQUI VANDERFLUIT	R	R	
C	NPF	NATIONAL POLICE FEDERATION	R	R	NEW 2022
G	PRIO-AB	PRIORITY ALBERTA	-	R	NEW 2021
C	PROG-AB	PROGRESS ALBERTA	-	D	DE-REG 2021
C	PIA	PUBLIC INTEREST ALBERTA SOCIETY	-	R	
C	SAF	SHAPING ALBERTA'S FUTURE	-	R	
G	SAAE	SOCIETY OF ALBERTANS AGAINST EQUALIZATION	-	R	
G	SOS	SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS ALBERTA FOUNDATION		R	NEW 2021
C	TBA	TAKE BACK ALBERTA SOCIETY		R	NEW 2022
G	UNA	UNITED NURSES OF ALBERTA	-	R	NEW 2021
C	VYTEE	VOTE YES TO END EQUALIZATION INC.	-	R	NEW 2021
SUB-TOTAL REGISTERED			12	28	
SUB-TOTAL DE-REGISTERED			1	3	

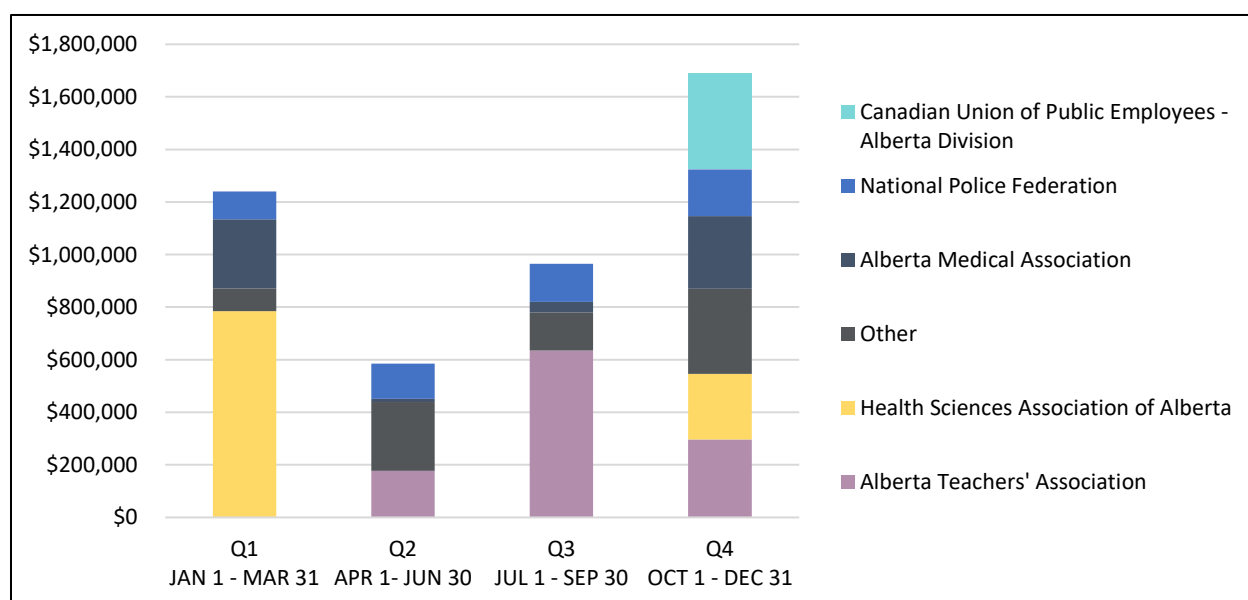
*C = Corporation, G = Group, P = Person

2021 CONTRIBUTIONS TO PTPAs

PTPAs report advertising contribution details each quarter and we publish the information on our financial disclosure website. Contributions are continually reviewed and corrected, to ensure “clean” data when PTPAs generate official receipts to send to their contributors. Any errors or omissions must be addressed promptly.

Figure 13 summarizes contribution totals by quarter. Over **\$4.4 million** in advertising contributions were reported by PTPAs in 2021. See Appendices G and H for details by quarter.

Figure 13: 2021 PTPA Contributions by Quarter



PTPAs can receive contributions from any eligible individual, corporation, trade union, or group.

PTPA contributions are not eligible for tax credits.

2021 PTPA CONTRIBUTORS

PTPAs can accept contributions from eligible individuals, corporations, or trade unions. Figure 14 shows that 47% of the approximately \$4.4 million in 2021 contributions came from trade unions (TU), 52% came from corporations (CO), and only 1% came from individuals (IN). Figure 15 highlights the primary contributor locations, contributor types, and overall totals.

Approximately 13% of contributions were received from outside of Alberta.

Figure 14: PTPA Contributor Types

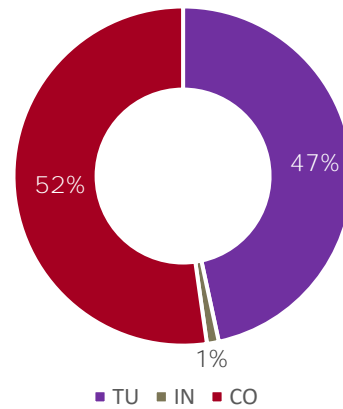
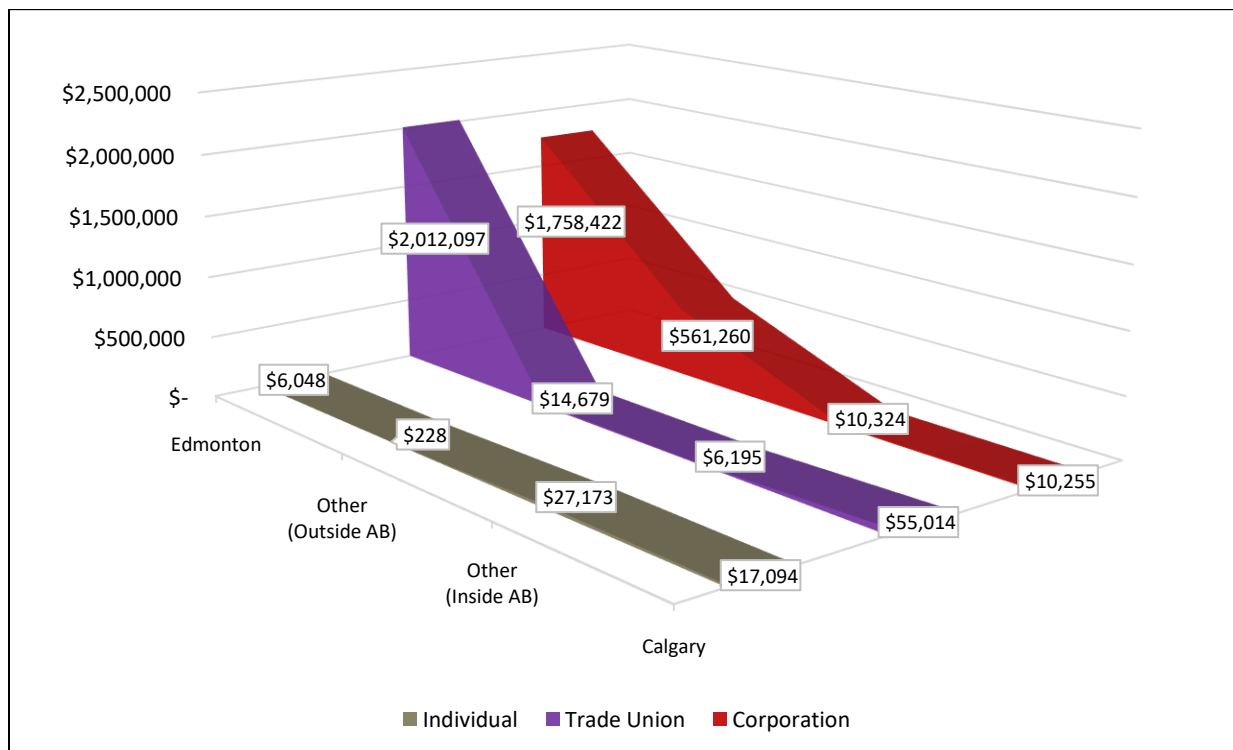


Figure 15: Contributions by Contributor Type and Location

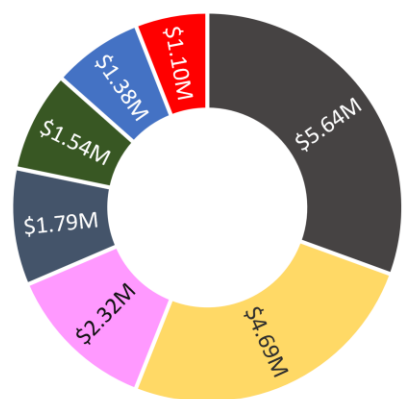


PTPA AND ETPA CONTRIBUTIONS HISTORY

Figure 16 shows total contributions of **\$18.4 million** reported by TPAs from 2017 to 2021. TPA legislation came into effect for the 2012 Provincial General Election, but it was not until amendments in late 2016 that TPA activity became significant.

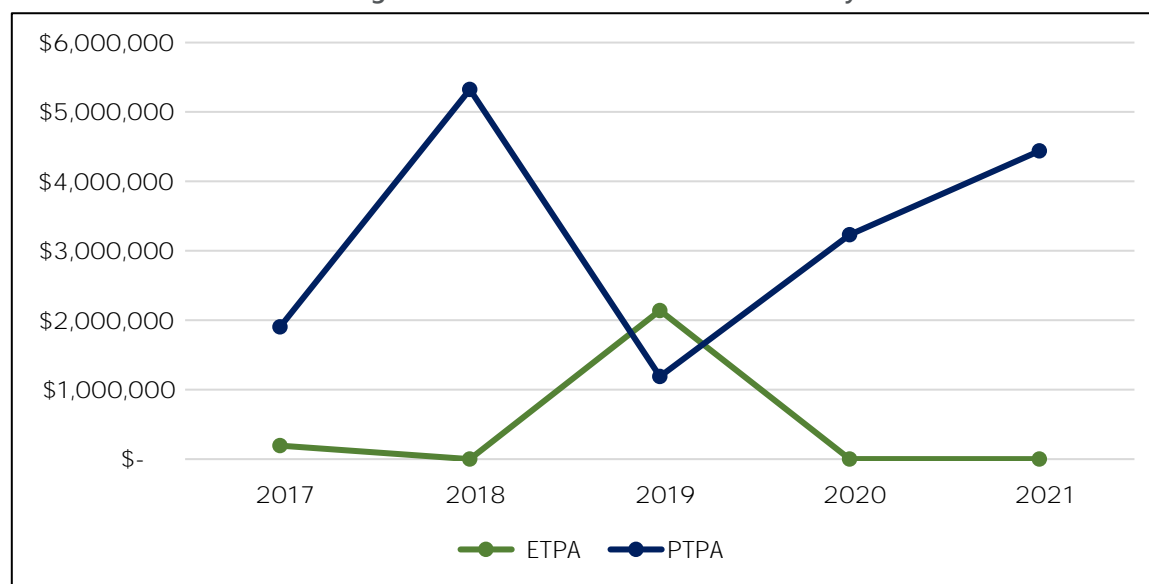
Figure 17 shows the total advertising contributions for the past five years. Fluctuations can be attributed to advertising periods, i.e., PTPAs are not allowed to advertise during election periods, whereas ETPAs can.

Figure 16: 2017-2021 Total TPA Contributions



- Health Sciences Association of Alberta
- Alberta Federation of Labour Inc
- Alberta Medical Association
- Shaping Alberta's Future
- The Alberta Teachers' Association
- Alberta Advantage Fund
- Other

Figure 17: 2017-2021 TPA Contributions by Year



ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

POLITICAL THIRD PARTY ADVERTISERS

All required PTPA 2021 annual financial statements were received by the due date of March 31, 2022. Table 5 shows that **\$4.4 million** was raised and **\$4.1 million** was spent by PTPAs in 2021. See Appendix I for a snapshot of the overall financial position for each PTPA as of December 31, 2021. PTPA contributions and expenses generally align with political topics of interest.

Table 5: 2021 Political Third Party Advertiser Revenues and Expenses

PTPA*	OPENING BALANCE	R E V E N U E S			E X P E N S E S		NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)
		CONTRIBUTIONS	OTHER	TRANSFERS	ADVERTISING	TRANSFERS & OTHER	
AVCA	\$-	\$4,493	\$2,555	\$-	\$6,721	\$-	\$327
AFL	(\$12,676)	\$120,890	\$-	\$-	\$113,861	\$-	(\$5,647)
AMA	\$-	\$592,994	\$-	\$-	\$545,219	\$-	\$47,775
AB-PROUD	\$3,217	\$18,361	\$-	\$-	\$13,627	\$-	\$7,951
ARAF	\$-	\$6,794	\$-	\$-	\$6,794	\$-	\$-
ATA	\$-	\$1,108,502	\$-	\$-	\$1,108,502	\$-	\$-
AUPE	\$-	\$20,000	\$16	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$20,016
ADC	\$-	\$-	\$23	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$23
AASUA	\$-	\$206,534	\$-	\$-	\$206,534	\$-	\$-
CUPE-AB	\$49,812	\$365,000	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$414,812
CUPE-3550	\$-	\$2,979	\$-	\$-	\$2,979	\$-	\$-
CAUS	\$-	\$11,500	\$-	\$-	\$8,468	\$-	\$3,032
EZMSA	\$-	\$2,138	\$20	\$-	\$2,138	\$-	\$20
EFA	\$-	\$-	\$904	\$-	\$904	\$-	\$-
EYESFWD	\$4,628	\$7,987	\$-	\$-	\$12,015	\$-	\$600
FAIR	\$-	\$19,224	\$-	\$-	\$19,224	\$-	\$-
FOM	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
HSAA	\$-	\$1,034,267	\$-	\$-	\$1,034,267	\$-	\$-
IBEW-424**	\$215	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$215	\$-	\$-
JV	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
NPF	\$-	\$561,260	\$-	\$-	\$561,260	\$-	\$-
PRIOR-AB	\$-	\$3,989	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$3,989
PROG-AB**	\$2,912	\$-	\$1	\$-	\$2,913	\$-	\$-
PIA	\$131,474	\$85,866	\$-	\$-	\$184,976	\$-	\$32,364
SAF	\$3,287	\$2,500	\$-	\$-	\$60	\$-	\$5,727
SAAE	\$-	\$32,310	\$603	\$-	\$31,518	\$-	\$1,395
SOS	\$-	\$5,450	\$-	\$-	\$2	\$-	\$5,448
UNA	\$-	\$263,041	\$-	\$-	\$263,041	\$-	\$-
VYTEE	\$-	\$9,363	\$-	\$-	\$8,063	\$-	\$1,300
TOTAL	\$182,869	\$4,485,442	\$4,122	\$-	\$4,133,301	\$-	\$539,131

*Abbreviations are for this report only; refer to Appendix M for full names of third party advertisers as of March 31, 2022.

**De-registered and filed final financial statements. Alberta Fights Back (AFB) was also deregistered but is not listed on the table as they were not required to file for 2021 due to no funds, no activity, and no bank balance.

ELECTION THIRD PARTY ADVERTISERS

Three ETPAs had bank balances or financial activity and were required to submit 2021 annual financial statements.⁹ All three ETPAs filed by the due date of March 31, 2022.

Table 6 shows that \$0 was raised and \$125 was spent by ETPAs in 2021. All expenditures were non-advertising expenses, as ETPAs must be inactive outside of election advertising periods. See Appendix J for a snapshot of the overall financial position of each ETPA as of December 31, 2021.

Table 6: 2021 Election Third Party Advertiser Annual Revenues and Expenses

ETPA*	OPENING BALANCE	R E V E N U E S			E X P E N S E S		NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)
		CONTRIBUTIONS	OTHER	TRANSFERS	ADVERTISING	TRANSFERS & OTHER	
AFL	\$10,036	\$-	\$-	\$-	-	\$72	\$9,964
AB-PROUD	\$9,339	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$45	\$9,294
FOM	\$167	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$8	\$159
TOTAL	\$19,542	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$125	\$19,417

*Abbreviations are for this report only; refer to Appendix M for full names of third party advertisers as of March 31, 2022.

ETPAs can transfer funds to PTPAs but not vice versa.

⁹ AMA, ARHCA, CAPE-AB, CUPE-AB, FFA, HSAA, and JV were not required to file as they all confirmed that they had no funds, no activity and no bank balance in 2021. Alberta Fights Back (AFB) was de-registered and was not required to file due to no funds, no activity, and no bank balance.

Leadership Contestants

REGISTRATION

The three parties that held leadership contests in 2021, and the leadership contestants who were registered, are listed in Table 7.

Table 7: 2021 Leadership Contests

POLITICAL PARTY	LEADERSHIP VOTE DATE	LEADERSHIP CONTESTANT
AP	SEPTEMBER 1, 2021	BARRY MORISHITA (ENDORSED)
TIP	SEPTEMBER 12, 2021	VICKY BAYFORD (ENDORSED) PETER DOWNING (WITHDREW)
WIPA	JULY 13, 2021	PAUL HINMAN (ENDORSED)

LEADERSHIP CAMPAIGN FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

All registered leadership contestants submitted financial returns for their leadership campaigns by their required filing deadlines. Their campaign periods started on the date they registered and ended two months after the leadership vote. When the returns were due, the contestants were also required to have issued official contribution receipts to their contributors using the OFS. Table 8 summarizes contributions received and the average contribution amount. Table 9 summarizes the total revenues and expenses reported.

Table 8: Leadership Contestant Campaign Contributions

PARTY	CONTESTANT	UP TO \$250	OVER \$250	TOTAL (\$)	COUNT (#)	AVERAGE (\$)
AP	BARRY MORISHITA	\$100	\$-	\$100	1	\$100
TIP	VICKY BAYFORD	\$-	\$1,000	\$1,000	1	\$1,000
TIP	PETER DOWNING	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
WIPA	PAUL HINMAN	\$7,740	\$35,459	\$43,199	110	\$393
	TOTAL	\$7,840	\$36,459	\$44,299	112	\$1,493

Table 9: Leadership Contestant Campaign Revenues and Expenses

NAME	R E V E N U E S			E X P E N S E S			SURPLUS (DEFICIT)
	CONTRIBUTIONS	OTHER	TRANSFERS	CAMPAIGN	OTHER	TRANSFERS	
B. MORISHITA	\$100	\$20,100	\$-	\$100	\$20,000	\$-	\$-
V. BAYFORD	\$1,000	\$500	\$-	\$-	\$1,500	\$-	\$-
P. DOWNING	\$-	\$1,000	\$-	\$-	\$1,000	\$-	\$-
P. HINMAN	\$43,199	\$-	\$-	\$32,949	\$10,250	\$-	\$-
TOTAL	\$44,299	\$21,600	\$-	\$33,049	\$32,750	\$-	\$-

COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT

3

Overview

Elections Alberta performs the regulatory role of receiving complaints and conducting investigations in relation to allegations of non-compliance under the following Acts:

Election Act

Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act

Local Authorities Election Act

Alberta Senate Election Act

Referendum Act

Recall Act

Citizen Initiative Act

We focus on providing our stakeholders with information on the legislation, strengthening partnerships and resolving complaints. We also conduct investigations and report on this information to the Election Commissioner.

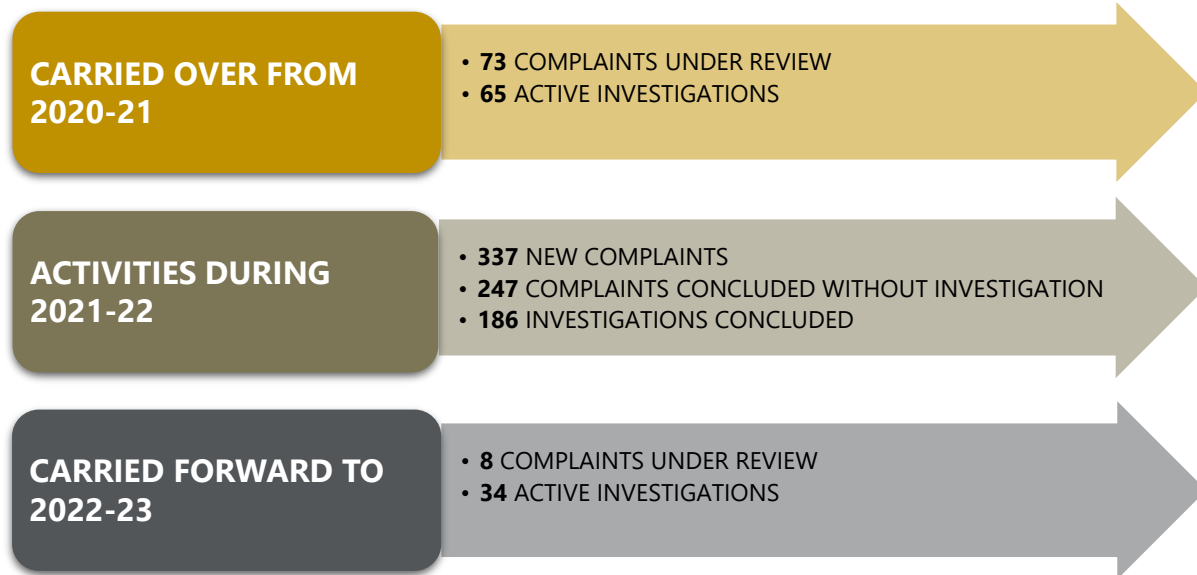
INVESTIGATION PROCESS

Investigations are conducted by our team of investigators who are appointed by the Election Commissioner.

At the conclusion of an investigation, the information and evidence gathered is compiled into a detailed report and presented to the Commissioner. Prior to making an adverse finding, the Commissioner reviews the report, all evidence collected, and provides notice of the investigation to each subject along with an opportunity to present their views.

Complaints and Investigations

Figure 18: Status of Complaints and Investigations

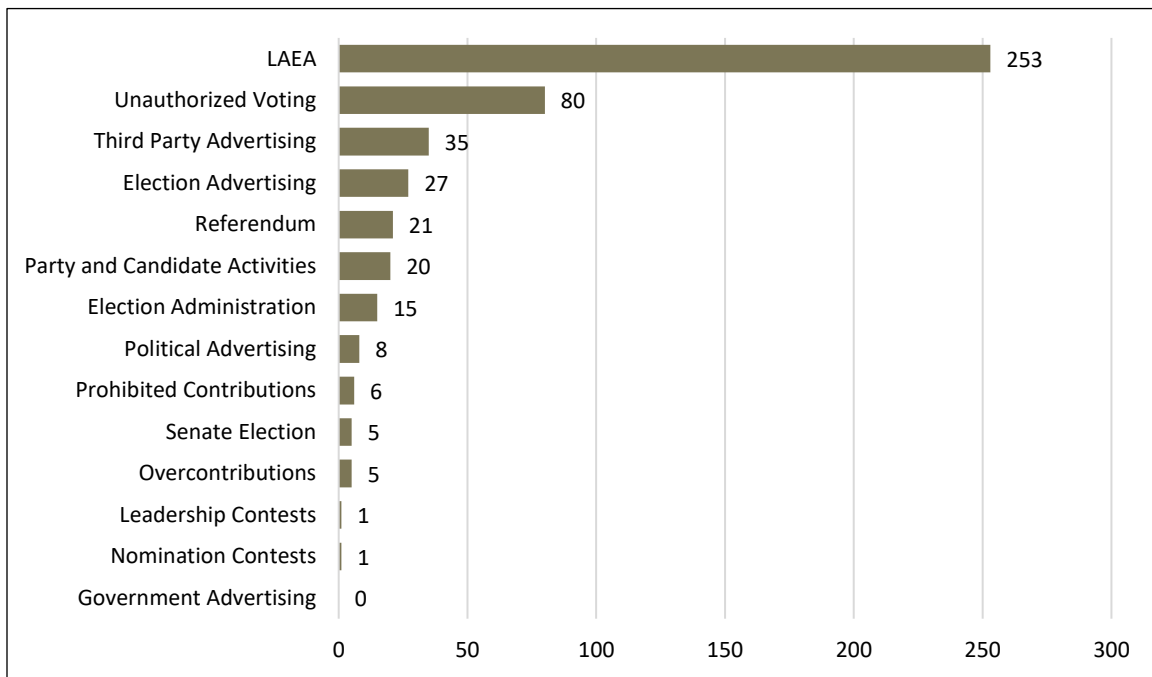


A structured complaint intake process is utilized to ensure timely acknowledgement of every complaint. The early resolution of complaints is facilitated through an initial review process, designed to identify complaints that can be resolved without being queued for a more comprehensive review and investigation process. In the fiscal year, 433 complaints were concluded, including 186 investigations that were conducted.

COMPLAINT TYPES

We completed 186 investigations that are categorized by type in Figure 19. Some investigations fell into more than one category. Most of these complaints related to the 2021 Municipal Elections or unauthorized voting in the 2019 Provincial General Election.

Figure 19: 2021-22 Concluded Investigations by Non-Compliance Category



Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA)

With the passage of Bill 23, the Election Commissioner began accepting and investigating complaints related to specific provisions of the *Local Authorities Election Act*, specifically those relating to spending limits, contribution restrictions and rules for third parties.

The 2021 Municipal Elections were our first exposure to complaints and investigations under this legislation and required us to navigate a host of challenges, such as:

- ◁ Inconsistencies within sections of the LAEA.
- ◁ Conflicting views between agencies as to the interpretation of the legislation.
- ◁ Conflicting advice being given to electors and candidates by various agencies and municipalities.
- ◁ Investigation management software and investigation processes that had to be tailored to the LAEA.

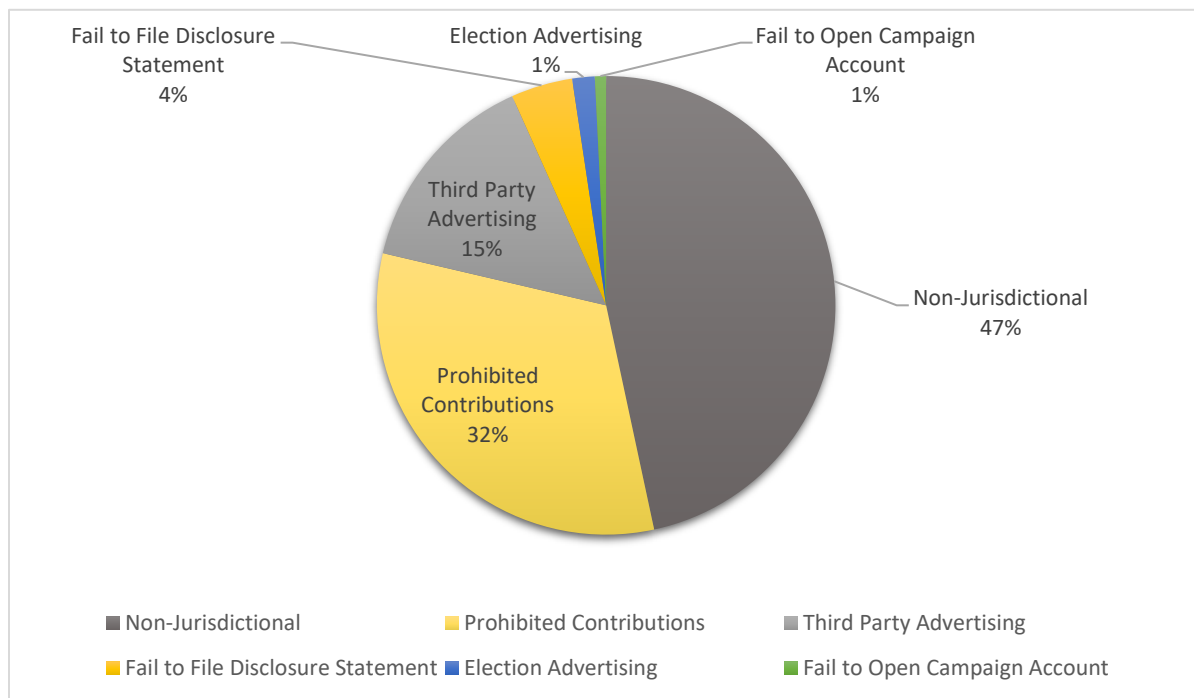
This was the first municipal election implementing significant legislative amendments in addition to the simultaneous administration of the Senate Election and Referendum. This added a level of complexity to staff training, complaint intake, and the investigation process.

284 complaints were received during the fiscal year related to the LAEA. As of year-end, 253 had been concluded. The majority of these complaints were outside of our jurisdiction and were referred to the appropriate agencies.

Table 10: LAEA Complaint Dispositions April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022

LAEA Complaint Types	Quantity	Percentage
Non-Jurisdictional	118	47%
Prohibited Contributions	81	32%
Third Party Advertising	37	15%
Fail to File Disclosure Statement	11	4%
Election Advertising	4	1%
Fail to Open Campaign Account	2	1%
Total	253	100%

Figure 20: Complaint Disposition Graph



The lessons learned, as we navigated this process, have identified a number of changes and formed the basis for our recommendations for amendments to the LAEA, as outlined in section 5 of this report.

Findings and Decisions

The overall disposition of an individual complaint can range from an *Administrative Penalty* to *Unfounded* as illustrated below.

Table 11: Complaint Dispositions April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022

Complaint Dispositions	Quantity	Percentage
No Jurisdiction	216	50%
Unfounded	170	39%
Information Only	20	5%
Stakeholder Assistance	9	2%
Advice to Future Conduct	7	2%
Administrative Penalty	4	1%
Reprimand	3	1%
Compliance Agreement	2	-
Combined with Another File	2	-
Total	433	100%

Sanctions		Other Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative penalty- monetary fine; publicized. Reprimand - written; publicized. Advice to future conduct- where a minor violation has occurred, advice is provided to ensure future compliance. Compliance agreement- a consensual written agreement for the purpose of ensuring legislative compliance. Injunction- an application to the Court during an election period, to ensure fairness in the electoral process and public interest. Prosecution- referral to Alberta Justice - Special Prosecutions. 	G L O S S A R Y	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information only- opinion or information provided - no complaint or allegation made; information filed for future reference Stakeholder assistance- support in using Elections Alberta information systems No jurisdiction- complaint falls outside of jurisdiction, may result in a referral Unfounded- complaint falls under the legislation but is not a breach

LETTERS OF REPRIMAND, ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES AND COMPLIANCE AGREEMENTS

The following is a list of the various investigations that that were concluded during this reporting period which resulted in the issuance of an adverse finding. In the fiscal year four complaints resulted in 17 administrative penalties. This list also outlines the two compliance agreements that were entered into during this time. Both entities fully complied with the terms of their compliance agreements. This information is also posted and available on the Elections Alberta website here:

<https://www.elections.ab.ca/investigations/findings-decisions/>

Letters of Reprimand

Name	Violation	Date Issued
Goldie Newman, <i>Office of the (former) Election Commissioner</i>	Failed to maintain confidentiality by improperly disclosing information to the former Election Commissioner.	December 16, 2021
Daljit (Sunny) Toor, <i>Chief Financial Officer for Devinder Toor, Nomination Contestant Calgary-Falconridge (2018), UCP Party</i>	Failed to vouch for expenses over \$25	July 27, 2021
Paul Lau, <i>Voter</i>	Voted more than once at the same election	June 21, 2021

Administrative Penalties

Name	Violation	Penalty Amount	Date Issued	Date Paid/Status
Devinder Toor, <i>Nomination Contestant Calgary-Falconridge (2018), UCP Party</i>	<p>§ Person other than Chief Financial Officer (CFO), accepted contributions</p> <p>§ Accepted a prohibited contribution from 2082146 Alberta Ltd. in the form of use of real property</p> <p>§ Exceeded the Nomination Contest expense limit</p> <p>§ Filed a false Nomination Contest Financial Statement with the Chief Electoral Office</p> <p>§ Failed to deposit contributions into the account on record with the Chief Electoral Officer</p>	\$8,500	July 27, 2021	August 31, 2021

Name	Violation	Penalty Amount	Date Issued	Date Paid/Status
Devinder Toor, <i>Candidate Calgary-Falconridge (2019), UCP Party</i>	§ Accepted a prohibited contribution from 2082146 Alberta Ltd. in the form of the use of real property § Candidate exceeded expense limit § Filed a false Candidate Campaign Financial Statement with the Chief Electoral Officer § Registered Candidate borrowed money from party other than a Financial Institution § Failed to deposit contributions into the account on record with the Chief Electoral Officer	\$6,500	July 27, 2021	August 31, 2021
Sahib Bhakri, <i>Chief Financial Officer for Devinder Toor, Nomination Contestant Calgary-Falconridge (2018), UCP Party</i>	§ Failed to keep records of revenue and expenses § Failed to place contributions in account on record with the Chief Electoral Officer § Failed to complete proper receipts. § Fail to vouch for expenses over \$25 § Failed to advise the Chief Electoral Officer of a contribution from 2082146 Alberta Ltd., a prohibited entity § Exceeded the Nomination Contestant expense limit § Filed a false Nomination Contest Financial Statement with the Chief Electoral Officer	\$8,000	July 27, 2021	August 31, 2021
Sahib Bhakri, <i>Chief Financial Officer for Devinder Toor, Candidate Calgary-Falconridge (2019), UCP Party</i>	§ Failed to advise the Chief Electoral Officer of a contribution from 2082146 Alberta Ltd., a prohibited entity § Exceeded the Candidate expense limit § Failed to keep records of revenue and expenses § Failed to place contributions in account on record with the Chief Electoral Officer § Failed to vouch for expenses over \$25 § Fail to complete proper receipts § Filed a false Candidate Campaign Financial Statement with the Chief Electoral Officer	\$6,000	July 27, 2021	August 31, 2021
2082146 Alberta Ltd. and current and former Directors (Abhi Toor, Balmeet Toor, Devinder Toor), <i>in relation to the Devinder Toor, Nomination Contestant Calgary-Falconridge (2018), UCP Party</i>	§ Made a prohibited contribution to the Devinder Toor Nomination Campaign in the form of the use of real property	\$2,500	July 27, 2021	August 31, 2021

Name	Violation	Penalty Amount	Date Issued	Date Paid/Status
2082146 Alberta Ltd. and current and former Directors (Abhi Toor, Balmeet Toor, Devinder Toor), <i>in relation to the Devinder Toor, Candidate Calgary-Falconridge (2019), UCP Party</i>	§ Made a prohibited contribution to the Devinder Toor election campaign in the form of the use of real property	\$2,000	July 27, 2021	August 31, 2021
Jeff Walters, <i>Nomination Contestant Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview (2018), UCP Party</i>	§ Knowingly accepted contributions, from five contributors, with funds provided from another person § Knowingly filed a false financial statement with the Chief Electoral Officer	\$9,000	June 16, 2021	July 14, 2021
Karen Nolin, <i>Chief Financial Officer for Jeff Walters, Nomination Contestant Edmonton-Beverly Clareview (2018), UCP Party</i>	§ As CFO acting on behalf of Jeff Walters, knowingly accepted contributions, from four contributors, with funds provided from another person § Furnished funds to two persons for the purpose of making a contribution § Contributed funds to a registered nomination contestant that had been given or furnished by another person	\$9,000	June 16, 2021	July 14, 2021
Reid Hogan, <i>Political Contributor</i>	§ Contributed funds to a registered nomination contestant that had been given or furnished by another person	\$2,000	June 16, 2021	July 9, 2021
Wyatt Hogan, <i>Political Contributor</i>	§ Contributed funds to a registered nomination contestant that had been given or furnished by another person	\$1,500	June 16, 2021	July 14, 2021
Bar-N-Ranche, <i>Political Contributor</i>	§ Made a prohibited contribution of \$10,000 to Jeff Walters, registered nomination contestant	\$2,500	June 16, 2021	June 25, 2021
Zinc Tank, <i>Market Research Agency</i>	§ Knowingly transmit to the public on polling day the results of an election survey that had not previously been transmitted	\$500	June 7, 2021	July 2, 2021
Steven Thompson, <i>Nomination Contestant Edmonton-McClung (2018), UCP Party</i>	§ Furnished funds to three persons for the purpose of making a contribution § Knowingly accepted contributions, from three contributors, with funds provided by another person § Knowingly filed a false financial statement with the Chief Electoral Officer	\$8,000	April 13, 2021	§ Application for Appeal, July 27, 2021 § Appeal Unsuccessful § Penalty Paid, March 9, 2022

Name	Violation	Penalty Amount	Date Issued	Date Paid/Status
Caroline Thompson, <i>Chief Financial Officer for Steven Thompson, Nomination Contestant Edmonton-McClung (2018), UCP Party</i>	§ As CFO acting on behalf of Steven Thompson, knowingly accepted contributions, by three persons, with funds provided by another person § Knowingly filed a false financial statement with the Chief Electoral Officer	\$3,500	April 13, 2021	§ Application for Appeal, July 27, 2021 § Appeal Unsuccessful § Penalty Paid, March 9, 2022
Jaimie-Lee Wicentowich, <i>Political Contributor</i>	§ Contributed funds to a registered nomination contestant that had been given or furnished by another person	\$1,500	April 13, 2021	April 23, 2021
Avaleen Nycz, <i>Political Contributor</i>	§ Contributed funds to a registered nomination contestant that had been given or furnished by another person	\$1,500	April 13, 2021	May 12, 2021
Gennady Sergeev, <i>Political Contributor</i>	§ Contributed funds to a registered nomination contestant that had been given or furnished by another person	\$1,500	April 13, 2021	May 19, 2021

Compliance Agreements

Name	Violation Summary	Date Issued
Ariana Mancini, <i>Candidate</i>	<p>§ Ariana Mancini, the NDP endorsed candidate for the upcoming by-election in Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche, her campaign manager Brandon Stevens and the NDP, produced advertising messages that contained incorrect sponsorship information. The contact information indicated that the advertising message was "Authorized by the Official Agent for Ariana Mancini".</p> <p>§ Candidates are not able to appoint an Official Agent until such time as their nomination papers are submitted and accepted by the Returning Officer, after the Writ of Election has dropped. The parties agreed to cease production and distribution of communication materials with this authorization statement at this time and to ensure that the correct authorization statements are displayed, at the appropriate times.</p> <p>§ Ms. Mancini has not, and agrees that she will not, accept any contributions or incur any campaign expenses until the campaign period begins, in accordance with s. 9(1.1) of the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act (EFCDA).</p> <p>§ All contributions and expense recording and reporting provisions, as outlined in the EFCDA, will be adhered to by all parties.</p>	February 14, 2022
Brian Jean, <i>Candidate</i>	<p>§ Brian Jean, the UCP endorsed candidate for the upcoming by-election in Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche, and his campaign coordinator, Vitor Marciano, produced a website which contained incorrect contribution information, which could have resulted in the donation of contributions.</p> <p>§ The parties have confirmed that only contributions for Brian Jeans nomination contest were being accepted and that the language on the website was incorrect. Nomination contest contributions ceased in accordance with the provisions of the EFCDA, two months after Brian Jean was selected as the endorsed candidate. The donation functionality of the website has been disabled until the by-election campaign period commences.</p> <p>§ The parties confirmed, and did agree, that no contributions would be accepted by Brian Jean for his election campaign, during the period between the end of his nomination contest and the commencement of the by-election campaign period. The parties acknowledged that they are currently not campaigning and that no election campaign contributions have been accepted and no election campaign expenses have been incurred.</p> <p>§ All contributions and expense recording and reporting provisions, as outlined in the EFCDA, will be adhered to by all parties.</p>	June 21, 2021

APPEALS, JUDICIAL REVIEWS AND COURT DECISIONS

Many of the decisions outlined herein are historical in nature and date back to a period when the Election Commissioner's Office and Elections Alberta were separate, stand alone, Independent Offices of the Alberta Legislature. The resolution of these matters became the responsibility of Elections Alberta, in November 2019, when the Office of the Election Commissioner was dissolved, and the two Offices were combined.

The appeal of a number of the findings and decisions of the former Election Commissioner resumed during this reporting period having been delayed, in large part, due to the impacts the Covid 19 pandemic had on the Courts.

Cherry v Election Commissioner of Alberta, August 23, 2021

On December 1, 2020, the Appellant, Brenda Lee Cherry, appealed the decision of the Election Commissioner that the Appellant was not a citizen of Canada but voted in the 2019 Provincial General Election contrary to section 167(1) of the *Election Act*, RSA 2000, c E-1.

The Appellant applied to the Court of Queen's Bench to introduce an Affidavit sworn by her on August 19, 2020 in connection with this appeal. The Election Commissioner opposed the admission of the Affidavit on the basis that it did not meet the four-pronged test for admission of fresh evidence set out in *R v Palmer*. The Court allowed the Affidavit to be considered.

The Court found that the Election Commissioner did not commit a palpable and overriding error in finding that the Appellant voted in breach of section 167(a) of the *Election Act* on the strength of all of the information available to him, which included the witness statement and interview and the interview, of the Appellant and her husband, Mr. Tapper. There was ample evidence to conclude the Appellant had voted when not a Canadian citizen in violation of section 167(a) of the *Election Act*.

The Appellant's Affidavit referred to her mental and physical state at the time of the investigation and her indication "the level of personal stress was overwhelming."

The Election Commissioner allotted the minimum reduction of 5% on the penalty, based on the Administrative Penalty table, for health-related factors, the Appellant's receipt of the "Where to Vote" card and her cooperation with the investigation. He also acknowledged her full cooperation in the investigation, her admission of the violation and her offer of an apology for which he reduced the penalty by a further \$2,000. The

COVID-19 pandemic with its attendant impact on the Appellant's circumstance referred to in her Affidavit – which include financial hardships on the Appellant – overlapped some parts of the investigation which extended from January 2020 to May 19, 2020, when the Investigator submitted an Investigation Report, to July 24, 2020, when the Election Commissioner issued his Notice of Administrative Penalty Decision.

The Court was of the view that a larger reduction in penalty for mitigating factors is required to recognize the seriousness of the health-related concerns and stresses being experienced by the Appellant at the time of the offence, including the impact of COVID-19 and the Alberta economy, on the stability of her husband's employment as set out in her Affidavit. The Court adjusted the penalty for mitigating factors (having regard to the spectrum of (-) 5% to 25% in the table) from -5% (-\$2,500) to -12.5% (-\$6,250) from \$5,500 to \$1,750.

The entire decision can be found here:

<https://www.canlii.org/en/ab/abqb/doc/2021/2021abqb672/2021abqb672.html?autocompleteStr=cherry&autocompletePos=2>

Rebel News Network Ltd. v Election Commissioner of Alberta, November 25, 2021

Rebel News Network Ltd. (Rebel News) appealed the decision of the Election Commissioner that Rebel engaged in political advertising without registering as a third party advertiser in breach of section 9.1(1) of the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*, RSA 2000, c E-2 (EFCDA). Section 9.1(1) requires a third party to register with Elections Alberta when it incurs or plans to incur expenses of at least \$1,000 for political advertising.

Following an investigation, the Election Commissioner had concluded between the period of November 23, 2018, to November 30, 2018, Rebel News had incurred expenses of more than \$1,000 for political advertising and was therefore required to register as a third party political advertiser with Elections Alberta.

On January 14, 2019, the Election Commissioner sent Rebel News a Notice of Adverse Finding and Proposed Penalty (Notice) that outlined the findings of the investigation and invited Rebel News "to respond to this notice and include any information you consider to be relevant prior to my final assessment and issuance of an appropriate penalty."

On January 18, 2019, Rebel News responded, claiming that the Election Commissioner had made his decision without giving Rebel News an opportunity to respond to the allegations against it, and then declined to provide a response to the Notice. The

Election Commissioner sent two follow-up letters to Rebel News on January 22, 2019, and February 6, 2019, advising no final decision had been reached and again inviting input, which Rebel News continued to decline to provide.

On February 14, 2019, the Election Commissioner issued a final decision that Rebel News had contravened the EFCDA. The penalty imposed was a Letter of Reprimand.

Appeal

Rebel News applied for judicial review of the decision claiming the Election Commissioner had prejudged the matter before Rebel News had an opportunity to respond to the allegations and had failed to act in a procedurally fair manner. On October 28, 2020, the judicial review application was dismissed stating the Election Commissioner did not prejudge the contravention issue and had fulfilled his statutory duty to provide Rebel News reasonable notice and subsequent invitations to respond.

The full judicial review decision can be found here:

<https://www.canlii.org/en/ab/abqb/doc/2020/2020abqb682/2020abqb682.html>

Appeal

Rebel News appealed the decision of the judicial review judge claiming the judge applied an incorrect legal test and erred in concluding the required standard of procedural fairness was met, and the Commissioner did not evince a reasonable apprehension of bias.

On November 5, 2021, the appeal was dismissed. The Court agreed with the review and decision of the judicial review judge, finding the judge used the applicable test and the test was applied correctly.

The full appeal decision can be found here:

<https://www.canlii.org/en/ab/abca/doc/2021/2021abca376/2021abca376.html?resultIndex=1>

Note: Leave to appeal the decision at the Supreme Court of Canada has been dismissed without reasons.

Rebel News has also challenged the constitutionality of the third party registration provisions. That challenge has yet to be heard by the Court.

**Steven Thompson and Caroline Thompson v Election Commissioner of Alberta,
February 25, 2022**

On February 25, 2022, the Appellants, Steven and Caroline Thompson, appealed the decision of the Election Commissioner that the Appellants had breached the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*, RSA 2000, c E-2 (EFCDA). Specifically, Mr. Thompson appealed the administrative penalty of \$8,000 received, in relation to the Election Commissioner's finding that he had given or furnished funds to other individuals, for the purpose of having those individuals contribute those funds to his campaign at a later time, when he became a registered nomination contestant, in breach of section 34(1.1), section 34(2), and section 46 of the EFCDA for a total of 7 counts. Caroline Thompson appealed the administrative penalty of \$3,500 in relation to the Election Commission's finding she was the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for Steven Thompson, a registered nomination contestant and while acting on behalf of Mr. Thompson, accepted contributions from individuals knowing, or having ought to have known, the contribution was contrary to sections 34(1) and 34(2). The Election Commissioner found Ms. Thompson in breach of sections 34(1), 34(2) and 46 of the EFCDA, for a total of 4 counts.

The Appellants challenged the merits of the Election Commissioner's decision submitting the Election Commissioner committed errors of fact and/or law. The Appellants alleged the Election Commissioner breached procedural fairness by refusing to provide the Appellants with copies of the recordings or transcripts of witnesses then relying on the same in coming to his conclusions, relying on an investigation which employed improper and inappropriate tactics and techniques, and countenancing same, and by not providing any opportunity for the Appellants to speak to the penalty prior to providing the decisions. The Appellants also made allegations of bias against the investigator and the Election Commissioner.

The Court dismissed both appeals. The Court accepted and gave deference to the Election Commissioner's findings of credibility of the witnesses in the investigation and dismissed the allegations of improper investigative techniques.

The Court held that procedural fairness is a sliding scale that is highly contextual and that, in this case, the context provided for procedural fairness was characterized at the very low end of the scale. Based on this characterization, the Court found there was no breach of procedural fairness on the part of the Election Commissioner.

The Court further held the proper standard of review was palpable and overriding error, the standard of review is deferential. As such, the Court found that, given no palpable

and overriding error was identified in this case, the Election Commissioner's decision was to be given deference.

The Court also refused to alter the penalties stating that, without identifying a reviewable error, the Court did not have the jurisdiction to do so.

Note: The decision was delivered orally. As such, there is no reported decision to provide.

Jennifer Thompson and Darren Thompson v Election Commissioner of Alberta, March 31, 2022

On August 2, 2019, the Appellants, Jennifer Thompson and Darren Thompson, appealed the decision of the Election Commissioner that the Appellants had breached the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*, RSA 2000, c E-2 (EFCDA). Specifically, Ms. Thompson appealed the administrative penalty of \$5,850 received in relation to the Election Commissioner's finding, that Ms. Thompson contributed to a registered leadership contestant, using funds given to her for the purposes of making the contribution in breach of section 34(1) of (EFCDA). Darren Thompson appealed the administrative penalty of \$5,250 received in relation to the Election Commissioner's finding that Mr. Thompson contributed to a registered leadership contestant using funds given to him for the purposes of making the contribution in breach of section 34(1) of (EFCDA).

Following investigation, the Election Commissioner concluded the Appellant contributed \$3,900 in her name to a registered leadership contestant using funds that did not belong to the Appellant and had been given or furnished to the Appellant by another person or a prohibited entity for the purpose of making the contribution to the registered leadership contestant. An administrative penalty of \$5,850 was imposed on the Appellant.

The Appellant appealed on the basis the Election Commissioner had incorrectly or unreasonably exercised his powers under the EFCDA by issuing the penalty against the Appellant, alleged breaches of procedural fairness, and made allegations of abuse of authority against the Election Commissioner. Specifically, the Appellant alleged the Election Commissioner failed to consider all the evidence and information prior to making an adverse finding, failed to provide the Appellant with the evidence relied upon in making the finding, abused his authority and demonstrated bias against the Applicant by making adverse findings based solely on circumstantial evidence, misinterpreted the provisions of the EFCDA by conflating the roles of the investigator and the Election Commissioner and by making a final determination during the investigative stage and prior to a hearing of the matter before an independent decision maker, and failed to provide the Appellant with an opportunity to be heard or cross examine adverse

witnesses. The Appellant also claimed they had been treated in an unconstitutional manner in being subjected to the penalty, as it solely relates to the internal matters of a political party and constituency associations and the nomination contest process prior to an election period. On March 31, 2022, the Appellant discontinued the action against the Election Commissioner on a without costs basis.

PENALTY FRAMEWORK PROCESS TESTED

After several successful appeals of the former Election Commissioner's penalties and decisions, specifically related to issues regarding procedural fairness, the current Election Commissioner implemented a more structured penalty assessment and application process. We reported on this framework in our 2020 -2021 annual report.

Since that time the penalty framework procedure was examined, during the appeal of the penalty decision in *Cherry v Election Commissioner of Alberta* (above), and the Court of Queen's Bench validated this process. This acknowledgement was confirmation that this is an administratively and procedurally fair process.

MISINFORMATION AND DISINFORMATION

The rise in disinformation activities is of great concern to electoral management bodies around the globe. The spreading of a false narrative, by any group or organization with the intention of swaying voters in a particular direction, negatively impacts our democratic process.

In an effort to combat such malicious interference, Elections Alberta engages with an assortment of subject matter experts and enforcement agencies. These include the Provincial Security and Intelligence branch of Alberta Justice and Solicitor General, the Secretariat for Electoral Coordination and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), to name a few.

We have been part of the Deceptive Online Practices subcommittee, a national group collaborating on electoral issues and concerns, since late 2019. Our Office has also contributed to the Canadian Elections Resources Library (CERL) to share information with other electoral management bodies on misinformation and disinformation.

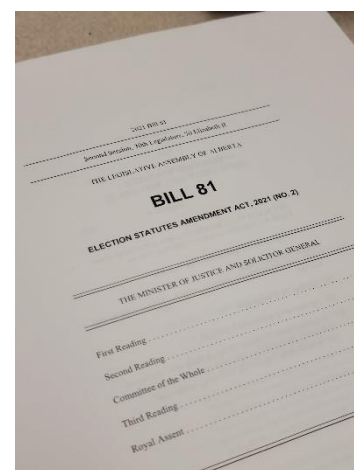
To address this threat, see Section 5, Recommendation: Addressing Misinformation and Disinformation.

WHAT'S NEW

4

Legislation

Bill 81, the *Election Statutes Amendment Act, 2021 (No.2)*, was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on November 4, 2021. The Bill primarily focused on amendments to the *Election Act* and *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*, although consequential amendments also impacted the *Alberta Senate Election Act*, *Citizen Initiative Act*, *Recall Act*, *Legislative Assembly Act*, *Local Authorities Election Act*, and the *Alberta Personal Income Tax Act*. The Bill received royal assent on December 8, 2021, and came into force on March 31, 2022.



ELECTION ACT

Over 130 sections of the *Election Act* were amended by Bill 81. Major areas of change included:

- ◁ Introduction of a **FIXED ELECTION DATE** on the last Monday in the 4th calendar year after the last General Election. The fixed election date for the 31st Provincial General Election is May 29, 2023.
- ◁ Introduction of **MANDATORY IDENTIFICATION** for all voters. In alignment with municipal and federal elections, electors will now need to show identification, with their name and current address, prior to voting.
- ◁ Removal of **PRESCRIPTIVE ELEMENTS** of the legislation relating to enumeration and election officer positions. These changes allow the Chief Electoral Officer to

provide more options for registering to vote during an enumeration period and the ability to modify staffing models at voting places.

- ◁ Removal of the **OATH FOR VOTER ASSISTANCE** allowing electors who require additional assistance, the ability to access support without taking an oath regarding their inability or incapacity.
- ◁ Removal of the requirement to annotate **DECLINED BALLOTS** in the voting record preserving the secrecy of the vote for these electors.
- ◁ Expansion of **MOBILE VOTING** options to include advance voting days, allowing facilities to select from any of the 6 days of voting to align with internal needs and schedules.

Additional details on the changes to the *Election Act* can be found in Appendix N.

ELECTION FINANCES AND CONTRIBUTIONS DISCLOSURE ACT

Over 80 sections of the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* were amended by Bill 81. Major areas of change included:

- ◁ Removal of registration requirement for **NOMINATION CONTESTANTS**. Reporting of contests and endorsed contestants to Elections Alberta will take place after the nomination contest has been completed.
- ◁ Modification of the definition of **POLITICAL ADVERTISING** to no longer include “an advertising message that takes a position on an issue with which a registered party, leader, MLA, candidate, leadership contestant or nomination contestant is associated.”
- ◁ Changes to how **CONTRIBUTION AND EXPENSE LIMITS** are calculated. Limits will now round to the nearest \$100. The updated limits apply to contributions throughout 2022 and expenses for electoral events that commenced after March 31, 2022. The political party expense limit for the 2023 Provincial General Election will now be determined based on a calculation of \$1.16 x the number of names in the Register of Electors on February 1, 2023.
- ◁ Nomination contestants will have a separate contribution limit of \$4,000 per person, ordinarily resident in Alberta per calendar year, in aggregate to any combination of nomination contestants and will no longer be eligible for **ALBERTA INCOME TAX CREDITS**.

- ◁ Constituency associations are no longer required to file **QUARTERLY CONTRIBUTION REPORTS** effective as of the first quarter in 2022.

Additional details on the changes to the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* can be found in Appendix N.

RECALL ACT

Bill 52: *Recall Act*, was tabled in the legislature on March 15, 2021 and received Royal Assent on June 17, 2021. It came into force on April 7, 2022.

The *Act* enables eligible Alberta electors to submit applications for petitions to recall elected officials. Elections Alberta will administer the petition process for recall of elected Members of the Legislative Assembly. Local jurisdictions and school boards will be responsible for the process for local elected authorities and school trustees.

Recall processes and forms are available online at: <https://www.elections.ab.ca/recall-initiative/recall/recall-process/>

CITIZEN INITIATIVE ACT

Bill 51: *Citizen Initiative Act*, was tabled on March 16, 2021 and received Royal Assent on June 17, 2021. It came into force on April 7, 2022.

The *Act* enables eligible Alberta electors to submit applications for a petition to introduce legislation or a policy proposal in the legislature, or to hold a constitutional referendum on a question. Elections Alberta will administer the application and petition process, as well as enforce financing rules.

Citizen initiative processes and forms are available online at: <https://www.elections.ab.ca/recall-initiative/initiative/initiative-process/>

Preparation for the 31st Provincial General Election

While Elections Alberta began preparing for the 31st Provincial General Election, immediately after the 30th Provincial General Election was completed, this work could only begin in earnest after the tabling of Bill 81 in November 2021. As the *Election Act* prescribes many of the activities that occur in an election, knowing the details of the legislation was essential for fulsome preparations.

The activities that Elections Alberta completed in 2021-2022 to prepare for the next provincial general election included:

- ◁ Recruiting **RETURNING OFFICERS** for each of the 87 electoral divisions, as well as two spare Returning Officers that could fill in for vacancies if the need arises during an election event.
- ◁ Development of a new **ELECTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM** to support activities such as election officer recruitment and training, voting place management, candidate nominations, Special Ballots and results reporting.
- ◁ Division of each electoral division into **VOTING AREAS**, used for the administration of the election. While electoral divisions are recommended to the Legislature by the Electoral Boundaries Commission, voting area boundaries are determined by Returning Officers and mapped by Elections Alberta GIS technicians.
- ◁ Testing of an **ELECTRONIC VOTING RECORD** and **CANDIDATE/PARTY PORTAL** in the Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche By-Election. The by-election allowed us to test portions of the election management system that will be used in the Provincial General Election.
- ◁ Commenced recruitment of **ELECTION CLERKS** to support the Returning Officers in completing pre-election preparation activities. Additional Election Clerks are also being recruited to provide six satellite returning offices, in geographically large electoral divisions, to provide more service options for electors, candidates and election officers.
- ◁ Following the completion of new voting area boundaries, the **REDISTRIBUTION OF ALL ADDRESSES** in Alberta into their new boundaries in preparation for List Review. On Election Day, electors can only vote at the station assigned for their

voting area. This redistribution process is essential for registered electors to show up in the correct voting area records on Election Day.

2022-2023 will be very busy with continued election preparation activities, including:

- ◁ Completion of **LIST REVIEW**, the process of reviewing the redistributed addresses to ensure they are located in the correct voting area.
- ◁ Identification of advance, mobile and Election Day **VOTING PLACES**. With Alberta's fixed election date, Returning Officers can book voting places and complete accessibility checks earlier in the process.
- ◁ **ENGAGEMENT** with First Nations, Métis Settlements, supportive living facilities, long-term care facilities, hospitals, homeless shelters, and community support centres to determine preferred voting options.
- ◁ **ORDERING** of all election supplies, equipment and materials. All materials used in the election are purchased centrally, received at the Elections Alberta warehouse and packed for distribution to each returning office.
- ◁ Development of **ONLINE AND CLASSROOM TRAINING MATERIALS** to train approximately 20,000 election officers during the election period.
- ◁ Development of the election **ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN** and creation of 200+ newspaper advertisements that we will run during the election to advertise voting locations.
- ◁ Recruit for **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, TRAINER AND IT SUPPORT** positions for every returning office.
- ◁ Identification of a **RETURNING OFFICE** in each electoral division and satellite offices in geographically large electoral divisions.
- ◁ Delivery of **ELECTION TRAINING** to the 450+ returning office staff to prepare them to conduct the 31st Provincial General Election.

Tax Credits for Contributions

We received a summary of political contribution tax credits claimed in 2021 from the Tax and Revenue Administration Division of the Alberta Treasury Board and Finance.

Table 12 summarizes the dollar value of credits claimed for contributions over the past six years.

Table 12: Year-by-Year Tax Credits Claimed

YEAR	CORPORATE*		INDIVIDUAL	TOTAL CREDITS CLAIMED	
2021	\$	(1,572)	\$	4,226,000**	\$ 4,224,428
2020	\$	(4,073)	\$	3,843,000	\$ 3,838,927
2019	\$	9,241	\$	5,362,000	\$ 5,371,241
2018	\$	21,157	\$	4,120,000	\$ 4,141,157
2017	\$	2,422	\$	2,728,000	\$ 2,730,422
2016	\$	214,450	\$	2,021,000	\$ 2,235,450

*Based on tax credits assessed during the calendar year, regardless of actual tax year-end of the claim period. Section 24 of the *Alberta Income Tax Act* was repealed effective June 15, 2015, to eliminate the Alberta Political Contributions Tax Credit for corporations. The claimed amount should be less and will see nothing in the near future.

**As of July 2022 Tax Sharing Statements.

Individuals can claim income tax credits for political contributions made to registered political parties, candidates (including senate candidates), constituency associations, and leadership contestants.¹⁰ A maximum non-refundable tax credit of \$1,000 is reached when an individual has contributed \$2,300 or more in any given year.

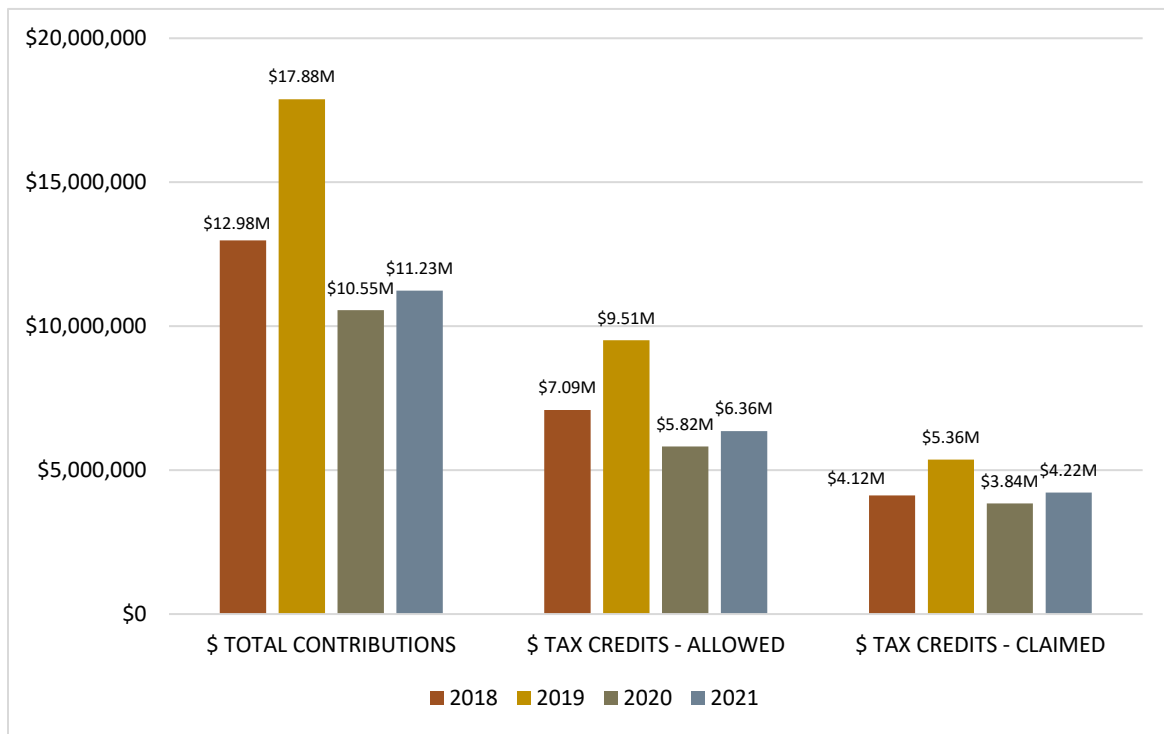
Table 13: Tax Credit Calculation

AMOUNT CONTRIBUTED	AVAILABLE TAX CREDIT	MAXIMUM CREDIT	CUMULATIVE AMOUNT
UP TO \$200	75%	\$150	\$150
NEXT \$900 (\$201 TO \$1,100)	50%	\$450	\$600
NEXT \$1,200 (\$1,101 TO \$2,300)	33.3%	\$400	\$1,000
OVER \$2,300	NIL	NIL	\$1,000

¹⁰ Corporations and individuals are eligible to contribute to registered third party advertisers, but TPA contributions do not earn income tax credits. Effective March 31, 2022 contributions to nomination contestants are not eligible to earn income tax credits.

We calculated the total available tax credits based on contributions reported from 2018 through 2021. Less than 60% of the available credits were claimed by individuals in 2018 and 2019, and this increased to 66% that were claimed in 2020 and 2021.

Figure 21: Individuals' Contributions and Tax Credits 2018-2021



Looking Ahead

CALGARY-ELBOW

Preparations have commenced, should we be called to conduct a provincial by-election in Calgary-Elbow.

A vacancy was created on August 31, 2022 upon the resignation of Doug Schweitzer, member of the Legislative Assembly.

The *Legislative Assembly Act* requires an Order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council to be issued authorizing a writ of election in Calgary-Elbow. Under section 32 of the *Legislative Assembly Act*, if a vacancy occurs in the last year of the legal life of the Assembly, an Order need not be made.

BROOKS-MEDICINE HAT

A vacancy was created on October 7, 2022, upon the resignation of Michaela Frey, member of the Legislative Assembly.

The Writ of Election was issued on October 11, 2022, for a by-election to occur in Brooks-Medicine Hat. The Chief Electoral Officer will issue a report on the by-election in 2023.

LEADERSHIP CONTESTS

We regulate leadership contests held by political parties to select new leaders. Three parties announced leadership contests in 2022. Table 14 lists the parties and contest dates, as well as the registered contestants and who was ultimately endorsed. Financial returns received from these leadership contestants will be published on our financial disclosure website and in our 2022-23 annual report.

Table 14: 2022 Leadership Contests

POLITICAL PARTY	LEADERSHIP VOTE DATE	LEADERSHIP CONTESTANT
LIB	N/A ¹¹	N/A
TIP	SEPTEMBER 10, 2022	ARTUR PAWLOWSKI (ENDORSED) KATHERINE KOWALCHUK
UCP	OCTOBER 6, 2022	BRIAN JEAN DANIELLE SMITH (ENDORSED) JON HORSMAN (WITHDRAWN) LEELA AHEER RAJAN SAWHNEY RAJNESH SHERMAN (WITHDRAWN) REBECCA SCHULZ TODD LOEWEN TRAVIS TOEWS WILLIAM ROCK (WITHDRAWN)

¹¹ Nominations for the 2022 LIB Leadership Contest closed on August 12, 2022. At the close of nominations there were no registered leadership contestants, and the party confirmed that the Leadership Contest ended.

NOMINATION CONTESTS

We regulate nomination contests held by political parties and constituency associations to select contestants for endorsement as their candidates for provincial general elections and by-elections. Table 15 provides a snapshot of the nomination contestants for the 2023 Provincial General Election, up to October 31, 2022. Financial returns received from nomination contestants are published on our financial disclosure website and will be provided in our report following the election.

Table 15: Nomination Contestants up to October 31, 2022

PARTY	ELECTORAL DIVISION	SELECTION DATE	NOMINATION CONTESTANT
AP	CALGARY-ELBOW	MAY 29, 2022	KERRY CUNDAL (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-NORTH WEST	SEPTEMBER 14, 2022	JENNIFER YEREMIY (ENDORSED)
	BROOKS-MEDICINE HAT	MAY 25, 2022	BARRY MORISHITA (ENDORSED)
NDP	CALGARY-ACADIA	MAY 26, 2022	DIANA BATTEN (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-BEDDINGTON	OCTOBER 17, 2022	AMANDA CHAPMAN JASON CURRY
	CALGARY-BOW	MAY 12, 2022	DRUH FARRELL (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-BUFFALO	NOVEMBER 15, 2021	JOE CECI (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-CROSS	JULY 25, 2022	DENIS RAM GURINDER SINGH GILL (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-CURRIE	NOVEMBER 13, 2021	BRIAN MALKINSON JANET EREMENKO (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-EAST	APRIL 9, 2022	ALISON KARIM-MCSWINEY (WITHDRAWN) ROSMAN VALENCIA (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-EDGEMONT	AUGUST 5, 2021	JULIA HAYTER (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-ELBOW	MARCH 5, 2022	SAMIR KAYANDE (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-FALCONRIDGE	OCTOBER 29, 2021	PARMEET SINGH BOPARAI (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-FISH CREEK	OCTOBER 20, 2022	REBECCA BOUNSALL (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-FOOTHILLS	OCTOBER 2, 2022	COURTENAY ELLINGSON (ENDORSED) USMAN SADIQ (WITHDRAWN)
	CALGARY-GLENMORE	MAY 10, 2022	JENNIFER BURGESS NAGWAN AL-GUNEID (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-HAYS	OCTOBER 26, 2022	ANDREW STEWART (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-KLEIN	MARCH 26, 2022	HEATHER EDDY MARILYN NORTH PEIGAN (ENDORSED) MATTIE MCMILLAN
	CALGARY-BHULLAR-MCCALL	MARCH 10, 2022	IRFAN SABIR (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-MOUNTAIN VIEW	SEPTEMBER 15, 2022	KATHLEEN GANLEY (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-NORTH EAST	FEBRUARY 17, 2022	GURINDER BRAR (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-NORTH WEST	SEPTEMBER 7, 2022	LESLEY MACKINNON MICHAEL LISBOA-SMITH (ENDORSED) SHIRAZ MIR
	CALGARY-SHAW	SEPTEMBER 24, 2022	DAVID CLOUTIER (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-VARSITY	JUNE 26, 2021	LUANNE METZ (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-BEVERLY-CLAREVIEW	SEPTEMBER 14, 2022	MICHELLE DRAPER PEGGY WRIGHT (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-CASTLE DOWNS	SEPTEMBER 20, 2022	NICOLE GOEHRING (ENDORSED) NURMAIYA BRADY
	EDMONTON-CITY CENTRE	OCTOBER 11, 2022	DAVID SHEPHERD (ENDORSED)

PARTY	ELECTORAL DIVISION	SELECTION DATE	NOMINATION CONTESTANT
	EDMONTON-DECORE	JUNE 25, 2022	CHRISTIAN NIELSEN SHARIF HAJI (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-ELLERSLIE	SEPTEMBER 10, 2022	JUDI MALONE MANPREET SINGH TIWANA RODRIGO LOYOLA (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-GLENORA	OCTOBER 27, 2021	SARAH HOFFMAN (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-GOLD BAR	SEPTEMBER 17, 2022	MARLIN SCHMIDT (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-HIGHLANDS-NORWOOD	SEPTEMBER 25, 2022	JANIS IRWIN (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-MANNING	SEPTEMBER 8, 2022	HEATHER SWEET (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-MCCLUNG	JUNE 8, 2022	LORNE DACH (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-MEADOWS	MAY 28, 2022	JASVIR DEOL (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-MILL WOODS	APRIL 10, 2022	CHRISTINA GRAY (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-NORTH WEST	MAY 18, 2022	DAVID EGGEN (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-RIVERVIEW	JUNE 7, 2022	LORI SIGURDSON (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-RUTHERFORD	MAY 28, 2022	JODI CALAHOO STONEHOUSE (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-SOUTH	SEPTEMBER 24, 2022	NASIM BOROUMAND RHIANNON HOYLE (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-SOUTH WEST	JUNE 18, 2022	BEN ACQUAYE CHAND GUL MOHAMMAD ALI MASOOD KAMAL NATHAN IP (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-WEST HENDAY	JUNE 29, 2022	BROOKS ARCAND-PAUL (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-WHITEMUD	APRIL 7, 2022	RAKHI PANCHOLI (ENDORSED)
	AIRDRIE-COCHRANE	MAY 30, 2022	SHAUN FLUKER (ENDORSED) STEVE DURRELL
	BANFF-KANANASKIS	MARCH 27, 2022	GAVIN MCCAFFREY MARK TKACZ SARAH ELMELIGI (ENDORSED) TANYA FOUBERT
	BONNYVILLE-COLD LAKE	OCTOBER 28, 2022	CAITLYN BLAKE (ENDORSED)
	BROOKS-MEDICINE HAT	JUNE 23, 2022	GWENDOLINE DIRK (ENDORSED)
	CAMROSE	APRIL 3, 2022	RICHARD BRUNEAU (ENDORSED) TONYA RATUSHNIAK WYATT TANTON
	CENTRAL PEACE-NOTLEY	JULY 20, 2022	LYNN LEKISCH MEGAN CIURYSEK (ENDORSED)
	CHESTERMERE-STRATHMORE	SEPTEMBER 29, 2022	RAJ JESSEL (ENDORSED)
	LAC STE. ANNE-PARKLAND	MARCH 12, 2022	ONEIL CARLIER (ENDORSED)
	LACOMBE-PONOKA	OCTOBER 19, 2022	DAVID DALE (ENDORSED)
	LEDUC-BEAUMONT	APRIL 13, 2022	CAMERON HEENAN (ENDORSED) CHANTELLE HOSSEINY
	LESSER SLAVE LAKE	MARCH 13, 2022	DANIELLE LARIVÉE (ENDORSED)
	LETHBRIDGE-EAST	NOVEMBER 21, 2021	AMANDA JENSEN KEVIN MCBEATH MARIA FITZPATRICK ROBERT MIYASHIRO (ENDORSED)
	LETHBRIDGE-WEST	SEPTEMBER 11, 2022	SHANNON PHILLIPS (ENDORSED)
	MORINVILLE-ST. ALBERT	APRIL 30, 2022	JAMES GRONDIN KAREN SHAW (ENDORSED)
	OLDS-DIDSBURY-THREE HILLS	OCTOBER 1, 2022	CHERYL HUNTER LOEWEN (ENDORSED)
	RED DEER-NORTH	OCTOBER 5, 2022	CRAIG CURTIS JAELENE TWEEDLE (ENDORSED)

PARTY	ELECTORAL DIVISION	SELECTION DATE	NOMINATION CONTESTANT
	RED DEER-SOUTH	JUNE 18, 2022	BARB MILLER KYLE JOHNSTON MICHELLE BAER (ENDORSED)
	SHERWOOD PARK	SEPTEMBER 28, 2022	ANNIE MCKITRICK JEFFERY MANCHAK KYLE KASAWSKI (ENDORSED) VIVIAN MILLS (WITHDRAWN)
	SPRUCE GROVE-STONY PLAIN	SEPTEMBER 27, 2022	CHANTAL MCKENZIE (ENDORSED) ROD SHAIGEC
	ST. ALBERT	MARCH 24, 2022	MARIE RENAUD (ENDORSED)
	STRATHCONA-SHERWOOD PARK	JUNE 9, 2022	BILL TONITA (ENDORSED)
	VERMILION-LLOYDMINSTER-WAINWRIGHT	OCTOBER 15, 2022	DAWN FLAATA (ENDORSED)
GPA	CALGARY-BUFFALO	OCTOBER 4, 2022	HEATHER MORIGEAU (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-CURRIE	OCTOBER 4, 2022	JONATHAN PARKS (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-EAST	OCTOBER 4, 2022	JAYDEN BALDONADO (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-EDGEMONT	OCTOBER 4, 2022	BRANDY KINKEAD (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-HAYS	OCTOBER 4, 2022	EVELYN TANAKA (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-PEIGAN	OCTOBER 4, 2022	SHAUN PULSIFER (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-BEVERLY-CLAREVIEW	OCTOBER 4, 2022	MICHAEL C.W. HUNTER (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-HIGHLANDS-NORWOOD	OCTOBER 4, 2022	KRISTINE KOWALCHUK (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-MILL WOODS	OCTOBER 18, 2022	CHITRA BAKSHI (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-NORTH WEST	OCTOBER 4, 2022	TYLER BEAULAC (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-RUTHERFORD	OCTOBER 4, 2022	JORDAN WILKIE (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-SOUTH WEST	OCTOBER 4, 2022	JEFF CULLIHALL (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-STRATHCONA	OCTOBER 4, 2022	ROBERT GOODING-TOWNSEND (ENDORSED)
	ATHABASCA-BARRHEAD-WESTLOCK	OCTOBER 18, 2022	CARL MCKAY (ENDORSED)
	CYPRESS-MEDICINE HAT	OCTOBER 4, 2022	DUSTIN CARTWRIGHT (ENDORSED)
	OLDS-DIDSBURY-THREE HILLS	OCTOBER 4, 2022	DANIEL BRISBIN (ENDORSED)
	SHERWOOD PARK	OCTOBER 4, 2022	LUCAS BEVAN (ENDORSED)
UCP	CALGARY-ACADIA	AUGUST 5, 2022	TYLER SHANDRO (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-BEDDINGTON	MARCH 29, 2022	JOSEPHINE PON (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-CROSS	MAY 3, 2022	MICKEY AMERY (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-CURRIE	MAY 3, 2022	NICHOLAS MILLIKEN (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-EAST	MARCH 29, 2022	PETER SINGH (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-EDGEMONT	MARCH 24, 2022	PRASAD PANDA (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-FOOTHILLS	MAY 3, 2022	JASON LUAN (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-GLENMORE	JUNE 7, 2022	WHITNEY ISSIK (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-HAYS	JUNE 21, 2022	RIC MCIVER (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-KLEIN	MARCH 24, 2022	JEREMY NIXON (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-NORTH	JUNE 21, 2022	MUHAMMAD YASEEN (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-NORTH WEST	JULY 22, 2022	SONYA SAVAGE (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-PEIGAN	MAY 3, 2022	TANYA FIR (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-SHAW	MARCH 21, 2022	REBECCA SCHULZ (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-SOUTH EAST	MARCH 21, 2022	MATTHEW JONES (ENDORSED)
	CALGARY-WEST	JUNE 7, 2022	MICHAEL ELLIS (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-CASTLE DOWNS	JULY 18, 2022	JON DZIADYK (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-DECORE	JUNE 21, 2022	SAYID AHMED (ENDORSED)
	EDMONTON-SOUTH WEST	JUNE 29, 2022	KAYCEE MADU (ENDORSED)

PARTY	ELECTORAL DIVISION	SELECTION DATE	NOMINATION CONTESTANT
			VEACESLAV CRAVCENCO
	BANFF-KANANASKIS	JUNE 28, 2022	MIRANDA ROSIN (ENDORSED)
	CAMROSE	AUGUST 6, 2022	JACKIE LOVELY (ENDORSED)
			KEVIN SMOOK
	CARDSTON-SIKSIKA	MARCH 21, 2022	JODIE GATEMAN
			JOSEPH SCHOW (ENDORSED)
	DRUMHELLER-STETTLER	MARCH 24, 2022	NATHAN HORNER (ENDORSED)
	FORT SASKATCHEWAN-VEGREVILLE	MARCH 24, 2022	JACKIE ARMSTRONG HOMENIUK (ENDORSED)
	HIGHWOOD	AUGUST 12, 2022	RICHARD SIGURDSON (ENDORSED)
	INNISFAIL-SYLVAN LAKE	JULY 20, 2022	DEVIN DREESHEN (ENDORSED)
			ONSY TAWADROUS
	LETHBRIDGE-EAST	MARCH 30, 2022	NATHAN NEUDORF (ENDORSED)
	MORINVILLE-ST. ALBERT	MARCH 24, 2022	DALE NALLY (ENDORSED)
	OLDS-DIDSBURY-THREE HILLS	MARCH 29, 2022	NATHAN COOPER (ENDORSED)
	PEACE RIVER	MARCH 24, 2022	DANIEL WILLIAMS (ENDORSED)
	RED DEER-NORTH	AUGUST 18, 2022	ADRIANA LAGRANGE (ENDORSED)
			ANDREW CLEWS
	RIMBEY-ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE-SUNDRE	MARCH 23, 2022	JASON NIXON (ENDORSED)
			TIMOTHY HOVEN
	SHERWOOD PARK	MAY 3, 2022	JORDAN WALKER (ENDORSED)
	SPRUCE GROVE-STONY PLAIN	MAY 5, 2022	SEARLE TURTON (ENDORSED)
	STRATHCONA-SHERWOOD PARK	MARCH 30, 2022	NATE GLUBISH (ENDORSED)
	WEST YELLOWHEAD	AUGUST 2, 2022	MARTIN LONG (ENDORSED)

Looking back to the 2019 Provincial General Election the total number of nomination contests, held by parties and constituency associations, exceeded 400 and the total number of registered nomination contestants was over 700. We anticipate similar numbers as we look ahead to the 2023 Provincial General Election.

RECOMMENDATIONS

5

Recommendations for the Election Act

Addressing Misinformation and Disinformation

During the 2021 Municipal Elections, posts were made on Twitter that impersonated the Elections Alberta account. This highlighted the concerns about how such activity could not only impact the delivery of an election, but also how misinformation and disinformation could negatively impact elector participation and individual election campaigns.

Elections Canada, in their Report entitled *Meeting New Challenges: Recommendations from the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada following the 43rd and 44th General Elections*, provided recommendations to address the threat to the electoral process from false communications, foreign interference and using a computer system to fraudulently affect the outcome of an election. The issues that are raised in this report are relevant to all election management bodies and raise important considerations for Alberta's electoral legislation.

Excerpt from Meeting New Challenges: Recommendations from the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada following the 43rd and 44th General Elections

4.1. Prohibiting Certain False Communications

False information about the electoral process and the integrity of elections can harm public trust in elections. This can serve to facilitate voter suppression and, in the longer term, jeopardize trust in the entire electoral system on which democracies rest.

There are no specific prohibitions in the Act against making false statements about the electoral process. For example, statements that wilfully mischaracterize when, where and the

ways to vote are not specifically prohibited, nor are false statements that portray official results as having been manipulated. When such statements are knowingly made to suppress participation, they may trigger the application of existing prohibitions against actions to interfere with the voting process.

However, in some cases, the deliberate dissemination of inaccurate information may serve a broader purpose—namely, to undermine the legitimacy of the election itself or the counting of the votes. Even if the person making the statements knows them to be untrue and makes them for the clear purpose of undermining the election, they would not be caught by existing prohibitions.

To protect freedom of expression, the threshold for any provision that seeks to circumscribe speech must be high. While recognizing the importance of freedom of expression, it seems appropriate to limit expression where the speaker knows the information to be false and communicates it in order to disrupt the conduct of an election or to undermine the legitimacy of election results.

Recommendation 4.1.1

To protect against inaccurate information that is intended to disrupt the conduct of an election or undermine its legitimacy, amend the Act to prohibit a person or entity, including foreign persons and entities, from knowingly making false statements about the voting process, including about voting and counting procedures, in order to disrupt the conduct of the election or to undermine the legitimacy of the election or its results.

Recommendation 4.2.1

To better protect against foreign interference and the spread of inaccurate information about elections and electoral participants, amend the Act to extend to the pre-election period the prohibitions against foreign interference and extend to all times the prohibition against misleading publications that falsely claim to be by an election worker, political party, leadership contestant, nomination contestant or candidate.

Since 2018, the Act has made it an offence to use a computer system fraudulently with the intention of affecting the outcome of an election. However, the offence does not capture activity that is designed to interfere with or discredit the electoral process.

In a world at risk from cybersecurity threats, phishing scams and automated bots that have the unprecedented ability to amplify messages, our electoral law should seek to deter the potential damage that can be done by electronic means to our democratic processes, including by foreign actors who may wish to discredit our democracy.

Recommendation 4.2.2

To ensure the more appropriate targeting of an existing offence, amend the Act to broaden the scope of the offence of using a computer system to include acting fraudulently with the intention of disrupting the conduct of the election or undermining the legitimacy of the election or its results.

While the federal election legislation has provisions related to foreign interference and use of a computer system to fraudulently affect the outcome of an election, Alberta does not have these same legislative safeguards.

It is recommended that the *Election Act* is amended to prohibit:

- ◁ A person or entity, including foreign persons and entities, from knowingly making false statements about the voting process, including about voting and counting procedures, in order to disrupt the conduct of the election or to undermine the legitimacy of the election or its results;
- ◁ Misleading publications that falsely claim to be by an election officer, political party, leadership contestant, nomination contestant, candidate or Elections Alberta; and
- ◁ The use of a computer system fraudulently with the intention of affecting the outcome of an election or undermining the legitimacy of the election or its results.

Further, the *Election Act*'s offence provisions should be amended to create offenses in alignment with each of the prohibited actions noted above.

While the *Election Act* allows the Chief Electoral Officer to remove non-compliant advertisements, the section is more applicable to physical signage than digital advertisements.

Election Act, **section 134(5)**

If an advertisement is not in compliance with this section, the Chief Electoral Officer may cause it to be removed or discontinued, and in the case of an advertisement displayed on a sign, poster or other similar format neither the Chief Electoral Officer nor any person acting under the Chief Electoral Officer's instructions is liable for trespass or damage resulting from or occasioned by the removal.

Additional legislative provisions are required to give the Chief Electoral Officer authority to remove content from digital platforms and to compel the platform's assistance in doing so in a timely fashion. Challenges in this area will be ever evolving and Elections Alberta's ability to respond will need to adapt. The 31st Provincial General Election will identify new and emerging trends and situations that may warrant further legislative change. These will be further addressed in the Chief Electoral Officer's post-event report.

Recommendations for the Local Authorities Election Act, Parts 5.1, 8 and 9

The 2021 Municipal Elections were our first exposure to complaints and investigations under this legislation and required us to navigate a host of challenges, such as:

- Inconsistencies within sections of the LAEA.
- Conflicting views between agencies as to the interpretation of the legislation.
- Conflicting advice being given to electors and candidates by various agencies and municipalities.

In an effort to address these challenges, we recommend the LAEA be amended in the following sections:

#	Current Provision	Proposed	Rationale
1	New	<p>Add provisions modelled on section 179 of the <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i> (for third party advertisers) and section 134 of the <i>Election Act</i> in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◁ Require local authority candidates to identify themselves with contact information as the sponsors and authorizers of their election advertising, ◁ Require compliance with guidelines issued by the Minister, ◁ Empower the local jurisdiction to remove non-compliant signage and advertising, and ◁ Provide liability protection for local jurisdictions who remove non-compliant signage. 	<p>This will provide transparency and accountability in election advertising that is consistent with the requirements for third-party advertisers.</p> <p>It is notable that third-party advertisers under the <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i> are subject to more transparency requirements than the candidates themselves with respect to signage and advertising.</p>

#	Current Provision	Proposed	Rationale
2	<p>Limitations on contributions</p> <p>147.2(1) Only an individual ordinarily resident in Alberta may make a contribution to a candidate.</p> <p>(2) No prohibited organization and no individual ordinarily resident outside Alberta shall make a contribution to a candidate.</p> <p>(3) Subject to subsection (4), no individual ordinarily resident in Alberta shall contribute in any campaign period an amount that exceeds</p> <p>(a) \$5000 to any candidate for election as a councilor, and</p> <p>(b) \$5000 to any candidate for election as a school board trustee.</p> <p>(4) A candidate may contribute an amount of up to \$10 000 that is not reimbursed to the candidate from the candidate's campaign account by the end of the campaign period to the candidate's own campaign expenses.</p> <p>(4.1) Any amount paid by a candidate for campaign expenses from the candidate's own funds that is not reimbursed to the candidate from the candidate's campaign account by the end of the campaign period, including an amount referred to in subsection (4), is a contribution to the candidate's own campaign for the purposes of this Act.</p> <p>...</p>	Clarify the extent to which a candidate can self-fund.	<p>Under this section, it appears that a candidate can self-fund up to \$10,000 in the campaign period.</p> <p>It is unclear how this works with section 147.22 below, which appears to allow a candidate to self-contribute \$10,000 per year. Does this mean that in an election year a candidate can self-contribute \$20,000?</p>
3	<p>Acceptance of contributions</p> <p>147.22(1) No person shall accept a contribution or incur a campaign expense unless the person has been nominated as a candidate.</p> <p>(2) No candidate and no person acting for a candidate shall accept a contribution except during the campaign period.</p>	Amend to clarify the operation and intent of this section.	<p>This section is challenging to interpret, apply and enforce when the definitions of "candidate" and "campaign period" are applied.</p> <p>First, a person cannot be "nominated" until 4 weeks before election day such that 147.22(1) creates confusion as to when a person is to allowed to start collecting contributions or incur</p>

#	Current Provision	Proposed	Rationale
	<p>(3) Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply to the following:</p> <p>(a) a person who accepts not more than \$5000 in the aggregate per year in contributions outside the campaign period;</p> <p>(b) a candidate who makes a contribution of not more than \$10 000 in the aggregate per year to the candidate's own campaign from the candidate's own funds.</p>		<p>expenses; it is unclear how 147.22 is intended to work:</p> <p>1(e.1) "candidate" means an individual who has been nominated to run for election in a local jurisdiction as a councilor or school board trustee;</p> <p>1(s.1) "nomination day" means the day referred to in section 25(1);</p> <p>Nomination Day 25(1) Nomination Day is 4 weeks before election day.</p> <p>In short, candidates do not exist until 4 weeks before election day; it is unclear how they can self-contribute to themselves before they become a candidate.</p> <p>Similarly, given the definition of "campaign period" and "candidate" section 147.1(1) is internally conflicting.</p> <p>147.1(1)(b) "campaign period" means In the case of a general election, the period of time from January 1 to December 31 in a year in which a general election is held, and In the case of a by-election, the period of time set by bylaw or resolution to 60 days immediately following the by-election; The result is that someone running for office must record contributions and expenses during the campaign period, which starts on January 1 of the election year and is simultaneously prohibited from accepting contributions and incurring expenses until 4 weeks before election day (mid-September of election year).</p> <p>One solution is to include a threshold of contributions accepted or expenses incurred to</p>

#	Current Provision	Proposed	Rationale
			trigger the recording and reporting requirements (for example see section 9.1 of the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i>).
4	New	Regulation of Third-Party Activities Add a provision so that third party activities (beyond election advertising) that would normally be undertaken by a candidate, are prohibited unless they are recorded as election expenses (at fair market value) by the candidate.	<p>Allowing third parties to undertake campaign activities normally carried out by candidates defeats any candidate expense limit and defeats reporting of expenses by candidates. It also essentially enables corporations to contribute (albeit indirectly) to campaigns by the provision of services, notwithstanding that they are explicitly prohibited from making contributions.</p> <p>For example, if a third party can purchase lawn signs promoting a candidate and then give them to the candidate, this expense goes unrecorded for the candidate and effectively renders any expense limit or candidate campaign expense reporting as meaningless.</p> <p>See for example sections 163 of the <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i> for third-parties and section 41.41 of the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i>.</p>

#	Current Provision	Proposed	Rationale
5	New	Require public access to third-party registers and filings	<p>Some local authorities have taken the position that, in the absence of an explicit statutory authorization, they cannot make the list of registered third party advertisers public or provide public access to the financial disclosures of registered third party advertisers.</p> <p>This position significantly defeats the objectives of transparency and accountability in the funding of candidates.</p> <p>In contrast:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◁ Section 4 of the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i> imposes a statutory obligation on the Chief Electoral Officer to publish the financial disclosures of candidates, political parties, constituency associations, nomination contestants, leadership contestants and all types of third party advertisers; and ◁ Section 11 makes clear that all filings with the Chief Electoral Officer are “public documents” including the list of entities registered as third party advertisers.

#	Current Provision	Proposed	Rationale
6	<p>Collusion</p> <p>166 (1) A registered third party shall not circumvent, or attempt to circumvent, a contribution limit or an expense limit set out in Part 5.1 or an expense limit set out in this Part by colluding with a candidate.</p> <p>(2) A candidate shall not collude with a third party to circumvent, or attempt to circumvent, a contribution limit or an expense limit set out in Part 5.1 or an expense limit set out in this Part.</p> <p>Third party election advertising offences</p> <p>187 A third party that contravenes a provision of this Part is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) \$10 000 if the third party is an individual; (b) \$100 000 if the third party is a trade union, employee organization, corporation or other organization. <p>Penalty — general</p> <p>157 A person who is guilty of an offence under this Act for which a penalty is not otherwise provided is liable to a fine of not more than \$500.</p>	<p>Add a provision that establishes an appropriate maximum fine for a candidate that colludes with a third party advertiser to circumvent a contribution or expense limit.</p>	<p>Section 166 and 187 working together establish the maximum fine for a TPA that “colludes” with a candidate to circumvent a candidate’s expense or contribution limit.</p> <p>However, there is no equivalent offence provision for a candidate that colludes with a third party advertiser which means that a candidate that colludes will be subject to the maximum fine of \$500. This appears to be an oversight and inconsistent with the other maximum fines for candidate offences.</p> <p>Candidate election finances, including contribution and expense limits are set out in Part 5.1 of the <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i>.</p> <p>The maximum fines for offences are instructive to the Election Commissioner when issuing administrative penalties.</p>
7	<p>New</p>	<p>Prohibit the registration of a third party that is affiliated with a candidate – see <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i> section 9.1(5.1)(f) and (5.2)</p>	<p>As under the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i>, such a prohibition will prevent a candidate from forming a third party advertiser to act to support their own campaign which would allow candidate expense and contribution limits to be circumvented.</p>
8	<p>Disclosure</p> <p>203(1) Except as provided in subsection (2), a secretary of a local jurisdiction, a returning</p>	<p>Remove reference to the “Office of the Election Commissioner” and replace it with “Office of the Chief Electoral Officer”.</p>	<p>The “Office of the Election Commissioner” no longer exists as an independent statutory body or Office of the Legislature. The Election</p>

#	Current Provision	Proposed	Rationale
	<p>officer, the Registrar, the Election Commissioner, any former secretary of a local jurisdiction, any former returning officer, any former Registrar, any former Election Commissioner, every person who is or was employed or engaged by a local jurisdiction, a returning officer or the Registrar to carry out the duties of the local jurisdiction, returning officer or Registrar and every person who was employed or engaged by the Office of the Election Commissioner to carry out the duties of the Election Commissioner shall maintain the confidentiality of all information, complaints and allegations that come to their knowledge.</p>		<p>Commissioner is now a statutory position that is part of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer.</p> <p>This terminology being left in following the dissolution of the Office of the Election Commissioner is likely an oversight.</p>
9	<p>192(2) The Election Commissioner may refuse to conduct an investigation, or may cease an investigation, if the Election Commissioner believes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the matter is frivolous or vexatious, or (b) there are no or insufficient grounds to warrant an investigation or the continuation of an investigation. <p>(3) The Election Commissioner shall not make an adverse finding against a person or organization unless that person or organization has had reasonable notice of the substance of the allegations and a reasonable opportunity to present his or her or its views.</p> <p>(4) If the Election Commissioner refuses to conduct or ceases an investigation under subsection (2) or determines that no offence was committed, the Election Commissioner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) shall provide notice of that decision to (l)every person or organization who 	<p>(2) The Election Commissioner may refuse to conduct an investigation, or may cease an investigation, if the Election Commissioner believes that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the matter is frivolous or vexatious, or (c) there are no or insufficient grounds to warrant an investigation or the continuation of an investigation. <p>(3) The Election Commissioner shall not make an adverse finding against a person or organization unless that person or organization has had reasonable notice of the substance of the allegations and a reasonable opportunity to present his or her or its views. <u>evidence to the Election Commissioner.</u></p> <p>(4) If when the Election Commissioner refuses to conduct or ceases an investigation under subsection (2) or determines that no offence was committed, the Election Commissioner <u>shall provide notice of that decision to every person or organization that requested the investigation, if any</u></p> <p>(a) shall provide notice of that decision to</p>	<p>These changes will make these provisions consistent with the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i> and clarify when an investigation should be undertaken and clarify who receives notification.</p>

#	Current Provision	Proposed	Rationale
	<p>(A) is the subject of the investigation, or (B) would have been the subject of an investigation if the Election Commissioner had not refused to conduct an investigation, and (ii) every person or organization who requested an investigation, if any, and (b) may, as the Election Commissioner considers to be appropriate, provide notice of that decision to any other person or organization involved in the matter referred to in section 191(1).</p>	<p>(i) every person or organization who (A) is the subject of the investigation, or (B) would have been the subject of an investigation if the Election Commissioner had not refused to conduct an investigation, and (ii) every person or organization who requested an investigation, if any, and (a) may, as the Election Commissioner considers to be appropriate, provide notice of that decision to any other person or organization involved in the matter referred to in section 191(1).</p> <p>(5) When an investigation under subsection (1) is completed, the Election Commissioner (a) shall provide notice of the Election Commissioner's decision to (i) every person or entity that is the subject of the investigation, and (ii) every person or organization that requested the investigation, and (b) may provide, as the Election Commissioner considers appropriate, notice of the decision to any other person or organization involved in the matter.</p> <p>(6) In this section, "person or entity" means a person, prohibited person or entity, corporation, prohibited corporation, trade union, employee organization, political party, constituency association or third party.</p>	

#	Current Provision	Proposed	Rationale
	<p>Appeal of administrative penalty</p> <p>195(1) An individual or entity who is served with a notice of administrative penalty under section 193 may appeal the Election Commissioner's decision by filing an application with the Court of Queen's Bench within 30 days from the date the notice was served.</p> <p>(2) The application must be accompanied with a copy of the notice of administrative penalty and state the reasons for the appeal.</p> <p>(3) A copy of the application must be served on the Election Commissioner not less than 30 days before the appeal is to be heard.</p> <p>(4) The Court of Queen's Bench may, on application either before or after the time referred to in subsection (1), extend that time if it considers it appropriate to do so.</p> <p>(5) On hearing the appeal, the Court of Queen's Bench may confirm, rescind or vary the amount of the administrative penalty.</p>	<p>Appeal of administrative penalty</p> <p>195(1) An individual or entity who is served with a notice of administrative penalty under section 193 may appeal the Election Commissioner's decision by filing an application with the Court of Queen's Bench within 30 days from the date the notice was served.</p> <p>(2) The application must be accompanied with a copy of the notice of administrative penalty and state the reasons for the appeal.</p> <p>(2) An appeal may be commenced under this section within 30 days after the date the notice of administrative penalty was served by</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(a) Filing an application with the Court of Queen's Bench, and</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(b) Serving a filed copy of the application on the Election Commissioner.</p> <p>(3) A copy of the application must be served on the Election Commissioner not less than 30 days before the appeal is to be heard.</p> <p>(4) The Court of King's Bench may, on application either before or after the time referred to in subsection (1), (2), extend that time if it considers it appropriate to do so.</p> <p>(5) On hearing the appeal, the Court of King's Bench may confirm, rescind or vary the amount of the administrative penalty <u>or remit the decision back to the Election Commissioner for reconsideration.</u></p>	<p>These changes will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◁ Ensure the Election Commissioner gets proper and effective notice of an appeal so that the Election Commissioner can file a record and make a submissions as appropriate without delaying the procedure, and ensure the Election Commissioner gets proper and effective notice of an appeal so that the Election Commissioner can file a record and make submissions as appropriate without delaying the procedure, and ◁ Enable the court to remit matters back to the Election Commissioner for decision when appropriate.

#	Current Provision	Proposed	Rationale
	<p>203(3) Findings and decisions, and any additional information that the Election Commissioner considers to be appropriate, shall be published on the Chief Electoral Officer's website in the following circumstances:</p> <p>(a) Subject to section 194(2), if an administrative penalty is imposed or a letter of reprimand is issued under section 193;</p> <p>(b) If the Election Commissioner has provided notice under section 192(4) and receives a written request for disclosure from a person or organization who received the notice.</p>	<p>203(3) Findings and decisions, and any additional information that the Election Commissioner considers to be appropriate, shall be published on the Chief Electoral Officer's website in the following circumstances:</p> <p>(a) Subject to section 194(2), if an administrative penalty is imposed or a letter of reprimand is issued under section 193;</p> <p>(b) If the Election Commissioner has provided notice under section 192(4) and receives a written request for disclosure from a person or organization who received the notice; and</p> <p>(c) <u>If the Election Commissioner consents to a prosecution under this Act.</u></p>	<p>Add a duty to publish when a matter has been referred to the Minister of Justice for prosecution.</p> <p>If a matter is referred to prosecution, the Election Commissioner should publish this decision on the website in the same way as if an administrative penalty was levied. This is appropriate public transparency.</p> <p>This amendment will make this section consistent with section 5.2(3) of the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i>.</p>

FINANCIAL RESULTS

6

Management's Responsibility for Financial Reporting

The financial statements of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, including the results analysis, are the responsibility of office management.

We have prepared the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. Financial statements are not precise, since they include certain amounts based on estimates and judgments. When alternative accounting methods exist, we have chosen those that we consider present our financial statements fairly in all material respects.

We maintain control systems designed to provide reasonable assurance as to the effectiveness and efficiency of operations, the relevance and reliability of internal and external reporting, and compliance with authorities. The costs of controls are balanced against the benefits, including the risks that each control is designed to manage.

The Auditor General of Alberta has audited the financial statements on behalf of the members of the Legislative Assembly.

Glen Resler, CPA, CMA
Chief Electoral Officer and Election Commissioner
July 8, 2022

Results Analysis

This results analysis should be read in conjunction with our audited financial statements.

We are pleased to report the achievement of the goals set in our business plan for 2021-22, while remaining within our approved budget. We continue to monitor our results to identify potential savings and improvements.

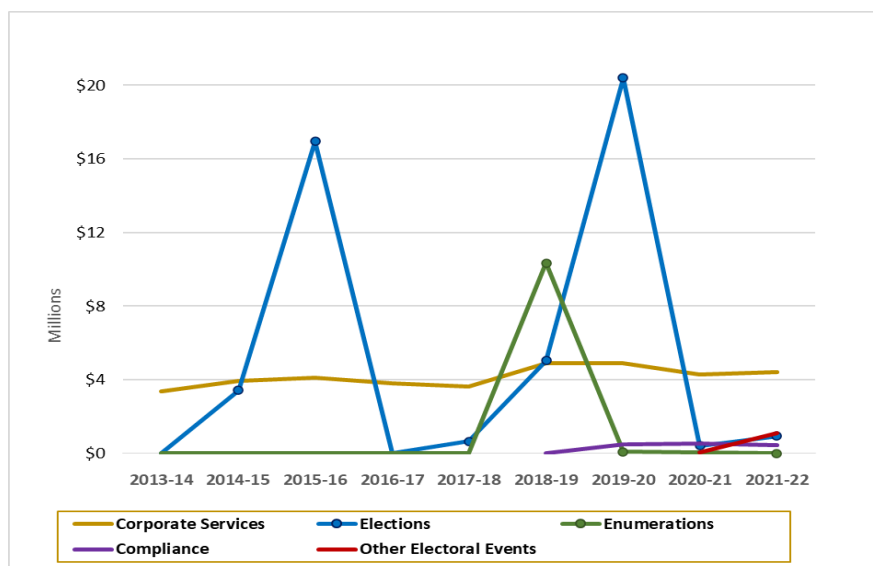
We received a clean audit opinion on our 2021-22 annual financial statements. The Auditor General of Alberta did not identify any recommendations to improve our financial processes or controls and there were no recommendations outstanding from previous years.

Overview

We operate on a four-year general election cycle. Additional electoral events, such as by-elections, may occur periodically during the cycle. This can make budget comparisons between consecutive years difficult. Our total budget tends to grow each year, peaking with the provincial general election before dropping to begin the next cycle.

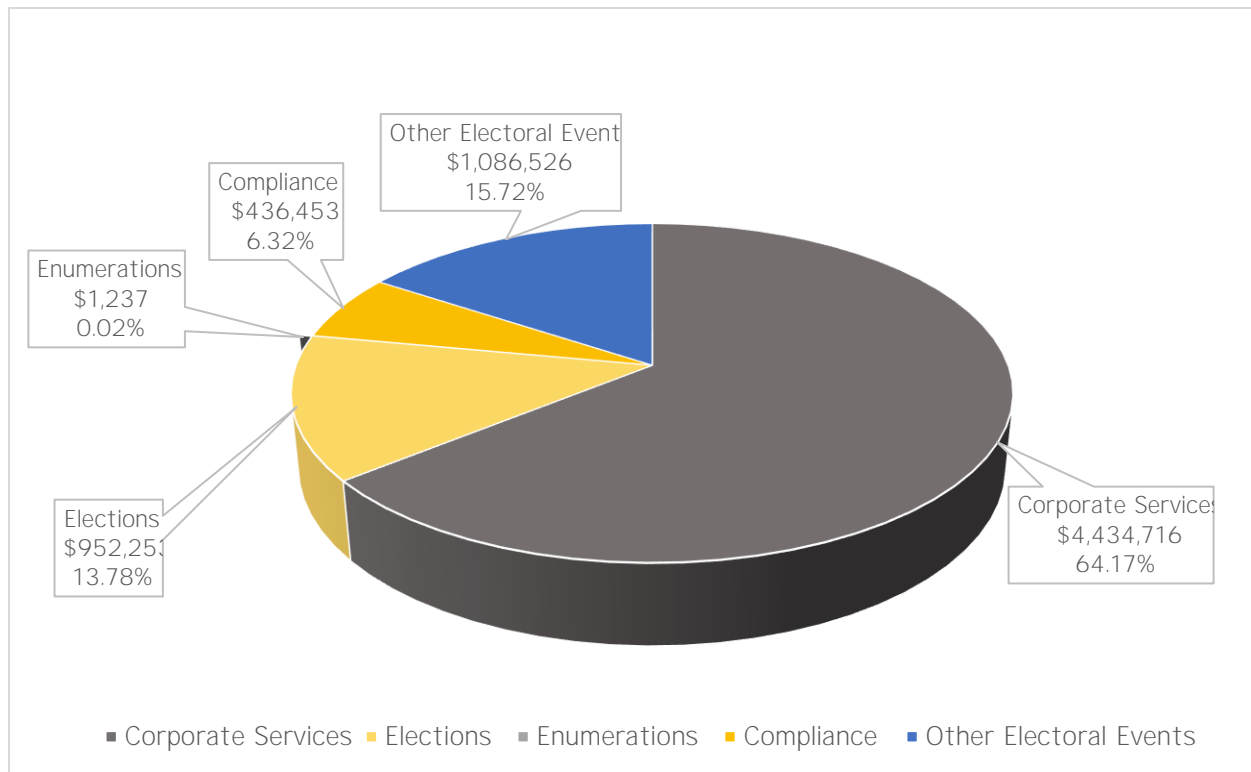
While the Elections portion of our budget varies significantly over the election cycle, the budget for our core Corporate Services area remains relatively constant. Figure 22 illustrates these trends using historical costs for the last two election cycles.

Figure 22: Actual Costs by Program
2014-2022



The composition of our major cost programs varies year over year based on where we are in the election cycle. Actual costs for 2021-22 by program are shown in Figure 23:

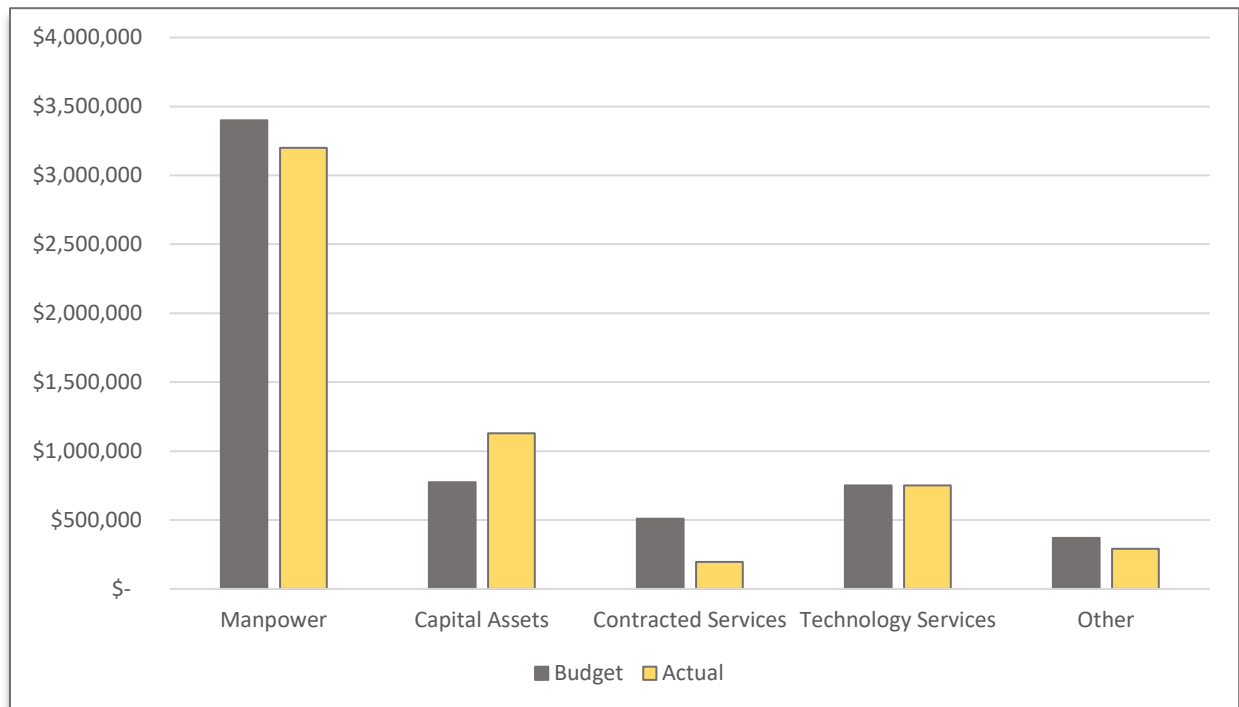
Figure 23: Actual Operating and Capital Costs by Program 2021 - 22



Corporate Services

Actual costs vs Budget for 2021-22, by object, are captured in Figure 24:

Figure 24: Corporate Services - Costs by Object



Significant costs and variances included:

Manpower – This includes compensation costs for all full-time staff members. We budgeted \$2.71 million for salaries and wages, \$624,000 for employer contributions and \$63,000 for professional fees and development, for a total of \$3.40 million. Actual costs of \$3.20 million were \$200,000 below budget due to vacancies and some staff members being on long-term disability during the year.

Capital Assets – We budgeted \$775,000 for further enhancement and development of Elections Alberta's Online Financial System (OFS). Actual investment of approximately \$1.13 million was \$357,000 above budget due to additional enhancement to our financial reporting modules in anticipation of Bill 81 changes. The overage was offset by favorable variances in other expense categories within Corporate services.

Contracted Services – Contracted services include legal fees, consulting services, printing services and outreach work. We budgeted \$509,000 for these services and spent approximately \$197,000. Actuals were approximately \$312,000 below budget due,

primarily, to lower-than-expected legal fees, court delays, planned face-to-face outreach engagements shifted to online engagements and reduced consulting services costs.

Materials and Supplies – We budgeted \$149,000 for materials and supplies and spent approximately \$131,000. Actual costs were \$18,000 below budget due to lower than anticipated costs for computer hardware and software (non-capital) and lower than anticipated cost for supplies and hardware purchases i.e., cell phones.

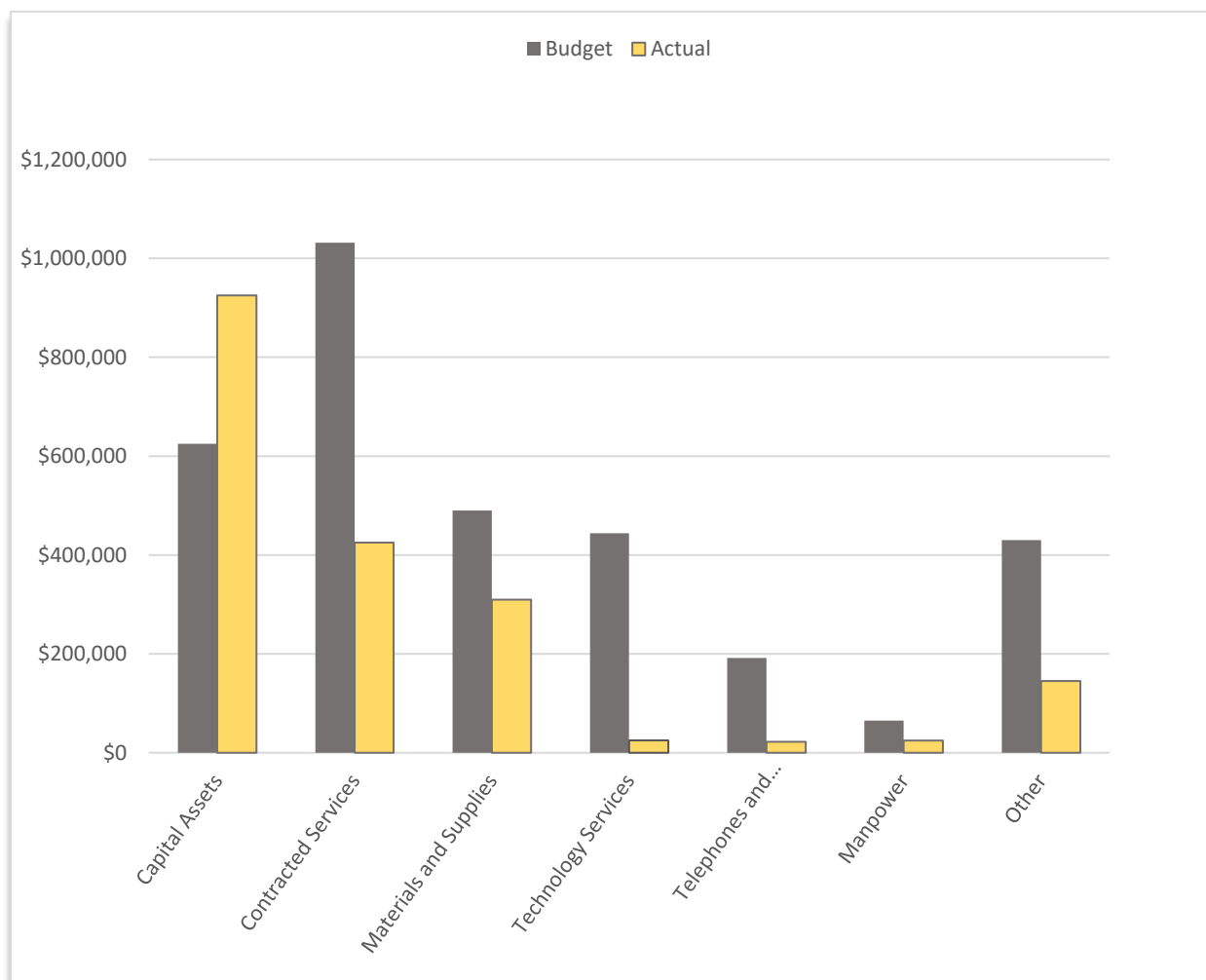
Other Costs:

- ◁ **Travel** – We budgeted \$45,000 for travel but spent \$14,000. Actuals were well below budget mainly due to COVID-19 cancellations of travel to workshops and training sessions. Where available, we attended these sessions remotely using WebEx, Teams and Zoom meetings. There was also less travel to the various electoral divisions during 2021-22.
- ◁ **Freight & Postage** – We budgeted \$51,000 for freight & postage. Actual costs of approximately \$37,000 were \$14,000 below budget mainly due to the pandemic and staff working remotely. More communication and correspondence was transmitted electronically during this period.

Elections

Actual costs vs Budgets for 2021-22 by object are shown in Figure 25:

Figure 25: Elections - 2021-22 Costs by Object



Significant costs and variances included:

Capital Assets – We budgeted \$625,000 for the development of a new election management system (VoterView) to replace our legacy system, as it is reaching the end of its service life cycle. We spent approximately \$925,000, resulting in a negative variance of \$300,000, due to additional enhancement to VoterView in anticipation of Bill 81 changes.

Contracted Services – We budgeted \$1,032,000 for election preparation and by-election costs and spent approximately \$425,000. Actuals were \$607,000 below budget due to lower than anticipated by-election contract services (\$300,000), delay in the

development of an online training module for election officials (\$80,000) and lower pre-election expenses due to delay in recruitment (\$227,000).

Material and Supplies – We budgeted \$490,000 for materials and supplies and spent approximately \$310,000. This was \$180,000 below the budget due to there only being one by-election and by deferral of VoIP hardware and equipment purchase to 2022/2023.

Manpower – We budgeted \$65,000 in total for election manpower needs. This comprised the salaries, wages and the associated employer contributions to conduct two by-elections. With only one by-election being held in 2021-22 we spent \$25,000, resulting in a \$40,000 variance in this area.

Technology Services – We budgeted \$444,000 for technology services to support elections and spent approximately \$24,000. Actuals were \$420,000 lower than budget. Variance of \$200,000 attributed to unexpended by-election expenses and \$220,000 was offset against capital acquisition of VoterView (Datafix) electoral management system (EMS) module development (Vote Anywhere, Advance Poll System and Special Ballots) and enhancement for the anticipated Bill 81.

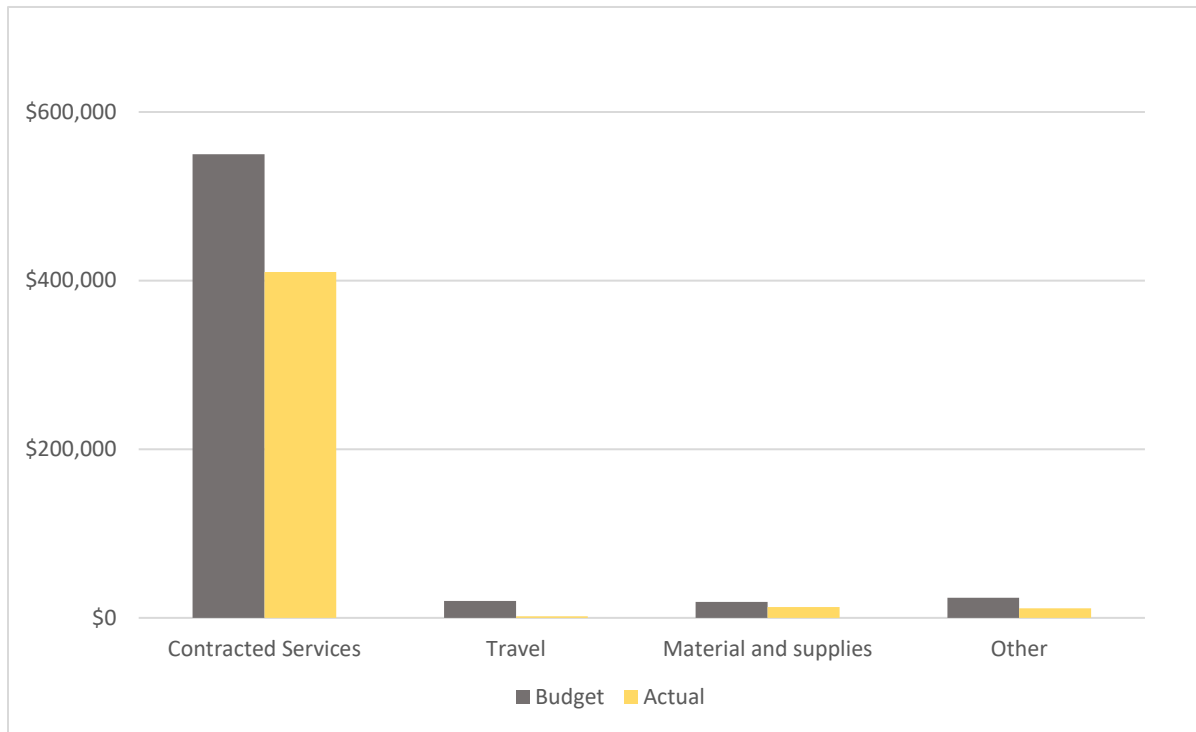
Telephones and Communications – We budgeted \$192,000 for telephones and communications, actual costs of approximately \$21,000 were \$171,000 below budget. The variance was due to purchase delays due to pandemic supply chain issues i.e., delays in VoIP infrastructure.

Other – The elections budget represents \$37,000 for polling place rentals, \$90,000 for public awareness and recruiting advertising, \$46,000 for freight and postage to ship election supplies and \$218,000 for election-related travel, for a total of \$391,000. With there only being one by-election, coupled with a significant reduction in pandemic period travel, our 2021-2022 actuals were only \$144,000.

Compliance and Enforcement

Actual costs vs Budgets for 2021-22 by object are shown in Figure 26 below:

Figure 26: Compliance and Enforcement - Costs by Object



Significant costs variances included:

Contracted Services - We budgeted \$550,000 for contracted services and spent approximately \$410,000. Actual costs were \$140,000 below budget due mainly to lower-than-expected contracted investigation costs and a reduction in legal fees.

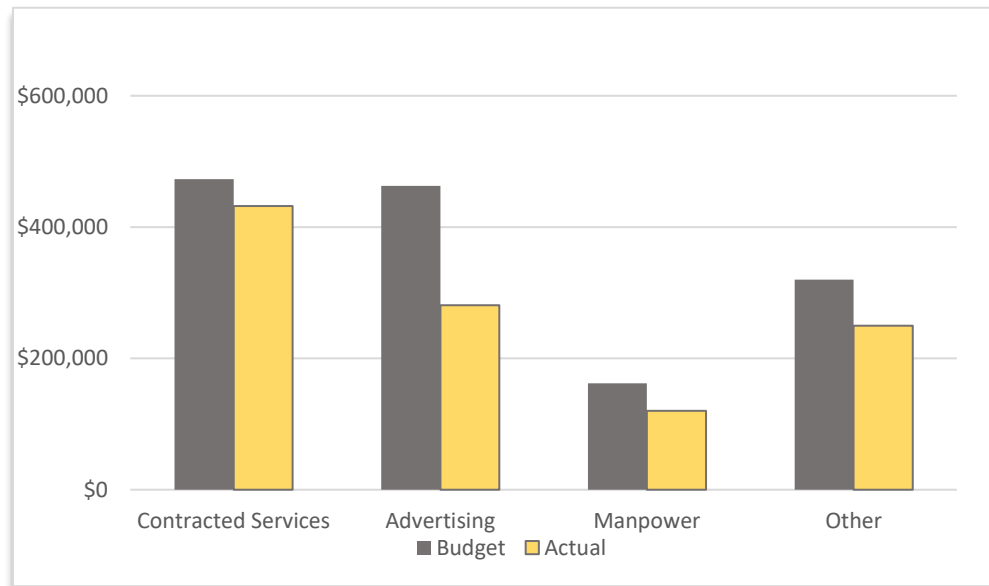
Travel - We budgeted \$20,000 for travel and spent approximately \$2,000. Actuals were \$18,000 below budget due to COVID-19 requiring investigators to conduct interviews remotely, using WebEx, Teams or Zoom meetings.

Materials and Supplies - We budgeted \$19,000 for material and supplies but spent approximately \$13,000. Actuals were \$6,000 below budget mainly due to centralized supplies and service purchase from Corporate Services.

Other Electoral Events – Senate and Referendum

Actual costs for 2021-22 by object are shown in Figure 27 below:

Figure 27: Other Electoral Events - 2021-22 Costs by Object



Significant costs and variances included:

Contracted Services - We budgeted \$473,000 for contracted services and spent approximately \$432,000. Actual costs were \$40,000 below budget due mainly to lower-than-expected contracted printing costs.

Advertising - We budgeted \$463,000 for advertising and approximately \$281,000 was spent. Actuals were \$182,000 below budget mainly because most of the advertisements took place via mail out advertisement campaign with lower than anticipated printing costs, and via our own website.

Manpower - We budgeted \$162,000 in total for manpower. This comprised the salaries, wages and employer contributions for call centre staff required for the Senate and Referendum. Actuals were \$40,000 below budget mainly due to lower than anticipated costs.

Enumerations

We budgeted \$100,000 for capital assets to advance the functionality of our enumerations system. The funds were re-allocated to cover the over-expenditure on OFS, and the work on the enumerations system was deferred to 2022-23. Additionally, during the year \$1,200 was spent on Elections Alberta online training module for enumerators.

Financial Statements

MARCH 31, 2022

Independent Auditor's Report

Statement of Operations

Statement of Financial Position

Statement of Change in Net Debt

Statement of Cash Flows

Notes to the Financial Statements

Schedule 1 - Expense Detailed by Object

Schedule 2 - Salary and Benefits Disclosure

Schedule 3 - Schedule of Allocated Costs

Schedule 4 - Schedule of Lapse/Encumbrance

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



To the Members of the Legislative Assembly

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer (the OCEO), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2022, and the statements of operations, change in net debt, and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the OCEO as at March 31, 2022, and the results of its operations, its changes in net debt, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the OCEO in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Canada, and I have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the *Annual Report*, but does not include the financial statements and my auditor's report thereon. The *Annual Report* is expected to be made available to me after the date of this auditor's report.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, my responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I will perform on this other information, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to communicate the matter to those charged with governance.

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the OCEO's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless an intention exists to liquidate or to cease operations, or there is no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the OCEO's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the OCEO's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the OCEO's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the OCEO to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

[Original signed by W. Doug Wylie FCPA, FCMA, ICD.D]
Auditor General

July 8, 2022
Edmonton, Alberta

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022

	2022		2021
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
REVENUES			
FEES, PENALTIES AND REMISSIONS	\$ -	\$ 134,308	\$ 10,588
EXPENSES (SCHEDULE 1 & 3)			
VOTED:			
CORPORATE SERVICES	5,029,000	4,434,716	4,303,491
ELECTIONS	2,653,000	952,253	421,101
ENUMERATIONS	-	1,237	59,906
COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT	613,000	436,453	532,831
OTHER ELECTORAL EVENTS	1,418,000	1,086,526	71,826
	9,713,000	6,911,185	5,389,155
AMOUNTS NOT VOTED			
AMORTIZATION OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS	1,250,000	1,464,024	1,370,167
PROVISION FOR VACATION PAY	-	58,968	(13,503)
	1,250,000	1,522,992	1,356,664
	10,963,000	8,434,177	6,745,819
NET COST OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR	\$ (10,963,000)	\$ (8,299,869)	\$ (6,735,231)

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT MARCH 31, 2022

	2022	2021
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
CASH	\$ 150	\$ 150
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	89,813	36,954
	89,963	37,104
LIABILITIES		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES	354,763	883,374
ACCRUED VACATION PAY	370,461	364,060
	725,224	1,247,434
NET DEBT	(635,261)	(1,210,330)
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (NOTE 5)	2,794,391	2,201,335
NET ASSETS	\$ 2,159,130	\$ 991,005
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 991,005	\$ 1,249,975
NET COST OF OPERATIONS	(8,299,869)	(6,735,231)
NET FINANCING PROVIDED FROM GENERAL REVENUES	9,467,994	6,476,261
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 2,159,130	\$ 991,005

Contractual Obligations (Note 7)

Contingent Liabilities (Note 8)

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN NET DEBT

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022

	2022		2021
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
NET COST OF OPERATIONS	\$ (10,963,000)	\$ (8,299,869)	\$ (6,735,231)
ACQUISITION OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS	(1,500,000)	(2,057,080)	(1,497,508)
AMORTIZATION OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (NOTE 5)	1,250,000	1,464,024	1,370,167
NET FINANCING PROVIDED FROM GENERAL REVENUES		9,467,994	6,476,261
DECREASE (INCREASE) IN NET DEBT		\$ 575,069	\$ (386,311)
NET DEBT, BEGINNING OF YEAR		(1,210,330)	(824,019)
NET DEBT, END OF YEAR		\$ (635,261)	\$ (1,210,330)

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022

	2022	2021
OPERATING TRANSACTIONS:		
NET COST OF OPERATIONS	\$ (8,299,869)	\$ (6,735,231)
NON-CASH ITEMS INCLUDED IN OPERATING RESULTS		
AMORTIZATION OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (NOTE 5)	1,464,024	1,370,167
VALUATION ADJUSTMENT – VACATION PAY	6,401	37,021
	(6,829,444)	(5,328,043)
INCREASE IN ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	(52,859)	(36,954)
(DECREASE) INCREASE IN ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES	(528,611)	386,244
CASH APPLIED TO OPERATING TRANSACTIONS	(7,410,914)	(4,978,753)
CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS:		
ACQUISITION OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS (NOTE 5)	(2,057,080)	(1,497,508)
CASH APPLIED TO CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS	(2,057,080)	(1,497,508)
FINANCING TRANSACTIONS:		
NET FINANCING FROM GENERAL REVENUES	9,467,994	6,476,261
CHANGE IN CASH	-	-
CASH AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	150	150
CASH AT END OF YEAR	\$ 150	\$ 150

The accompanying notes and schedules are part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2022

Note 1 Authority

The Office of the Chief Electoral Officer (the Office) operates under the authority of the *Election Act* and the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*. General Revenues of the Province of Alberta fund both the cost of operations of the Office and the purchase of tangible capital assets. The all-party Standing Committee on Legislative Offices reviews and approves the Office's annual operating and capital budgets.

Note 2 Purpose

The Office provides administrative, logistic and financial support for register of electors, general elections and by-elections, and plebiscites in support of the *Election Act* and *Referendum Act* and elections in support of the *Alberta Senate Election Act*. The Office monitors and reports the financial activities of registered parties, constituency associations, candidates, nomination contestants and leadership contestants to ensure compliance with the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*.

The Office monitors and enforces campaign financing and third party advertising under the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

Note 3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, which use accrual accounting. The Office has adopted PS3450 - Financial Instruments. As the Office does not have any transactions involving financial instruments that are classified in the fair value category, there is no statement of remeasurement gains and losses.

Other pronouncements issued by the Public Sector Accounting Board that are not yet effective are not expected to have a material impact on future financial statements of the Office.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2022

Note 3 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies and Reporting Practices (continued)

a) Reporting Entity

The reporting entity is the Office, for which the Chief Electoral Officer is responsible.

The Office operates within the General Revenue Fund (the Fund). The Fund is administered by the President of Treasury Board, Minister of Finance. All receipts of the Office are deposited into the Fund and all disbursements made by the Office are paid from the Fund. Net financing provided from General Revenues is the difference between all cash receipts and all cash disbursements made.

b) Basis of Financial Reporting

Revenues

All revenues are reported on the accrual basis of accounting.

Expenses

Directly incurred expenses are costs incurred under the authority of the Office's budget as disclosed in Schedule 4. Expenses are reported on an accrual basis. The cost of all goods consumed and services received during the year are expensed.

Pension costs comprise employer contributions to multi-employer plans. Current service cost is the actuarial present value of the benefits earned in the fiscal year.

Services contributed by other entities in support of the Office's operations are not recognized in the Statement of Operations but are disclosed in Schedule 3.

Financial Assets

Financial assets are assets that could be used to discharge existing liabilities or finance future operations and are not for consumption in the normal course of operations.

Financial assets of the Office are limited to financial claims such as advances to and accounts receivables from other organizations, employees and other individuals.

Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable are recognized at the lower of cost or net recoverable value. A valuation allowance is recognized when recovery is uncertain.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2022

b) Basis of Financial Reporting (continued)

Non-Financial Assets

Non-financial assets are acquired, constructed, or developed assets that do not normally provide resources to discharge existing liabilities, but instead:

- (a) are normally employed to deliver the Office's services;
- (b) may be consumed in the normal course of operations; and
- (c) are not for sale in the normal course of operations.

Non-financial assets include tangible capital assets.

Tangible Capital Assets

Tangible capital assets of the Office are recorded at historical cost less accumulated amortization. The threshold for capitalizing capital assets is \$5,000. Amortization is taken in the month of acquisition and not in the month of disposal. Amortization is calculated monthly on a straight-line basis, over the estimated useful lives as follows:

Computer Hardware and Software	3 Years
Equipment and Furniture	10 Years
Leasehold improvement	10 Years

Liabilities

Liabilities are present obligations of the Office to external organizations and individuals arising from past transactions or events, the settlement of which is expected to result in the future sacrifice of economic benefits. They are recognized when there is an appropriate basis of measurement and management can reasonably estimate the amounts.

Net Debt

Net Debt is measured as the difference between the Office's financial assets and liabilities. Net debt indicates additional cash required from General Revenues to finance the Office's cost of operations to March 31, 2022.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2022

Note 4 Future Changes in Accounting Standards

The Public Sector Accounting Board has approved the following accounting standards:

- PS 3400 Revenue (effective April 1, 2023)

This standard provides guidance on how to account for and report on revenue, and specifically, it differentiates between revenue arising from exchange and non-exchange transactions.

The Office has not yet adopted this standard. Management is currently assessing the impact of this standard on the financial statements.

Note 5 Tangible Capital Assets

	2022			
	EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE 10 YEARS	COMPUTER HARDWARE & SOFTWARE 3 YEARS	LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENT 10 YEARS	TOTAL
ESTIMATED USEFUL LIFE				
HISTORICAL COST				
BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 330,485	\$ 10,547,550	\$ 103,059	\$ 10,981,094
ADDITIONS	-	2,057,080	-	2,057,080
DISPOSALS	-	-	-	-
	330,485	12,604,630	103,059	13,038,174
ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION				
BEGINNING OF YEAR	272,823	8,491,473	15,463	8,779,759
AMORTIZATION EXPENSE	21,554	1,432,099	10,371	1,464,024
EFFECT OF DISPOSALS	-	-	-	-
	294,377	9,923,572	25,834	10,243,783
NET BOOK VALUE AT MARCH 31, 2022	\$ 36,108	\$ 2,681,058	\$ 77,225	\$ 2,794,391
NET BOOK VALUE AT MARCH 31, 2021	\$ 57,662	\$ 2,056,077	\$ 87,596	\$ 2,201,335

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2022

Note 6 Defined Benefit Plans

The Office participates in the multi-employer pension plans: Management Employees Pension Plan and Public Service Pension Plan. The Office also participates in the multi-employer Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers.

The expense for these plans is equivalent to the annual contributions of \$321,588 for the year ended March 31, 2022 (2021 - \$290,261). The Office is not responsible for future funding of the plan other than through contribution increases.

At December 31, 2021, the Management Employees Pension Plan reported a surplus of \$1,348,160,000 (2020 surplus - \$809,850,000) and the Public Service Pension Plan reported a surplus of \$4,588,479,000 (2020 surplus - \$2,223,582,000). At December 31, 2021, the Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers had a deficiency of \$20,982,000 (2020 deficiency - \$59,972,000).

The Office also participates in two multi-employer Long Term Disability Income Continuance Plans. At March 31, 2022, the Bargaining Unit Plan reported a surplus of \$41,432,000 (2021 surplus - \$52,705,000) and the Management, Opted Out and Excluded Plan reported a surplus of \$6,597,000 (2021 surplus - \$7,858,000). The expense for these two plans is limited to the employer's annual contributions for the year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MARCH 31, 2022

Note 7 Contractual Obligations

Contractual obligations of \$2,238,293 (2021 - \$2,789,500) are obligations of the Office to others that will become liabilities in the future when the terms of those contracts or agreements are met.

Estimated payment requirements for each of the next 5 years and thereafter are as follows:

2022-23	\$	159,511
2023-24		548,497
2024-25		146,667
2025-26		137,039
2026-27		159,979
Thereafter		1,086,600
	\$	<u>2,238,293</u>

Note 8 Contingent Liabilities

The Office is named in one (2021 - one) legal matter where damages are being sought. The outcome of this claim is not determinable and the Office considers the amount will not be material.

Note 9 Approval of Financial Statements

These financial statements were approved by the Chief Electoral Officer.

SCHEDULE OF EXPENSE DETAILED BY OBJECT**SCHEDULE 1**

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022

	2022		2021
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	ACTUAL
VOTED:			
SALARIES, WAGES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 3,622,000	\$ 3,341,415	\$ 2,904,041
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES			
CONTRACT SERVICES	2,564,000	1,467,270	1,441,582
ADVERTISING	555,000	332,240	885
FREIGHT AND POSTAGE	387,000	316,253	14,590
RENTALS	61,000	48,698	15,566
TECHNOLOGY SERVICES	1,205,000	782,230	759,003
TRAVEL	293,000	52,211	6,260
TELEPHONES AND COMMUNICATIONS	279,000	106,044	86,564
MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES	747,000	464,824	160,664
SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	6,091,000	3,569,770	2,485,114
TOTAL	9,713,000	6,911,185	5,389,155
AMOUNTS NOT VOTED:			
AMORTIZATION OF TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS	1,250,000	1,464,024	1,370,167
PROVISION FOR VACATION PAY	-	58,968	(13,503)
	1,250,000	1,522,992	1,356,664
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 10,963,000	\$ 8,434,177	\$ 6,745,819

SALARY AND BENEFITS DISCLOSURE

SCHEDULE 2

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022

	2022				2021
	BASE SALARY ⁽¹⁾	OTHER CASH BENEFITS ⁽²⁾	OTHER NON-CASH BENEFITS ⁽³⁾	TOTAL	TOTAL
CURRENT EXECUTIVES					
SENIOR OFFICIAL					
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER ⁽⁴⁾	\$ 240,944	\$ -	\$ 58,203	\$ 299,147	\$ 348,097
EXECUTIVE					
DEPUTY CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER ⁽⁵⁾	71,325	\$ 34,272	12,718	118,315	168,706
DEPUTY CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER ⁽⁶⁾	40,103	-	8,958	49,061	-
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT ⁽⁷⁾	35,527	-	8,082	43,609	-
	\$ 387,900	\$ 34,272	\$ 87,961	\$ 510,133	\$ 516,803

(1) Base salary is comprised of pensionable base pay.

(2) Other cash benefits include vacation payouts and lump sum payments. There were no bonuses paid in 2022.

(3) Other non-cash benefits include the Office's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pension, supplementary retirement plans, health care, dental coverage, group life insurance, short and long term disability plans and professional memberships, tuition and fair market value of parking benefits.

(4) Other non-cash benefits include the taxable benefit of the Chief Electoral Officer of \$11,765 for the calendar year ended December 31, 2021 (2020 - \$10,465) for an automobile provided.

(5) Deputy Chief Electoral Officer retired on September 29, 2021.

(6) The new Deputy Chief Electoral Officer was hired on January 1, 2022.

(7) The new Deputy Commissioner, Financial Compliance and Enforcement was hired on January 1, 2022.

SCHEDULE OF ALLOCATED COSTS

SCHEDULE 3

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022

PROGRAM	2022				2021
	EXPENSES - INCURRED BY OTHERS				TOTAL EXPENSES
	EXPENSES ⁽¹⁾	ACCOMMODATION COSTS ⁽²⁾	OTHER COSTS ⁽³⁾	AMOUNTS NOT VOTED ⁽⁴⁾	
OPERATIONS	\$6,911,185	\$809,838	\$43,000	\$1,522,992	\$9,287,015

(1) Expenses - Directly incurred as per Statement of Operations, excluding amounts not voted.

(2) Costs shown for accommodation allocated by square meters.

(3) Unbilled expenses for shared services, financial services, 1GX and corporate overhead.

(4) Amounts not voted include provision for vacation pay and amortization cost as per the Statement of Operations.

SCHEDULE OF LAPSE / ENCUMBRANCE

SCHEDULE 4

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2022

	2022					UNEXPENDED (OVER EXPENDED)
	VOTED ESTIMATE ⁽¹⁾	BUDGET TRANSFER	ADJUSTED VOTED ESTIMATE	VOTED ACTUALS ⁽²⁾		
PROGRAM - OPERATING EXPENSE						
CORPORATE SERVICES	\$ 5,029,000	\$ -	\$ 5,029,000	\$ 4,434,716	\$ 594,284	
ELECTIONS	2,653,000	-	2,653,000	952,253	1,700,747	
ENUMERATIONS	-	-	-	1,237	(1,237)	
COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT	613,000	-	613,000	436,453	176,547	
OTHER ELECTORAL EVENTS	1,418,000	-	1,418,000	1,086,526	331,474	
TOTAL - OPERATING	\$ 9,713,000	\$ -	\$ 9,713,000	\$ 6,911,185	\$ 2,801,815	
PROGRAM - CAPITAL						
CAPITAL INVESTMENT	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 2,057,080	\$ (557,080)	
TOTAL - CAPITAL	\$ 1,500,000	\$ -	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 2,057,080	\$ (557,080)	
TOTAL	\$ 11,213,000	\$ -	\$ 11,213,000	\$ 8,968,265	\$ 2,244,735	
LAPSE					\$ 2,244,735	

(1) As per 2021-22 Voted Spending by Program of the Legislative Assembly Estimates.

(2) Actuals exclude non-voted amounts such as amortization and vacation liability

APPENDICES

7

APPENDIX A: 2021 PARTY CONTRIBUTIONS BY QUARTER

PARTY	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
APA	\$-	\$890	\$300	\$-	\$1,190
LIB	\$31,799	\$25,644	\$13,731	\$42,985	\$114,158
NDP	\$1,183,500	\$1,510,660	\$1,367,981	\$2,092,204	\$6,154,344
AP	\$44,704	\$35,011	\$31,488	\$114,318	\$225,521
CP-A	\$-	\$200	\$-	\$100	\$300
GPA	\$3,970	\$1,979	\$1,254	\$5,830	\$13,033
PAPA	\$33,384	\$90,870	\$92,586	\$122,453	\$339,293
REF	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
TIP	\$1,429	\$915	\$1,740	\$3,319	\$7,403
UCP	\$520,187	\$714,373	\$596,441	\$924,167	\$2,755,168
WIPA	\$31,271	\$13,840	\$37,313	\$32,905	\$115,329
TOTAL	\$1,850,245	\$2,394,381	\$2,142,833	\$3,338,281	\$9,725,739

APPENDIX B: 2021 PARTY CONTRIBUTIONS UP TO \$250 & OVER \$250

PARTY	UP TO \$250	OVER \$250*	TOTAL	COUNT (#)	AVERAGE (\$)
APA	\$440	\$750	\$1,190	7	\$170
LIB	\$38,324	\$75,834	\$114,158	2,307	\$49
NDP	\$1,775,415	\$4378,929	\$6,154,344	130,524	\$47
AP	\$52,465	\$173,056	\$225,521	3,021	\$75
CP-A	\$300	\$-	\$300	2	\$150
GPA	\$4,959	\$8,074	\$13,033	220	\$59
PAPA	\$207,783	\$131,510	\$339,293	2,870	\$118
REF	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
TIP	\$3,629	\$3,774	\$7,403	217	\$34
UCP	\$725,216	\$2,029,952	\$2,755,168	18,839	\$146
WIPA	\$55,316	\$60,013	\$115,329	1,127	102
TOTAL	\$2,863,848	\$6,861,891	\$9,725,739	159,134	\$61

*Contributors in this category are publicly disclosed on the Elections Alberta website.

APPENDIX C: PARTY NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES) AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021

PARTY	A S S E T S			L I A B I L I T I E S		NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)
	CASH	RECEIVABLES	OTHER	PAYABLES	LOANS	
APA	\$1,867	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$1,867
LIB	\$73,863	\$-	\$3,639	\$24,336	\$-	\$53,166
NDP	\$5,618,628	\$154,001	\$56,431	\$307,852	\$-	\$5,521,208
AP	\$47,636	\$36,120	\$3,135	\$12,548	\$-	\$74,344
CP-A	\$475	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$475
GPA	\$42,892	\$1,409	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$44,301
PAPA	\$142,418	\$18,608	\$-	\$7,000	\$-	\$154,026
REF	\$30	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$30
TIP	\$6,147	\$739	\$-	\$1,050	\$-	\$5,836
UCP	\$1,123,246	\$275,911	\$130,463	\$347,973	\$40,000	\$1,141,647
WIPA	\$51,071	\$20,300	\$-	\$16,762	\$-	\$54,609
TOTAL	\$7,108,272	\$507,089	\$193,668	\$717,521	\$40,000	\$7,052,879

APPENDIX D: 2021 CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION (CA) CONTRIBUTIONS BY QUARTER

PARTY*	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
APA	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
LIB	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$500	\$500
NDP	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
AP	\$4,750	\$2,644	\$1,348	\$8,340	\$17,082
GPA	\$1,040	\$40	\$60	\$1,060	\$2,200
IND	\$-	\$20	\$4,993	\$1,500	\$6,513
PAPA	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
TIP	\$100	\$100	\$-	\$-	\$200
UCP	\$71,952	\$57,236	\$637,239	\$284,267	\$1,050,695
WIPA	\$4,069	\$11,792	\$17,337	\$35,909	\$69,106
TOTAL	\$81,911	\$71,832	\$660,977	\$331,576	\$1,146,296

*Only parties with registered CAs are represented. "IND" represents a registered independent CA in Cypress-Medicine Hat.

APPENDIX E: 2021 CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION (CA) CONTRIBUTIONS UP TO \$250 & OVER \$250

PARTY*	UP TO \$250	OVER \$250**	TOTAL (\$)	COUNT (#)	AVERAGE (\$)
AAP	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
LIB	\$500	\$-	\$500	2	\$250
NDP	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
AP	\$2,443	\$14,639	\$17,082	178	\$96
GPA	\$200	\$2,000	\$2,200	15	\$147
IND	\$520	\$5,993	\$6,513	12	\$543
PAPA	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
TIP	\$200	\$-	\$200	2	\$100
UCP	\$110,475	\$940,220	\$1,050,695	3,268	\$322
WIPA	\$26,995	\$42,111	\$69,106	452	\$153
TOTAL	\$141,333	\$1,004,963	\$1,146,296	3,929	\$292

*Only parties with registered CAs are represented. "IND" represents a registered independent CA in Cypress-Medicine Hat.

**Contributors in this category are publicly disclosed on the Elections Alberta website.

APPENDIX F: CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES) AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021

PARTY*	A S S E T S			L I A B I L I T I E S		NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)
	CASH	RECEIVABLES	OTHER	PAYABLES	LOANS	
AAP (6)	\$542	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$542
LIB (87)	\$43,771	\$-	\$379	\$-	\$-	\$44,150
NDP (87)	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
AP (42)	\$66,626	\$275	\$1,272	\$1	\$-	\$68,172
GPA (4)	\$13,767	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$13,767
IND (1)	\$2,705	\$50	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$2,895
PAPA (1)	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
TIP (87)	\$198	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$198
UCP (87)	\$2,603,113	\$68,309	\$5,417	\$46,893	\$-	\$2,629,947
WIPA (87)	\$58,999	\$1,294	\$811	\$5,889	\$-	\$55,215
TOTAL	\$2,789,721	\$69,928	\$7,879	\$52,783	\$-	\$2,814,886

*Only parties with registered CAs are represented. The number in brackets () indicates the CAs that filed financial statements.

"IND" represents a registered independent CA in Cypress-Medicine Hat.

APPENDIX G: 2021 PTPA CONTRIBUTIONS BY QUARTER

PTPA*	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
AVCA	\$-	\$4,443	\$50	\$-	\$4,493
AFL	\$-	\$7,000	\$800	\$113,090	\$120,890
AFB**	\$-	\$-	N/A	N/A	\$-
AMA	\$263,799	\$12,317	\$39,834	\$277,045	\$592,994
AB-PROUD	\$10,151	\$3,586	\$2,708	\$1,916	\$18,361
ARAF	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$6,794	\$6,794
ATA	\$-	\$177,002	\$635,250	\$296,250	\$1,108,502
AUPE	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$20,000	\$20,000
ADC	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
AASUA	\$-	\$206,534	\$-	\$-	\$206,534
AVF**	\$-	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$-
CUPE-AB	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$365,000	\$365,000
CUPE-3550	\$-	\$-	\$2,979	\$-	\$2,979
CAUS	\$-	\$11,500	\$-	\$-	\$11,500
EZMSA	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$2,138	\$2,138
EFA	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
EYESFWD	\$4,045	\$2,044	\$1,578	\$320	\$7,987
FAIR	\$1,298	\$12,992	\$2,559	\$2,375	\$19,224
FOM	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
HSAA	\$784,577	\$-	\$-	\$249,690	\$1,034,267
IBEW-424**	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
JV	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
NPF	\$104,900	\$133,503	\$145,202	\$177,655	\$561,260
PRIO-AB	\$-	\$3,990	\$-	\$-	\$3,990
PROG-AB**	\$-	\$-	N/A	N/A	\$-
PIA	\$56,050	\$-	\$-	\$29,816	\$85,866
SAF	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$2,500	\$2,500
SAAE	\$22,001	\$10,309	\$-	\$-	\$32,310
SOS	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$5,450	\$5,450
UNA	\$-	\$-	\$131,250	\$131,791	\$263,041
VYTEE	\$-	\$-	\$2,510	\$6,853	\$9,363
TOTAL	\$1,246,821	\$585,220	\$964,720	\$1,688,683	\$4,485,443

*Abbreviations are for this report only; refer to Appendix M for full names of third party advertisers as of March 31, 2022.

**De-registered in 2021.

APPENDIX H: 2021 PTPA CONTRIBUTIONS UP TO \$250 & OVER \$250

PTPA*	UP TO \$250	OVER \$250***	TOTAL (\$)	COUNT (#)	AVERAGE (\$)
AVCA	\$4,320	\$263	\$4,493	85	53
AFL	\$3,297	\$117,594	\$120,890	168	\$720
AFB**	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
AMA	\$-	\$592,994	\$592,994	4	\$148,248
AB-PROUD	\$9,641	\$8,720	\$18,361	209	\$88
ARAF	\$-	\$6,794	\$6,794	2	\$3,397
ATA	\$-	\$1,108,502	\$1,108,502	6	\$184,750
AUPE	\$-	\$20,000	\$20,000	1	\$20,000
ADC	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
AASUA	\$-	\$206,534	\$206,534	1	\$206,534
AVF**	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
CUPE-AB	\$-	\$365,000	\$365,000	1	\$365,000
CUPE-3550	\$-	\$2,979	\$2,979	1	\$2,979
CAUS	\$-	\$11,500	\$11,500	3	\$3,833
EZMSA	\$-	\$2,138	\$2,138	1	\$2,138
EFA	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
EYESFWD	\$4,832	\$3,155	\$7,987	158	\$51
FAIR	\$-	\$19,224	\$19,224	23	\$836
FOM	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
HSAA	\$-	\$1,034,267	\$1,034,267	3	\$344,756
IBEW-424**	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
JV	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
NPF	\$-	\$561,260	\$561,260	97	\$5,786
PRIO-AB	\$19	\$3,971	\$3,990	5	\$798
PROG-AB**	\$-	\$-	\$-	0	\$-
PIA	\$-	\$85,866	\$85,866	5	\$17,173
SAF	\$-	\$2,500	\$2,500	1	\$2,500
SAAE	\$16,688	\$15,622	\$32,310	341	95
SOS	\$445	\$5,005	\$5,450	12	\$454
UNA	\$-	\$263,041	\$263,041	2	\$131,521
VYTEE	\$10	\$9,353	\$9,363	5	\$1,873
TOTAL	\$39,252	\$4,446,282	\$4,485,443	1,134	\$3,955

*Abbreviations are for this report only; refer to Appendix M for full names of third party advertisers as of March 31, 2022.

**De-registered in 2021.

***Contributors in this category are publicly disclosed on the Elections Alberta website.

APPENDIX I: PTPA NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES) AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021

PTPA*	A S S E T S			L I A B I L I T I E S		NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)
	CASH	RECEIVABLES	OTHER	PAYABLES	LOANS	
AVCA	\$273	\$53	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$326
AFL	\$5,014	\$-	\$-	\$10,661	\$-	(\$5,647)
AMA	\$40,041	\$47,775	\$-	\$40,041	\$-	\$47,775
AB-PROUD	\$7,930	\$21	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$7,951
ARAF	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
ATA	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
AUPE	\$20,016	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$20,016
ADC	\$-	\$23.25	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$23.25
AASUA	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
CUPE-AB	\$414,812	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$414,812
CUPE-3550	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
CAUS	\$5,202	\$5,000	\$-	\$7,170	\$-	\$3,032
EZMSA	\$20	\$2,138	\$-	\$2,138	\$-	\$20
EFA	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
EYESFWD	\$1,106	\$50	\$-	\$556	\$-	\$600
FAIR	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
FOM	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
HSAA	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
IBEW-424**	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
JV	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
NPF	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
PRIO-AB	\$3,989	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$3,989
PROG-AB**	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
PIA	\$16,363	\$16,001	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$32,364
SAF	\$5,727	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$5,727
SAAE	\$1,395	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$1,395
SOS	\$5,003	\$445	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$5,448
UNA	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
VYTEE	\$1,974	\$-	\$-	\$647	\$-	\$1,326
TOTAL	\$528,865	\$71,506	\$-	\$61,213	\$-	\$539,157

*Abbreviations are for this report only; refer to Appendix M for full names of third party advertisers as of March 31, 2022.

**De-registered.

APPENDIX J: ETPA NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES) AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2021

ETPA*	A S S E T S			L I A B I L I T I E S		NET ASSETS (LIABILITIES)
	CASH	RECEIVABLES	OTHER	PAYABLES	LOANS	
AFL	\$9,964	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$9,964
AB-PROUD	\$9,294	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$9,294
FOM	\$159	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$159
TOTAL	\$19,417	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$19,417

*Abbreviations are for this report only; refer to Appendix M for full names of third party advertisers as of March 31, 2022.

APPENDIX K: PARTY REGISTRATIONS OF AT MARCH 31, 2022

POLITICAL PARTY	DATE REGISTERED	LEADER	PRESIDENT	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
ADVANTAGE PARTY OF ALBERTA (APA)	Nov 9, 2018	MARILYN BURNS	CAROL NORDLUND KINSEY	RON MALOWANY
ALBERTA LIBERAL PARTY (LIB)	Feb 3, 1978	JOHN ROGGEVEEN (INTERIM)	HELEN MCMENAMIN	ALEKSANDAR SAMARDZIJA
ALBERTA NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NDP)	Jan 3, 1978	RACHEL NOTLEY	PEGGY WRIGHT	BRANDON STEVENS
ALBERTA PARTY (AP)	Oct 30, 1990	BARRY MORISHITA	SUE TIMANSON	ANTHONY CASTILLO
COMMUNIST PARTY – ALBERTA (CP-A)	Jan 31, 1979	NAOMI RANKIN	NOT APPLICABLE	BLYTH NUTTALL
GREEN PARTY OF ALBERTA (GPA)	Dec 22, 2011	JORDAN WILKIE	EVELYN TANAKA	ROBERT MORAN
PRO-LIFE ALBERTA POLITICAL ASSOCIATION (PAPA)	Jun 2, 2014*	MURRAY RUHL	MURRAY RUHL	GRAHAM GAGNON
REFORM PARTY OF ALBERTA (REF)	Aug 21, 2018*	RANDY THORSTEINSON	LAUREN THORSTEINSON	PATRICIA ARGENT
THE BUFFALO PARTY OF ALBERTA (BPA)	Jan 20, 2022	JOHN MOLBERG	SHARON SMITH	JENNY WALKER
THE INDEPENDENCE PARTY OF ALBERTA (TIP)	Mar 20, 2019	VICTORY BAYFORD	SHARON MACLISE	LINDA DESROSIERS
UNITED CONSERVATIVE PARTY (UCP)	Jul 27, 2017	JASON KENNEY	CYNTHIA MOORE	MAXWELL DEGROAT
WILDROSE INDEPENDENCE PARTY OF ALBERTA (WIPA)	Nov 2, 1999	PAUL HINMAN	RICK NORTHEY	BILL JONES

*Re-registration date

APPENDIX L: CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATION REGISTRATIONS AS OF MARCH 31, 2022

ELECTORAL DIVISION NAME AND NUMBER	APA	LIB	NDP	AP	GPA	PAPA	TIP	UCP	WIPA	IND
01 CALGARY-ACADIA		J	J				J	J	J	
02 CALGARY-BEDDINGTON		J	J				J	J	J	
03 CALGARY-BOW		J	J	J			J	J	J	
04 CALGARY-BUFFALO		J	J	J			J	J	J	
05 CALGARY-CROSS		J	J				J	J	J	
06 CALGARY-CURRIE		J	J	J			J	J	J	
07 CALGARY-EAST		J	J	J			J	J	J	
08 CALGARY-EDGEMONT		J	J	J			J	J	J	
09 CALGARY-ELBOW		J	J	J			J	J	J	
10 CALGARY-FALCONRIDGE		J	J				J	J	J	
11 CALGARY-FISH CREEK		J	J				J	J	J	
12 CALGARY-FOOTHILLS		J	J				J	J	J	
13 CALGARY-GLENMORE		J	J				J	J	J	
14 CALGARY-HAYS		J	J	J			J	J	J	
15 CALGARY-KLEIN		J	J				J	J	J	
16 CALGARY-LOUGHEED		J	J			J	J	J	J	
17 CALGARY-BHULLAR-MCCALL		J	J	J			J	J	J	
18 CALGARY-MOUNTAIN VIEW		J	J	J			J	J	J	
19 CALGARY-NORTH		J	J				J	J	J	
20 CALGARY-NORTH EAST		J	J				J	J	J	
21 CALGARY-NORTH WEST		J	J	J			J	J	J	
22 CALGARY-PEIGAN		J	J				J	J	J	
23 CALGARY-SHAW		J	J	J			J	J	J	
24 CALGARY-SOUTH EAST		J	J		J		J	J	J	
25 CALGARY-VARSITY		J	J		J		J	J	J	
26 CALGARY-WEST		J	J				J	J	J	
27 EDMONTON-BEVERLY-CLAREVIEW		J	J				J	J	J	
28 EDMONTON-CASTLE DOWNS		J	J	J			J	J	J	
29 EDMONTON-CITY CENTRE		J	J	J	J		J	J	J	
30 EDMONTON-DECORE		J	J				J	J	J	
31 EDMONTON-ELLERSLIE		J	J				J	J	J	
32 EDMONTON-GLENORA		J	J	J			J	J	J	
33 EDMONTON-GOLD BAR		J	J				J	J	J	
34 EDMONTON-HIGHLANDS-NORWOOD		J	J	J			J	J	J	
35 EDMONTON-MANNING		J	J				J	J	J	
36 EDMONTON-MCCLUNG		J	J				J	J	J	
37 EDMONTON-MEADOWS		J	J				J	J	J	
38 EDMONTON-MILL WOODS		J	J				J	J	J	
39 EDMONTON-NORTH WEST		J	J				J	J	J	
40 EDMONTON-RIVERVIEW		J	J	J			J	J	J	
41 EDMONTON-RUTHERFORD		J	J	J			J	J	J	
42 EDMONTON-SOUTH		J	J	J			J	J	J	
43 EDMONTON-SOUTH WEST	J	J	J	J			J	J	J	
44 EDMONTON-STRATHCONA		J	J	J			J	J	J	
45 EDMONTON-WEST HENDAY		J	J				J	J	J	

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ELECTORAL DIVISION NAME AND NUMBER	APA	LIB	NDP	AP	GPA	PAPA	TIP	UCP	WIPA	IND
46 EDMONTON-WHITEMUD		J	J	J			J	J	J	
47 AIRDRIE-COCHRANE		J	J				J	J	J	
48 AIRDRIE-EAST		J	J	J			J	J	J	
49 ATHABASCA-BARRHEAD-WESTLOCK	J	J	J				J	J	J	
50 BANFF-KANANASKIS		J	J				J	J	J	
51 BONNYVILLE-COLD LAKE-ST. PAUL		J	J	J			J	J	J	
52 BROOKS-MEDICINE HAT		J	J	J			J	J	J	
53 CAMROSE		J	J	J			J	J	J	
54 CARDSTON-SIKSIKA		J	J				J	J	J	
55 CENTRAL PEACE-NOTLEY		J	J				J	J	J	
56 CHESTERMERE-STRATHMORE		J	J				J	J	J	
57 CYPRESS-MEDICINE HAT		J	J				J	J	J	J
58 DRAYTON VALLEY-DEVON		J	J				J	J	J	
59 DRUMHELLER-STETTLER	J	J	J	J			J	J	J	
60 FORT MCMURRAY-LAC LA BICHE		J	J				J	J	J	
61 FORT MCMURRAY-WOOD BUFFALO		J	J				J	J	J	
62 FORT SASKATCHEWAN-VEGREVILLE	J	J	J	J			J	J	J	
63 GRANDE PRAIRIE		J	J	J			J	J	J	
64 GRANDE PRAIRIE-WAPITI		J	J				J	J	J	
65 HIGHWOOD		J	J	J			J	J	J	
66 INNISFAIL-SYLVAN LAKE		J	J	J			J	J	J	
67 LAC STE. ANNE-PARKLAND	J	J	J	J			J	J	J	
68 LACOMBE-PONOKA		J	J				J	J	J	
69 LEDUC-BEAUMONT	J	J	J	J			J	J	J	
70 LESSER SLAVE LAKE		J	J				J	J	J	
71 LETHBRIDGE-EAST		J	J				J	J	J	
72 LETHBRIDGE-WEST		J	J	J			J	J	J	
73 LIVINGSTONE-MACLEOD		J	J	J			J	J	J	
74 MASKWACIS-WETASKIWIN		J	J				J	J	J	
75 MORINVILLE-ST. ALBERT		J	J				J	J	J	
76 OLDS-DIDSBURY-THREE HILLS		J	J	J			J	J	J	
77 PEACE RIVER		J	J				J	J	J	
78 RED DEER-NORTH		J	J	J			J	J	J	
79 RED DEER-SOUTH		J	J				J	J	J	
80 RIMBEY-ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE-SUNDRE		J	J				J	J	J	
81 SHERWOOD PARK		J	J	J			J	J	J	
82 SPRUCE GROVE-STONY PLAIN		J	J	J			J	J	J	
83 ST. ALBERT		J	J	J			J	J	J	
84 STRATHCONA-SHERWOOD PARK		J	J	J			J	J	J	
85 TABER-WARNER		J	J				J	J	J	
86 VERMILION-LLOYDMINSTER-WAINWRIGHT		J	J	J			J	J	J	
87 WEST YELLOWHEAD		J	J				J	J	J	
TOTAL	6	87	87	41	3	1	87	87	87	1

APPENDIX M: THIRD PARTY ADVERTISER REGISTRATIONS AS AT MARCH 31, 2022

ABBR.	THIRD PARTY ADVERTISER	ELECTION TPA	POLITICAL TPA	PRIMARY CONTACT	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
AVCA	A VERY CONCERNED ALBERTAN	-	J	SABINE SHABBITS	SABINE SHABBITS
AFL	ALBERTA FEDERATION OF LABOUR INC.	J	J	SIOBHAN VIPOND	SIOBHAN VIPOND
AMA	ALBERTA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION	J	J	MICHAEL GORMLEY	CAMERON PITT
AB-PROUD	ALBERTA PROUD	J	J	DANIEL KARY	DANIEL KARY
ARAF	ALBERTA RESOURCE ADVOCACY FOUNDATION	-	J	VITOR MARCIANO	TRAVIS OLSON
ARHCA	ALBERTA ROADBUILDERS AND HEAVY CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION	J	-	RONALD GLEN	RONALD GLEN
ATA	ALBERTA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION	-	J	JONATHAN TEGHTMEYER	PEDRO CARRIEL
AUPE	ALBERTA UNION OF PROVINCIAL EMPLOYEES	-	J	JULIUS SALEGIO	JASON HEISTAD
ADC	ANGRYDAD CANADA (GAMECHANGERS CANADA)	-	J	DARRIN THOMPSON	DARRIN THOMPSON
AASUA	ASSOCIATION OF ACADEMIC STAFF UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA	-	J	BRYGEDA RENKE	BRYGEDA RENKE
CAPE-AB	CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIANS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT – ALBERTA COMMITTEE	J	-	JENNIFER MCGETRICK	JOE VIPOND
CUPE-AB	CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES – ALBERTA DIVISION	J	J	MARLE ROBERTS	ELAINE MOORE
CUPE-3550	CUPE LOCAL 3550	J	J	JORGE ILLANES	MABEL ONG
CAUS	COUNCIL OF ALBERTA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS	-	J	ROWAN LEY	MATTHEW YANISH
EZMSA	EDMONTONZONE MEDICAL STAFF ASSOCIATION	-	J	ROBERTA HAWKES	ROBERTA HAWKES
EFA	EQUALIZATION FAIRNESS ALBERTA	-	J	WILLIAM BEWICK	SCOTT ELLIS
EYESFWD	EYESFORWARD	-	J	MARY METZ	MARY METZ
FAIR	FAIR ALBERTA INJURY REGULATIONS	-	J	KEITH MCLAUGHLIN	JACQUELINE BIOLLO
FFA	FIREFIGHTERS FOR ALBERTA	J	-	BRAD READMAN	JAMIE BLAYNEY
FOM	FRIENDS OF MEDICARE	J	J	VACANT	KAREN WERLIN
HSAA	HEALTH SCIENCES ASSOCIATION OF ALBERTA	J	J	GERALD TOWES	MICHAEL BOYLE
JV	JACQUI VANDERFLUIT	J	J	JACQUI VANDERFLUIT	JACQUI VANDERFLUIT
NPF	NATIONAL POLICE FEDERATION	J	J	BRIAN SAUVÉ	DON ARMSTRONG
PRIO-AB	PRIORITY ALBERTA	-	J	JAMES HUMBLE	JAMES HUMBLE
PIA	PUBLIC INTEREST ALBERTA SOCIETY	-	J	BRAD LAFORTUNE	BRAD LAFORTUNE
SAF	SHAPING ALBERTA'S FUTURE	-	J	DOUGLAS NELSON	DOUGLAS NELSON
SAAE	SOCIETY OF ALBERTANS AGAINST EQUALIZATION	-	J	GIANFRANCO TERRAZZANO	MELANIE HARVIE
SOS	SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS ALBERTA FOUNDATION	-	J	HEATHER GANSHORN	HEATHER GANSHORN
TBA	TAKE BACK ALBERTA SOCIETY	-	J	DAVID PARKER	JONATHAN HEIDEBRECHT
UNA	UNITED NURSES OF ALBERTA	-	J	HEATHER SMITH	RAMONA PASCASIO- SALUCOP
VYTEE	VOTE YES TO END EQUALIZATION INC.	-	J	BRIAN DUECK	JODIE GATEMAN

Summary of amendments to the *Election Act*:

Terminology Changes

- ◁ "Poll" replaced with "Vote" or "Voting". Includes advance voting, advance voting place, mobile vote, mobile voting, mobile voting place, Statement of Vote, voting area, voting place, voting record and voting station (s. 1)
- ◁ "Polling Day" replaced with "Election Day" (s. 1)
- ◁ Expanded definitions for "Statement of Vote" and "Voting Record" have been included. These definitions provide clarification on how these forms are used (s. 1)

Appointment and Duties of Chief Electoral Officer

- ◁ The appointment of the Chief Electoral Officer ends after the second general election, lengthening the term of appointment. This change does not apply to the current CEO (s. 3)
- ◁ The CEO is provided with authority over the *Citizen Initiative Act* and *Recall Act* (s. 3.1, 4)
- ◁ The CEO can prescribe oaths for the purposes of the Act (s. 4)
- ◁ Where a planned advance vote cannot take place, the CEO may hold the advance vote on another day, provided it continues to be open for the same number of hours as originally scheduled (s. 4)

Returning Officers

- ◁ Returning Officers added to the section regarding immunity from proceedings against the CEO in the performance of their duties (s. 5.1)
- ◁ Returning Officers can be appointed to conduct a recall vote if none are appointed at the time that a vote is to be held (s. 9)

Register of Electors / List of Electors

- ◁ Elector email addresses can be collected and added to the register, where the elector consents to the addition. Email addresses are not shared with political participants. (s. 13)
- ◁ The elector's full name, residential address, mailing address, citizenship and date of birth are required to add a person to the register (s. 13)

- ◁ The CEO can enter into agreements to share address, mapping, demographic or geographic information (s. 13.2)
- ◁ An elector can make a request not to have their information included in the List of Electors and have a notation added to the Register of Electors to facilitate this (s. 13.3)
- ◁ Registered political parties and candidates may receive a copy of the additions to the list in electronic or printed form after the close of revisions period (s. 18)
- ◁ Registered political parties and candidates can receive a revised list of electors in electronic form after the close of advance voting (s. 18)

Voting Area

- ◁ Limitation on the size of a voting area has been removed (s. 14)

Enumeration

- ◁ Requirement for mandatory door-to-door enumeration removed. Prescriptive elements of enumeration removed including sections on materials required, appointing enumerators to each polling subdivision, lists of facilities that cannot be visited, direction on what to leave at each door, requirements to visit every residence, and the requirement for 3 visits (s. 21-38)
- ◁ The Chief Electoral Officer can prescribe the conduct of an enumeration. This can include some or all of an electoral division, using any means the CEO determines sufficient (s. 21)
- ◁ The CEO or RO can appoint enumerators (s. 22)

Fixed Election Date

- ◁ A general election will take place on the last Monday in May, in the fourth year after the last GE. This will make the next Election Day May 29, 2023 (s. 38.1)

Mandatory Identification

- ◁ Elector's must show authorized identification to vote. The ID must establish the elector's current address (s. 43)
- ◁ Identification includes either: (s. 100)
 - One piece of government issued ID with name, address and photograph
 - Two pieces of ID authorized by the CEO, each with name and at least one with address

- ◁ Electors without ID may be vouched for by an elector in the same voting area whose name appears on the list of electors, has authorized ID, and takes a declaration (s. 43)
- ◁ The voting process has been outlined for electors with and without ID:
 - Elector found on the Voting Record and Name/Address on ID matches: Elector name struck from voting record and issued ballot (s. 100.1)
 - Elector found on Voting Record, but Address on ID does not match the Voting Record: Elector provides ID for current address and signs a declaration to be added to the Voting Record prior to being issued a ballot. (s. 100.2)
 - Elector found on Voting Record, but they do not have ID: Elector can be vouched for, in lieu of ID. A vouching declaration is completed. As the elector is listed in the Voting Record a Declaration of Elector is not required. (s. 100.3)
 - Elector not listed in the Voting Record, but has ID: Elector provides ID and takes Declaration of Elector and is added to the Voting record prior to being issued a ballot (s. 100.4)
 - Elector not listed in the Voting Record and does not have ID: Elector can be vouched for, in lieu of ID. A vouching declaration is completed. The elector must also take the Declaration of Elector and be added to the Voting Record prior to being issued a ballot (s. 100.5)

Election Officers

- ◁ "Supervisory Deputy Returning Officer", "Registration Officer", "Deputy Returning Officer", "Poll Clerk", "Information Officer", and "Administrative Assistant" titles removed from the legislation (s. 1).
- ◁ Sections pertaining to the appointment and duties of the administrative assistant (s. 47.1), deputy returning officers (s. 71 & 72), poll clerk (s. 73, 74 & 75), information officers (s. 75.1), supervisory deputy returning officers (s. 76 & 77) and registration officers (s. 77.1) have been removed.
- ◁ The CEO can outline the duties and functions of election officers. Section 45.1 moves all of the former duties identified under the titles noted above into a general list of duties. The CEO will prescribe the job titles, roles, and duties, including which election officers can perform the following:
 - Placement of signs in voting locations;
 - Managing the ballot box, including sealing it and maintaining the security of the ballot box;
 - Maintaining and issuing ballots;

- Maintaining the voting record;
 - Administering voting and taking oaths and declarations;
 - Providing voter assistance;
 - Registering electors to vote;
 - Completing the unofficial count and preparing the statement of vote;
 - Supervising the voting place;
 - Appointing interpreters; and
 - Assisting the RO in the performance of their duties (returning office staff).
- ◁ Election officers must be trained to complete their assigned duties (s. 45.1)
 - ◁ The CEO must provide all supplies to the RO's, who must then provide them to the election officers to perform their duties (s. 45.1)
 - ◁ One election officer in each voting location must be designated as the supervisor (s. 45.1)

Candidates & Scrutineers

- ◁ Scrutineer appointments for advance voting apply per day (4 per station, with only one present at one time) (s. 78)
- ◁ Scrutineers can take one oath at a voting place, rather than at each station (s. 78)
- ◁ If a scrutineer is removed from a voting place, they cannot be appointed to another location (s. 78)
- ◁ The candidate's \$500 nomination deposit will be collected by Elections Alberta when they register under the EFCDA. It has been removed from the *Election Act*. (EFCDA, s. 9)

Advance Voting

- ◁ The Chief Electoral Officer can make a directive to describe alternate procedures and ballot styles for advance voting (s. 4.11)
- ◁ At least one advance voting place must be established in the electoral division that operates from Tuesday to Saturday the week preceding Election Day from 9am – 8pm (s. 98)
- ◁ Additional advance voting locations can be established in the electoral division, and in consultation with the CEO, those may operate for alternate days/times within the advance voting period. This integrates the concept of special mobile poll into advance voting – the term "special mobile poll" has been removed (s. 98)

- ◁ The Chief Electoral Officer can identify which advance voting locations offer “vote anywhere” service. This allows remote locations to offer the local ballot only (s. 98)
- ◁ The record of electors who voted at the advance vote will no longer include the elector’s sequence number. This allows for sequence numbers to be issued after advance voting closes, which allows for additions to the list and declarations to be integrated into the Election Day voting record (s. 98)

Special Ballot

- ◁ Electors may apply for a Special Ballot package on or after March 1 in the year of a General Election. The package is not issued, however, until the writ is issued (s. 116)
- ◁ Applications for in-person Special Ballots can be made until the close of voting on Election Day. This includes having a designate pick up a Special Ballot on behalf of the elector (s. 116)
- ◁ Applications for a Special Ballot to be mailed to the elector close at 6pm on the day before advance voting opens (s. 116)
- ◁ Both registered political parties and candidates can receive the list of electors who applied for a Special Ballot (s. 117)
- ◁ The Special Ballot package is comprised of a ballot, ballot envelope, declaration form, and outer envelope. The certificate envelope has been removed from the package (s. 118)
- ◁ Electors voting by Special Ballot must provide a copy of their authorized ID, unless they are completing their package in-person, in which case the ID is viewed, but not retained (s. 118)

Mobile Voting

- ◁ A mobile vote can be held on any advance voting day or on Election Day or a combination of dates. The days and hours of the mobile vote is determined by the facility representative and the returning officer (s. 120)
- ◁ The presence of persons at a mobile voting station can be limited to the required election officers, the facility staff and an interpreter (if required). This applies to any facility eligible for a mobile voting station (s. 122)

Voter Assistance

- ◁ An interpreter cannot provide voter assistance in the voting booth without taking the prescribed oath (s. 78)
- ◁ A voter may request the assistance of an interpreter, a friend of voter or the election officer. The voter is not required to take an oath regarding their inability to read or mark the ballot (s. 96)
- ◁ Two election officers must be present when providing voter assistance in the voting booth or for curbside voting (s. 96)

Declined Ballot

- ◁ When an elector declines to vote it will not be annotated in the voting record, preserving their secrecy of the vote (s. 107.1)

Unofficial Count

- ◁ The unofficial count is completed by 2 election officers working together – one to perform the count and one to perform the tally. This maintains the current process without the specific “Deputy Returning Officer” and “Poll Clerk” titles (s. 111)
- ◁ Ballots are to be counted if the voter’s intention to vote for one candidate are clear. Ballots can be rejected if: (s. 111)
 - The name of the ED and year of election is not printed on the back of the ballot
 - It contains a vote for a candidate that has withdrawn
 - It is a special ballot that does not have the required ID or signed declaration provided
 - It contains a mark or writing that identifies the voter

Official Count

- ◁ The official count is only completed where the difference between the votes for the two candidates with the highest number of votes is 100 or less. (s. 137)
- ◁ Where the difference is 101 votes or more, the returning officer will conduct an official verification process which includes reviewing the Statement of Vote, objected ballots, rejected ballots, and any other ballots or materials the RO requires prior to signing the Statement of Official Results. (s. 137)

Time for Voting

- ◁ An employee is eligible for 3 consecutive hours to vote on any of the days for voting (advance or Election Day) if their work schedule does not allow them 3 consecutive hours for voting on any of the voting days. The time provided for voting is at the discretion of the employer (s. 132)

Summary of amendments to the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* (EFCDA) that apply to political parties, constituency associations, candidates, leadership contestants, and nomination contestants:

Registration

- ◁ Nomination contestants will no longer be required to register under the EFCDA, but parties will still need to collect all the same information from their contestants and provide it to Elections Alberta shortly after the nomination contest ends
- ◁ Candidates—whether independent or endorsed by a party—will be required to pay a \$500 deposit to Elections Alberta as part of their registration under the EFCDA, instead of paying the deposit to the returning officer as part of filing the candidate's nomination papers under the *Election Act*
- ◁ Leadership contestants will still be required to register under the EFCDA, but only when they announce their intention to seek the leadership of a party, and cannot accept contributions or incur expenses for their campaign until registered

Nomination Contests

- ◁ Parties will have up to 15 days after a nomination contest ends, to notify Elections Alberta of the nomination contest start and end dates, the name and contact information of the contestant(s) and chief financial officer(s) who participated, and who was selected for endorsement; Elections Alberta will publish summary information upon being notified
- ◁ Parties will have up to 30 days after the contest ends to provide Elections Alberta with additional details including the date the contestant(s) first announced their intention to seek endorsement or accepted their first contribution or incurred their first expense (whichever was earliest), and the financial institution and signing officers for the campaign account
- ◁ Parties will be encouraged to use Elections Alberta's Online Financial System (OFS) to enter contest and contestant information early, to assist with timely

notification to Elections Alberta so we may quickly communicate with contestants and chief financial officers about their financial compliance and reporting obligations under the EFCDA

- ◁ Any nomination contests in progress in OFS as of March 31st will follow the current 10-day deadline for notifying Elections Alberta of who was selected for endorsement

Contributions

- ◁ The current \$4,243 contribution limit per person ordinarily resident in Alberta per calendar year, will round up to **\$4,300** in aggregate to any combination of registered parties, registered constituency associations, registered leadership contestants, and registered candidates; nomination contestants will be removed from this aggregate limit effective March 31st
- ◁ Nomination contestants will have a new separate limit of **\$4,000** per person ordinarily resident in Alberta per calendar year in aggregate to any combination of nomination contestants starting on March 31st; official contribution receipts issued to contributors under this new limit will not be eligible for Alberta income tax credits
- ◁ Contributions to nomination contestants before March 31st, including self-funded by the contestant, will count toward the old limit and have a tax benefit;
- ◁ Starting March 31st contributors can contribute an additional \$4,000 to nomination contestants in aggregate for the remainder of 2022 without a tax benefit
- ◁ A party or constituency association membership, paid by a person on behalf of someone else, will be deemed a contribution to the party or constituency association by the person who paid it, and is subject to the above contribution limit

Expense Limits (Effective for the Next Election Event)

- ◁ The party general election expense limit of \$2,121,368 will change to a calculation of $\$1.16 \times$ the number of names in the Register of Electors on the 1st day of the month, three months before Election Day; an estimate based on the 2019 post-election Register of 2,822,303 electors would be **\$3,273,871**
- ◁ The party by-election expense limit of \$24,396 per electoral division will round up to **\$24,400**
- ◁ The candidate election expense limit of \$53,034 will round up to **\$53,100**

- ◁ The nomination contestant election expense limit of \$10,607 will increase to **\$13,275** (from 20% to 25% of the candidate limit)
- ◁ For any nomination contest in progress, the election expense limit for these contests will increase on March 31st from \$10,607 to \$13,275

Financial Reporting

- ◁ The 2021 annual returns due on March 31st are not impacted by these amendments
- ◁ Constituency associations will no longer be required to file quarterly contribution reports starting with Q1 2022, but will be encouraged to record contributions in OFS regularly throughout the year; waiting until the end of the year will significantly increase the potential for administrative penalties resulting from unresolved over-contributions
- ◁ The threshold for parties to file audited financial statements if their revenue or expenses exceed \$1,000 will increase to \$25,000 starting with the 2022 financial return(s)
- ◁ If a candidate's campaign return is not filed on time, the Chief Electoral Officer may keep the \$500 candidate deposit as payment of the automatic \$500 late filing fee, starting with the 2022 Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche By-election campaign return
- ◁ Due to a fixed election date prescribed in the Bill 81 amendments to the *Election Act*, a Writ of Election is expected to be issued on May 1, 2023 for a May 29, 2023 Provincial General Election; parties, constituency associations, and candidates should plan their fund-raising and spending activities anticipating these timeframes to ensure EFCDA compliance

Summary of amendments to the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* (EFCDA) that apply to political third party advertisers (PTPAs) and election third party advertisers (ETPAs):

Registration

- ◁ There is no change to the eligibility of who can register as an ETPA
- ◁ Only individuals who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents AND are ordinarily resident in Canada are eligible to register as a PTPA

- ◁ In order to be eligible, corporations, unincorporated associations and organizations that are incorporated, formed or otherwise organized outside of Canada, must carry on business within Canada to be eligible to register as a PTPA
- ◁ Further, an entity formed outside of Canada must carry on some sort of business in Canada in addition to the business of influencing electors to vote or refrain from voting for a registered candidate or registered political party, in order to be eligible to register as a PTPA. More specifically, in order to be eligible to register as a PTPA, attempting to influence electors cannot be an entity's only line of business
- ◁ Corporations, unincorporated associations and organizations that are incorporated, formed or otherwise organized within Canada continue to be eligible to register as a PTPA

Political Advertising Definition

- ◁ The definition of political advertising in section 44.1(g) of the EFCDA will no longer include "an advertising message that takes a position on an issue" with which a registered party, leader, MLA, candidate, leadership contestant or nomination contestant is associated

Contributions

- ◁ Section 44.2(2) now imposes restrictions on who can make political advertising contributions to a PTPA:
 - With respect to individual people, only individuals who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents AND who are ordinarily resident in Canada can make political advertising contributions
 - A corporation, unincorporated association or organization that is incorporated, formed or otherwise organized outside of Canada that does not carry on business within Canada, can no longer make political advertising contributions
 - Further, an entity formed outside of Canada, who's only business in Canada is to influence electors to vote or refrain from voting for a registered candidate or registered political party, cannot make political advertising contributions. More specifically, in order to be eligible to make a contribution, attempting to influence electors cannot be an entity's only line of business
 - The following are also prohibited from making political advertising contributions starting March 31, 2022:

- ! prohibited corporations,
 - ! trade unions that do not hold bargaining rights for employees in Canada,
 - ! employee organizations that do not hold bargaining rights for employees in Canada,
 - ! registered charities, and
 - ! a group that contains any of the aforementioned entities.
- ◁ As a result of amendments to section 44.2(1) of the EFCDA, only an individual ordinarily resident in Alberta can make election advertising contributions
 - For further clarity, corporations, trade unions, employee organizations, registered charities, or any group that contains any of the aforementioned entities, are **not** eligible to make election advertising contributions
 - Any registered ETPA that is an Alberta corporation, Alberta trade union, Alberta employee organization, or a group containing any of these entities, can no longer self-fund contributions; all contributions must be attributed to and reported by individual person and amount

Contribution Limits

- ◁ Section 44.201 establishes limits on contributions to ETPAs and PTPAs
- ◁ The annual maximum contribution to an ETPA is \$30,000 and the annual maximum contribution to a PTPA is \$30,000
- ◁ However, the total annual aggregate of ETPA contributions and PTPA contributions for an individual cannot exceed \$30,000

Financial Reporting

- ◁ The period during which a TPA can engage in election advertising has changed from December 1 in the year immediately preceding the year in which a general election is held, to **January 1** in the year in which a general election is held
- ◁ For general elections, the election advertising spending limit of \$150,103 rounds up to **\$150,200** for each of these periods: January 1 to the day before the Writ is issued, and from the day the Writ is issued to election day
- ◁ For by-elections, the election advertising spending limit of \$3,182 per electoral division rounds up to **\$3,200**

Prohibition on TPA Affiliation

- ◁ Under section 9.1(5.1) of the EFCDA, if the Chief Electoral Officer determines that a TPA is affiliated with a registered party, the TPA is not eligible to be registered

and as a result cannot accept political or election advertising contributions and cannot undertake election or political advertising

- ◁ Factors that the Chief Electoral Officer may consider in order to determine whether a TPA is affiliated with a party are as follows:
 - The organization of the TPA and whether there are cross appointments of one or more of the CFO, signing officers, or principals,
 - Any agreements or interactions between the TPA and a registered party that would suggest the registered party controls the TPA, and
 - The extent to which the TPA participates in the registered party's decision making



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