



2014

ANNUAL REPORT of the Chief Electoral Officer

The Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act
For the 2014 Calendar Year



chief electoral office

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November 2015

Estefania Cortes-Vargas, Chair
Standing Committee on Legislative Offices
3rd Floor, 9820 107 Street NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1E7

Dear Member Cortes-Vargas:

It is my honour to submit to you, Elections Alberta's 2014 Annual Report on the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*.

This Report is submitted pursuant to section 4(2) of the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter E-2. The Report also includes this Office's financial statements as at March 31, 2015.

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

Sincerely,

[Original signed by Glen Resler]

Glen Resler
Chief Electoral Officer

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

During 2014, my first full year as Alberta's Chief Electoral Officer, efforts were concentrated on seeking partnership opportunities and exploring innovative ideas to modernize the electoral process, and to introduce best practices in electoral administration. These efforts resulted in the delivery of improved services and information access to all stakeholders as well as increased oversight and legislative compliance enforcement as outlined below.

Enhancements to the Elections Alberta public website resulted in improved disclosure especially in the area of political contributions. New resources, such as fillable financial statement forms, were developed and made available to assist registered political entities with their compliance responsibilities. A major website redevelopment project was initiated.

The increased emphasis on compliance resulted in dozens of deregistrations involving political parties and constituency associations. Thanks to the efforts of Elections Alberta staff and the cooperation of political parties involved, the vast majority of issues were resolved by the end of 2014. In addition, investigations into circumstances of possible violations of the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* (the *EFDA*) carried forward from previous years were completed and, although new investigations were initiated in 2014, the numbers were down from previous years.

In addition to Elections Alberta's management of political entities' annual registration and financial reporting requirements, this Office provided oversight of leadership contests held by two political parties and conducted four by-elections.

As part of ongoing efforts to modernize the electoral process, I made recommendations for legislative amendments to the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* as referenced in Section Four of this Report.

My mission is to deliver effective non-partisan services that meet the electoral needs of Albertans. My office continues to work in partnership with all our stakeholders to identify best practices that can be introduced to improve the delivery of our services across Alberta.

Glen Resler
Chief Electoral Officer

1 *Section One*

THE 2014 CALENDAR YEAR

OVERVIEW

The following were some of the major requirements and activities of political parties, constituency associations, third parties, and leadership contests for the 2014 calendar year:

- 9 political parties were required to file quarterly reports and annual financial statements
- 3 political parties were required to file annual financial statements related to senatorial selection
- 381 constituency associations were required to file quarterly reports and annual financial statements
- 2 third parties were required to file annual advertising reports
- 2 political parties were required to register a leadership contest, and 6 leadership contestants were registered and required to file financial statements

One political party and 59 constituency associations across three political parties failed to meet their filing requirements and were deregistered in 2014.

The following were some of the major requirements and activities of political parties and candidates for the 2014 by-elections held in Calgary-Elbow, Calgary-Foothills, Calgary-West and Edmonton-Whitemud:

- 6 political parties endorsed candidates
- 23 by-election candidates were registered and required to file campaign period financial statements

Details on the status of registrations and financial statements received, including contributions, revenue and expenses reported, are provided on the following pages.

POLITICAL PARTIES AND CONSTITUENCY ASSOCIATIONS

REGISTRATION

Political Parties

As at December 31, 2014, there were nine political parties included in the Register of Political Parties maintained by Elections Alberta in accordance with section 7(1) of the *EFCD*A.

During the 2014 calendar year, the Alberta Social Credit Party (SC) was deregistered effective April 14, 2014 for failure to meet the filing requirements prescribed by the *EFCD*A. The party filed the outstanding financial statement on April 29, 2014 and was reregistered effective June 2, 2014 upon receipt of a request for reregistration. Registration information for the registered political parties as at December 31, 2014 is listed below:

Political Party (Abbreviation)	Date Registered	President	Chief Financial Officer
Alberta First Party (AFP)	November 2, 1999	Glen Dundas	Bridget Cuthbertson
Alberta Liberal Party (LIB)	February 3, 1978	Todd Van Vliet	James (Toby) Ramsden
Alberta New Democratic Party (NDP)	January 3, 1978	Chris O'Halloran	Brian Stokes
Alberta Party (AP)	October 30, 1990	William Munsey	Gil Poitras
Alberta Social Credit Party (SC)	June 2, 2014	Helge Nome	Helge Nome
Communist Party – Alberta (CP-A)	January 31, 1979 (Leader)	Naomi Rankin	Blyth Nuttal
Green Party of Alberta (GPA)	December 22, 2011	Susan Stratton	Matt Burnett
Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (PC)	January 3, 1978	Terri Beaupre	Ron Renaud
Wildrose Alliance Party (WRP)	October 25, 2002	Jeff Callaway	Rob Solinger

Reserved Political Party Names

One reserved political party name, Alberta Fare Party, was held on file as at December 31, 2014. The applicant proposed to form a registered political party in accordance with the provisions of the *EFCD*A, and was advised that one of the primary requirements for registration was the completion of a petition under section 6(2)(d) of the *EFCD*A. The petition must contain a minimum of 7,163 signatures of eligible electors, which represented 0.3% of the number of electors that were eligible to vote at the 2012 Provincial General Election.

Constituency Associations

During the 2014 calendar year, four applications for initial registration were approved:

Political Party	Electoral Division	Initial Registration
Alberta Party (AP)	Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre	October 6, 2014
Alberta Social Credit Party (SC)	Calgary-Elbow	July 23, 2014
	Calgary-Hays	July 23, 2014
	Calgary-Klein	December 19, 2014

As at December 31, 2014 there were 383 registered constituency associations. The chart below outlines the number per political party.

AFP	LIB	NDP	AP	SC	CP-A	GPA	PC	WRP	TOTAL
1	84	87	33	4	0	0	87	87	383

Deregistrations and Reregistrations

During the 2014 calendar year, 59 constituency associations were deregistered, and 53 were later reregistered. Specific information pertaining to the political parties and their constituency associations, follows.

A total of 53 Alberta Liberal Party constituency associations were deregistered effective April 14, 2014 for failure to meet the filing requirements in accordance with section 42(1)(b) of the *EFDA*. As at December 31, 2014, 50 had filed the outstanding financial statements and were approved for reregistration. Reregistration dates are provided below.

Constituency Association	Reregistered	Constituency Association	Reregistered
Lesser Slave Lake	May 9, 2014	Airdrie	May 5, 2014
Calgary-Acadia	November 4, 2014	Banff-Cochrane	October 3, 2014
Calgary-Cross	October 7, 2014	Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock	May 21, 2014
Calgary-East	May 5, 2014	Battle River-Wainwright	November 19, 2014
Calgary-Elbow	July 8, 2014	Bonnyville-Cold Lake	May 5, 2014
Calgary-Fish Creek	May 5, 2014	Cardston-Taber-Warner	May 5, 2014
Calgary-Fort	May 5, 2014	Chestermere-Rocky View	May 5, 2014
Calgary-Greenway	May 5, 2014	Cypress-Medicine Hat	October 30, 2014
Calgary-Hawkwood	May 5, 2014	Drayton Valley-Devon	May 5, 2014
Calgary-Hays	May 5, 2014	Drumheller-Stettler	October 3, 2014
Calgary-Klein	December 11, 2014	Fort McMurray-Conklin	May 5, 2014
Calgary-Lougheed	November 14, 2014	Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo	May 5, 2014
Calgary-McCall	May 5, 2014	Grande Prairie-Smoky	N/A
Calgary-North West	November 7, 2014	Grande Prairie-Wapiti	September 16, 2014

Constituency Association	Reregistered	Constituency Association	Reregistered
Calgary-Northern Hills	May 5, 2014	Innisfail-Sylvan Lake	May 5, 2014
Calgary-South East	May 5, 2014	Lac La Biche-St. Paul-Two Hills	N/A
Calgary-West	N/A	Livingstone-Macleod	September 11, 2014
Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview	May 5, 2014	Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills	December 11, 2014
Edmonton-Calder	November 4, 2014	Peace River	May 5, 2014
Edmonton-Castle Downs	October 1, 2014	Strathmore-Brooks	May 5, 2014
Edmonton-Centre	April 17, 2014	Vermilion-Lloydminster	November 25, 2014
Edmonton-Decore	July 3, 2014	West Yellowhead	July 8, 2014
Edmonton-Ellerslie	October 21, 2014	Wetaskiwin-Camrose	May 5, 2014
Edmonton-Glenora	August 25, 2014	Whitecourt-Ste. Anne	September 3, 2014
Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood	May 5, 2014		
Edmonton-Mill Creek	July 3, 2014		
Edmonton-South West	May 5, 2014		
Edmonton-Strathcona	May 28, 2014		
Edmonton-Whitemud	May 5, 2014		

The Alberta Social Credit Party requested that the Edmonton-Calder Constituency Association be deregistered, which was approved and made effective March 28, 2014. The party and its two remaining constituency associations were later deregistered effective April 14, 2014 for the party's failure to meet the filing requirements in accordance with section 42(1)(b) of the *EFCD*. The party filed the outstanding financial statements and was approved for reregistration effective June 2, 2014. As at December 31, 2014, one constituency association had filed the outstanding financial statement and was reregistered.

Constituency Association	Reregistered
Edmonton-Calder	N/A
Innisfail-Sylvan Lake	July 23, 2014
Sherwood Park	N/A

Three Wildrose Alliance Party constituency associations were deregistered effective April 14, 2014 for failure to meet the filing requirements in accordance with section 42(1)(b) of the *EFCD*. As at December 31, 2014, all three had filed the outstanding financial statements and were reregistered.

Constituency Association	Reregistered
Edmonton-Manning	July 16, 2014
Drayton Valley-Devon	October 15, 2014
Little Bow	July 31, 2014

Below is a chart showing the registration status of constituency associations of each political party by electoral division. The Communist Party – Alberta and the Green Party of Alberta did not have any registered constituency associations as at December 31, 2014.

Status of Constituency Associations as at December 31, 2014

“R” = registered, “-” = not registered, “X” = deregistered in reporting year

Constituency Association	AFP	LIB	NDP	AP	SC	PC	WRP
1 Dunvegan-Central Peace-Notley	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
2 Lesser Slave Lake	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
3 Calgary-Acadia	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
4 Calgary-Bow	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
5 Calgary-Buffalo	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
6 Calgary-Cross	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
7 Calgary-Currie	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
8 Calgary-East	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
9 Calgary-Elbow	-	R	R	R	R	R	R
10 Calgary-Fish Creek	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
11 Calgary-Foothills	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
12 Calgary-Fort	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
13 Calgary-Glenmore	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
14 Calgary-Greenway	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
15 Calgary-Hawkwood	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
16 Calgary-Hays	-	R	R	-	R	R	R
17 Calgary-Klein	-	R	R	-	R	R	R
18 Calgary-Lougheed	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
19 Calgary-Mackay-Nose Hill	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
20 Calgary-McCall	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
21 Calgary-Mountain View	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
22 Calgary-North West	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
23 Calgary-Northern Hills	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
24 Calgary-Shaw	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
25 Calgary-South East	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
26 Calgary-Varsity	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
27 Calgary-West	-	X	R	-	-	R	R
28 Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
29 Edmonton-Calder	-	R	R	-	X	R	R
30 Edmonton-Castle Downs	-	R	R	R	-	R	R

Status of Constituency Associations as at December 31, 2014

“R” = registered, “-” = not registered, “X” = deregistered in reporting year

Constituency Association	AFP	LIB	NDP	AP	SC	PC	WRP
31 Edmonton-Centre	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
32 Edmonton-Decore	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
33 Edmonton-Ellerslie	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
34 Edmonton-Glenora	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
35 Edmonton-Gold Bar	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
36 Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
37 Edmonton-Manning	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
38 Edmonton-McClung	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
39 Edmonton-Meadowlark	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
40 Edmonton-Mill Creek	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
41 Edmonton-Mill Woods	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
42 Edmonton-Riverview	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
43 Edmonton-Rutherford	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
44 Edmonton-South West	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
45 Edmonton-Strathcona	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
46 Edmonton-Whitemud	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
47 Airdrie	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
48 Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
49 Banff-Cochrane	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
50 Barrhead-Morinville-Westlock	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
51 Battle River-Wainwright	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
52 Bonnyville-Cold Lake	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
53 Cardston-Taber-Warner	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
54 Chestermere-Rocky View	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
55 Cypress-Medicine Hat	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
56 Drayton Valley-Devon	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
57 Drumheller-Stettler	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
58 Fort McMurray-Conklin	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
59 Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
60 Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
61 Grande Prairie-Smoky	-	X	R	-	-	R	R
62 Grande Prairie-Wapiti	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
63 Highwood	-	R	R	-	-	R	R

Status of Constituency Associations as at December 31, 2014

“R” = registered, “-” = not registered, “X” = deregistered in reporting year

Constituency Association	AFP	LIB	NDP	AP	SC	PC	WRP
64 Innisfail-Sylvan Lake	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
65 Lac La Biche-St. Paul-Two Hills	-	X	R	-	-	R	R
66 Lacombe-Ponoka	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
67 Leduc-Beaumont	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
68 Lethbridge-East	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
69 Lethbridge-West	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
70 Little Bow	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
71 Livingstone-Macleod	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
72 Medicine Hat	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
73 Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
74 Peace River	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
75 Red Deer-North	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
76 Red Deer-South	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
77 Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
78 Sherwood Park	-	R	R	R	X	R	R
79 Spruce Grove-St. Albert	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
80 St. Albert	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
81 Stony Plain	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
82 Strathcona-Sherwood Park	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
83 Strathmore-Brooks	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
84 Vermilion-Lloydminster	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
85 West Yellowhead	-	R	R	R	-	R	R
86 Wetaskiwin-Camrose	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
87 Whitecourt-Ste. Anne	-	R	R	-	-	R	R
Total	1	84	87	33	4	87	87

QUARTERLY REPORTING

In accordance with section 32(3) of the *EFCDA*, all political parties and constituency associations were required to file quarterly reports with the Chief Electoral Officer within 15 days after the end of each quarter in the calendar year.

Quarterly reports are limited to the submission of contribution information. If no contributions are received in a quarter, a nil report is still required to be filed.

Political parties' policies in effect as at December 31, 2014 regarding the acceptance of contributions by their constituency association(s) are outlined below for reference. All constituency associations are required to file quarterly reports regardless of party policy.

Political Party	Registered Constituency Association(s) in 2014	Constituency Association(s) Authorized to accept contributions
Alberta First Party (AFP)	Yes	Yes
Alberta Liberal Party (LIB)	Yes	No*
Alberta New Democratic Party (NDP)	Yes	No
Alberta Party (AP)	Yes	Yes
Alberta Social Credit Party (SC)	Yes	Yes
Communist Party – Alberta (CP-A)	No	N/A
Green Party of Alberta (GPA)	No	N/A
Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (PC)	Yes	Yes
Wildrose Alliance Party (WRP)	Yes	Yes

*The Alberta Liberal Party's policy changed in the first quarter of 2015 to allow some of their constituency associations to report contributions in the 2014 calendar year. The policy change is for the annual financial statements only, not the quarterly reports.

The charts below summarize 2014 quarterly contributions reported by political parties and constituency associations, as taken from the quarterly reports filed with Elections Alberta. Quarterly reports are not subject to desk review by Elections Alberta, therefore the information is provided exactly as it was filed.

Note: Quarterly reported contributions may not reconcile to the annual reported contributions as a result of the year end review processes by the registered political parties and our Office.

**Total Contributions to Political Parties
per Quarterly Reports**

	AFP	LIB	NDP	AP	SC	CP-A	GPA	PC	WRP
Q1	Nil	\$ 79,905	\$ 123,398	\$ 27,201	\$ 50	Nil	\$ 5,681	\$ 769,800	\$ 891,419
Q2	Nil	\$ 101,480	\$ 149,817	\$ 27,174	\$ 300	Nil	\$ 4,037	\$ 637,124	\$ 680,741
Q3	Nil	\$ 61,114	\$ 201,092	\$ 37,406		Nil	\$ 3,142	\$ 412,805	\$ 700,785
Q4	Nil	\$ 96,221	\$ 258,677	\$ 30,181	\$ 1,252	Nil	\$ 9,145	\$ 1,390,481	\$ 305,771
Total	Nil	\$ 338,720	\$ 732,984	\$ 121,962	\$ 1,602	Nil	\$ 22,005	\$ 3,210,210	\$ 2,578,716

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

**Total Contributions to Constituency Associations
per Quarterly Reports**

	AFP	LIB	NDP	AP	SC	CP-A	GPA	PC	WRP
Q1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	N/A	N/A	\$ 285,279	\$ 50,905
Q2	Nil	Nil	Nil	\$ 490	\$ 10	N/A	N/A	\$ 342,849	\$ 152,078
Q3	Nil	Nil	Nil	\$ 753	Nil	N/A	N/A	\$ 235,082	\$ 114,607
Q4	Nil	Nil	Nil	\$ 864	Nil	N/A	N/A	\$ 214,574	\$ 106,868
Total	Nil	Nil	Nil	\$ 2,107	\$ 10	N/A	N/A	\$ 1,077,784	\$ 424,458

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In accordance with section 42 of the *EFCD*, political parties and constituency associations registered prior to September 1, 2014 were required to file annual financial statements with the Chief Electoral Officer on or before March 31, 2015.

Political Parties – Annual Financial Statements

All nine political parties registered as at December 31, 2014 were required to submit a 2014 Political Party Annual Financial Statement on or before March 31, 2015. Eight political parties, listed below, filed their financial statements by the filing deadline:

- Alberta First Party (AFP)
- Alberta Liberal Party (LIB)
- Alberta New Democratic Party (NDP)

- Alberta Party (AP)
- Communist Party – Alberta (CP-A)
- Green Party of Alberta (GPA)
- Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (PC)
- Wildrose Alliance Party (WRP)

The Alberta Social Credit Party (SC) filed late on April 1, 2015.

Audited financial statements are required if the revenue or expenses of a political party exceed \$1,000 for the reporting period. Six political parties submitted audited financial statements. The Alberta First Party, Alberta Social Credit Party, and Communist Party – Alberta were not required to submit audited financial statements.

Foundations

In accordance with section 6(6) of the *EFDA*, political parties that maintain a foundation are required to file an annual report of the expenditures of that foundation. As at December 31, 2014, the Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta reported that their foundation maintained under the *EFDA* was dissolved and total expenditures were \$1,633,739.

Political Parties – Annual Contribution Highlights

The following represents the number, monetary amount, and category of contributions reported by political parties in the 2014 calendar year as represented by the contribution receipts issued. Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Alberta First Party (AFP)

No contributions were reported.

Alberta Liberal Party (LIB)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
1,397 Individual(s)	\$ 126,435	\$ 91
65 Corporation(s)	\$ 4,572	\$ 70
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
354 Individual(s)	\$ 155,710	\$ 440
30 Corporation(s)	\$ 71,140	\$ 2,371
Total	\$ 357,857	

Alberta New Democratic Party (NDP)		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
4,916	Individual(s)	\$ 292,920	\$ 60
6	Corporation(s)	\$ 719	\$ 120
8	Trade Union(s)	\$ 1,510	\$ 189
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
699	Individual(s)	\$ 387,510	\$ 554
4	Corporation(s)	\$ 9,165	\$ 2,291
28	Trade Union(s)	\$ 84,851	\$ 3,030
Total		\$ 776,675	

Alberta Party (AP)		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
251	Individual(s)	\$ 28,194	\$ 112
1	Corporation(s)	\$ 60	\$ 60
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
121	Individual(s)	\$ 63,543	\$ 525
7	Corporation(s)	\$ 17,141	\$ 2,449
Total		\$ 108,938	

Alberta Social Credit Party (SC)		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
2	Individual(s)	\$ 450	\$ 225
Total		\$ 450	

Communist Party – Alberta (CP-A)

No contributions were reported.

Green Party of Alberta (GPA)		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
56	Individual(s)	\$ 5,159	\$ 92
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
16	Individual(s)	\$ 7,432	\$ 465
1	Corporation(s)	\$ 270	\$ 270
Total		\$ 12,861	

Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (PC)		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
4,104	Individual(s)	\$ 261,996	\$ 64
437	Corporation(s)	\$ 40,391	\$ 92
2	Trade Union(s)	\$ 200	\$ 100
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
2,092	Individual(s)	\$ 1,020,431	\$ 488
963	Corporation(s)	\$ 1,602,657	\$ 1,664
10	Trade Union(s)	\$ 17,200	\$ 1,720
Total		\$ 2,942,875	

Wildrose Alliance Party (WRP)

Verifiable contributor information is unavailable from the Wildrose Party. Outstanding issues are pending resolution.

Total Contributions to Political Parties per Annual Financial Statements		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
10,726	Individual(s)	\$ 715,154	\$ 67
509	Corporation(s)	\$ 45,742	\$ 90
10	Trade Union(s)	\$ 1,710	\$ 171
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
3,282	Individual(s)	\$ 1,634,626	\$ 498
1,005	Corporation(s)	\$ 1,700,373	\$ 1,692
38	Trade Union(s)	\$ 102,051	\$ 2,686
Total		\$ 4,199,656	

Annual Revenue and Expenses Reported by Political Parties per Annual Financial Statements

Political Party	Amounts to \$250	Amounts over \$250	Other Revenue	Total Annual Revenue	Fund Transfer	Annual Expenses	Total Annual Expenses	Annual Surplus (Deficit)
AFP	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
LIB	\$ 131,007	\$ 226,850	\$ 38,939	\$ 396,796	\$ 48,026	\$ 261,609	\$ 309,635	\$ 87,161
NDP	\$ 295,149	\$ 481,526	\$ 223,159	\$ 999,834	\$ 211,692	\$ 547,348	\$ 759,040	\$ 240,794
AP	\$ 28,254	\$ 80,684	\$ 4,584	\$ 113,522	Nil	\$ 156,503	\$ 156,503	\$ (42,981)
SC	\$ 450	Nil	\$ 353	\$ 803	Nil	Nil	Nil	\$ 803
CP-A	Nil	Nil	\$ 1	\$ 1	Nil	\$ 392	\$ 392	\$ (391)
GPA	\$ 5,159	\$ 7,702	\$ 3,452	\$ 16,313	Nil	\$ 7,123	\$ 7,123	\$ 9,190
PC	\$ 302,587	\$ 2,640,288	\$ 2,682,794	\$ 5,625,669	\$ 6,955	\$ 3,515,775	\$ 3,522,730	\$ 2,102,939
WRP	See disclaimer below*							

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

*The Wildrose Party filed a financial statement with Elections Alberta on March 31, 2015. However, verifiable information to support the financial statement filed has not been provided. Outstanding issues are pending resolution.

Constituency Associations – Annual Financial Statements

Of 383 constituency associations registered as at December 31, 2014, there were 381 required to file a 2014 Constituency Association Annual Financial Statement on or before March 31, 2015. Of the 381 constituency associations which were required to file:

- 374 constituency associations filed financial statements by the filing deadline;
- 1 constituency association filed the financial statement on April 1, 2015;
- 6 constituency associations did not meet the filing requirements and were deregistered, of which five were later reregistered when financial statements were filed and accepted.

Constituency Associations – Annual Contribution Highlights

The chart below summarizes political parties' policies regarding the acceptance of contributions by their constituency association(s), and whether contributions were reported in the 2014 calendar year.

Political Party	Registered Constituency Association(s) in 2014	Constituency Association(s) authorized to accept contributions	Contributions reported in 2014
Alberta First Party (AFP)	Yes	Yes	No
Alberta Liberal Party (LIB)	Yes	Yes*	Yes*
Alberta New Democratic Party (NDP)	Yes	No	N/A
Alberta Party (AP)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Alberta Social Credit Party (SC)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Communist Party – Alberta (CP-A)	No	N/A	N/A
Green Party of Alberta (GPA)	No	N/A	N/A
Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (PC)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wildrose Alliance Party (WRP)	Yes	Yes	Yes

*The Alberta Liberal Party's policy changed in the first quarter of 2015 to allow some of their constituency associations to report contributions in the 2014 calendar year. The policy change is for the annual financial statements only, not the quarterly reports.

The following represents the number, monetary amount, and category of contributions reported by constituency associations in the 2014 calendar year as represented by the contribution receipts issued. Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Alberta First Party (AFP)

No contributions were reported from the one constituency association.

Alberta Liberal Party (LIB)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
152 Individual(s)	\$ 13,254	\$ 87
12 Corporation(s)	\$ 1,081	\$ 90
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
26 Individual(s)	\$ 11,634	\$ 447
3 Corporation(s)	\$ 1,600	\$ 533
Total	\$ 27,569	

8 of 84 constituency associations reported receiving contributions.

Alberta Party (AP)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
11 Individual(s)	\$ 1,068	\$ 97
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
2 Individual(s)	\$ 1,035	\$ 518
Total	\$ 2,103	

3 of 33 constituency associations reported receiving contributions.

Alberta Social Credit Party (SC)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
2 Individual(s)	\$ 349	\$ 175
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
2 Individual(s)	\$ 1,500	\$ 750
Total	\$ 1,849	

2 of 4 constituency associations reported receiving contributions.

Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (PC)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
2,246 Individual(s)	\$ 249,278	\$ 111
819 Corporation(s)	\$ 101,123	\$ 123
9 Trade Union(s)	\$ 1,537	\$ 171
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
698 Individual(s)	\$ 334,030	\$ 479
681 Corporation(s)	\$ 396,613	\$ 582
19 Trade Union(s)	\$ 9,026	\$ 475
Total	\$ 1,091,607	

73 of 87 constituency associations reported receiving contributions.

Wildrose Alliance Party (WRP)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
1,049 Individual(s)	\$ 130,837	\$ 125
140 Corporation(s)	\$ 17,942	\$ 128
1 Trade Union(s)	\$ 131	\$ 131
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
364 Individual(s)	\$ 189,141	\$ 520
184 Corporation(s)	\$ 118,059	\$ 642
Total	\$ 456,110	

68 of 87 constituency associations reported receiving contributions.

Total Contributions to Constituency Associations per Annual Financial Statements	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
3,460 Individual(s)	\$ 394,786	\$ 114
971 Corporation(s)	\$ 120,146	\$ 124
10 Trade Union(s)	\$ 1,668	\$ 167
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
1,092 Individual(s)	\$ 537,340	\$ 492
868 Corporation(s)	\$ 516,272	\$ 595
19 Trade Union(s)	\$ 9,026	\$ 475
Total	\$ 1,579,238	

**Annual Revenue and Expenses
Reported by Constituency Associations
per Annual Financial Statements**

Political Party	Amounts to \$250	Amounts over \$250	Other Revenue	Total Annual Revenue	Fund Transfer	Annual Expenses	Total Annual Expenses	Annual Surplus (Deficit)
AFP	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
LIB	\$ 14,335	\$ 13,234	\$ 90,786	\$ 118,355	\$ 27,490	\$ 45,875	\$ 73,365	\$ 44,990
NDP	N/A	N/A	\$ 180,820	\$ 180,820	\$ 28	\$ 58,798	\$ 58,826	\$ 121,994
AP	\$ 1,068	\$ 1,035	\$ 1,138	\$ 3,241	\$ 1,200	\$ 3,247	\$ 4,447	\$ (1,206)
SC	\$ 349	\$ 1,500	\$ 3,745	\$ 5,594	Nil	\$ 1,622	\$ 1,622	\$ 3,972
CP-A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
GPA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PC	\$ 351,938	\$ 739,669	\$ 539,294	\$ 1,630,901	\$ 96,588	\$ 1,027,445	\$ 1,124,033	\$ 506,868
WRP	\$ 148,910	\$ 307,200	\$ 315,297	\$ 771,407	\$ 171,513	\$ 396,306	\$ 567,819	\$ 203,588

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

**Total Combined Annual Contributions to
Political Parties and Constituency Associations
per Annual Financial Statements**

Political Party	Party	Constituency Associations	Total
Alberta First Party (AFP)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Alberta Liberal Party (LIB)	\$ 357,857	\$ 27,569	\$ 385,426
Alberta New Democratic Party (NDP)	\$ 776,675	N/A	\$ 776,675
Alberta Party (AP)	\$ 108,938	\$ 2,103	\$ 111,041
Alberta Social Credit Party (SC)	\$ 450	\$ 1,849	\$ 2,299
Communist Party – Alberta (CP-A)	Nil	N/A	Nil
Green Party of Alberta (GPA)	\$ 12,861	N/A	\$ 12,861
Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (PC)	\$ 2,942,875	\$ 1,091,607	\$ 4,034,482
Wildrose Alliance Party (WRP)	See disclaimer below*	\$ 456,110	\$ 456,110
Total	\$ 4,199,656	\$ 1,579,238	\$ 5,778,894

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

*The Wildrose Party annual contributions have not been finalized for reporting purposes. Outstanding issues are pending resolution.

Historical Summary of Contributions to Political Parties 2008-2014

Political Party	2008*	2009*	2010	2011	2012*	2013	2014*	Totals
AFP	\$ 15,291	\$ 6,794	Nil	\$ 5,400	Nil	Nil	Nil	\$ 27,485
AG**	\$ 26,762	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 26,762
LIB	\$1,139,239	\$ 694,448	\$ 455,116	\$ 524,816	\$ 462,648	\$ 377,348	\$ 357,857	\$ 4,011,472
NDP	\$ 966,151	\$ 569,487	\$ 611,105	\$ 728,576	\$ 1,216,252	\$ 636,858	\$ 813,600	\$ 5,542,029
AP	\$ 21,741	\$ 9,647	\$ 79,029	\$ 144,478	\$ 77,739	\$ 60,795	\$ 177,915	\$ 571,344
SC	\$ 25,771	\$ 22,330	\$ 4,920	\$ 4,726	\$ 3,850	Nil	\$ 450	\$ 62,047
CP-A	\$ 540	Nil	\$ 1,295	\$ 800	\$ 1,700	\$ 900	Nil	\$ 5,235
GPA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 10,088	\$ 18,189	\$ 25,418	\$ 53,695
PC	\$2,866,045	\$2,417,841	\$2,812,868	\$2,234,829	\$ 3,661,232	\$2,234,366	\$3,223,050	\$ 19,450,231
WRP	\$ 726,937	\$ 441,926	\$1,449,094	\$2,170,531	\$ 5,204,728	\$2,688,262	***	\$ 12,681,478
Totals	\$5,788,477	\$4,162,473	\$5,413,427	\$5,814,156	\$10,638,237	\$6,016,718	\$4,598,290	\$ 42,431,778

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

*Includes all contributions received during the year, including campaign periods.

**The Alberta Greens filed an audited 2008 campaign period financial statement, but did not file an audited annual statement. The party and its registered constituency associations were deregistered effective July 16, 2009.

***The Wildrose Party 2014 annual contributions have not been finalized for reporting purposes. Outstanding issues are pending resolution.

Historical Summary of Contributions to Constituency Associations 2008-2014

Political Party	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012*	2013	2014	Totals
AFP	Nil							
AG**	\$ 5,750	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 5,750
IND	N/A	N/A	\$ 4,560	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 4,560
LIB	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 27,569	\$ 27,569
NDP	N/A							
AP	Nil	Nil	Nil	\$ 66,961	\$ 67,394	Nil	\$ 2,103	\$ 136,458
SC	\$ 2,790	\$ 3,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	\$ 1,849	\$ 7,639
CP-A	N/A							
GPA	N/A							
PC	\$ 1,198,169	\$ 1,430,666	\$ 1,453,150	\$ 1,363,258	\$ 1,202,474	\$ 1,204,491	\$ 1,091,607	\$ 8,943,815
WRP	\$ 331	\$ 27,010	\$ 370,115	\$ 795,484	\$ 781,666	\$ 360,204	\$ 456,110	\$ 2,790,920
Totals	\$ 1,207,040	\$ 1,460,676	\$ 1,827,825	\$ 2,225,703	\$ 2,051,534	\$ 1,564,695	\$ 1,579,238	\$ 11,916,711

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

*Includes all contributions received on old and new electoral divisions.

**The Alberta Greens' registered constituency associations filed 2008 annual financial statements, however the party failed to file an audited annual statement. The party and its constituency associations were deregistered effective July 16, 2009.

SENATORIAL SELECTION

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The *EFCDA* permits political parties to continue financial activities related to Senatorial Selection between campaigns. Political parties may accept annual contributions, within prescribed limits, and expend funds for Senatorial Selection purposes.

The Green Party of Alberta, the Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta and the Wildrose Alliance Party, nominated candidates for the 2012 Senate Nominee Election and were required to file a 2014 Political Party Annual Financial Statement in accordance with section 42(3) of the *EFCDA*. All three political parties filed the required financial statement, and all reported no financial activity.

THIRD PARTY ADVERTISING

REGISTRATION AND DEREGISTRATION

Elections Alberta is responsible for the management of registration, reporting and disclosure of third parties involved in election advertising. In accordance with section 9.1 of the *EFDA*, eligible individuals, corporations and groups must register as a third party with Elections Alberta if they place election advertisements (broadcast, print or electronic) and if contributions or expenses exceed \$1,000.

During the 2014 calendar year, one application for cancellation of registration was received from Proud of Alberta and approved effective March 29, 2014. Proud of Alberta was not required to file a 2014 annual advertising report. Also during 2014, one application for initial registration was received from Alberta Union of Provincial Employees and approved effective December 29, 2014.

As at December 31, 2014, there were five registered third parties, listed in the table below:

Third Party	Date Registered	Primary Contact	Chief Financial Officer
Alberta Union of Provincial Employees	December 29, 2014	Mark Wells	Jason Heistad
Democratic Renewal Project	March 5, 2012	Alvin Finkel	Peter Smith
Envision Edmonton Opportunities Society	April 10, 2012	Eugene Strilchuk	Eugene Strilchuk
Merit Contractors Association	December 20, 2011	Randy Martin	Randy Martin
Value Drug Mart Associates Ltd.	April 3, 2012	Alan Hodgins	Anita Feist

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Third parties were required to file a 2014 Third Party Annual Advertising Report, including a financial statement, on or before March 31, 2015, if a surplus was reported in 2013. Democratic Renewal Project and Merit Contractors Association were required to file an annual advertising report and both filed by the required deadline.

Annual Contribution Highlights

The following represents the number, monetary amount, and category of contributions reported by Democratic Renewal Project and Merit Contractors Association in the 2014 calendar year as represented by the contribution receipts issued. Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Democratic Renewal Project

No contributions were reported.

Merit Contractors Association	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250: 104 Corporation(s)	\$ 15,219	\$ 146
Contribution amount(s) over \$250: 62 Corporation(s)	\$ 57,937	\$ 934
Total	\$ 73,156	

Annual Revenue and Expenses Reported by Third Parties per Annual Advertising Reports

Third Party	Amounts to \$250	Amounts over \$250	Other Revenue	Total Annual Revenue	Fund Transfer	Annual Expenses	Total Annual Expenses	Annual Surplus (Deficit)
Democratic Renewal Project	Nil	Nil	\$ 40	\$ 40	Nil	\$ 332	\$ 332	\$ (292)
Merit Contractors Association	\$ 15,219	\$ 57,937	Nil	\$ 73,156	Nil	Nil	Nil	\$ 73,156

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

Status of Surplus (Deficit) of Third Parties 2012-2014

Third Party	2012 Net Assets	2013 Annual Surplus (Deficit)	2013 Net Assets	2014 Annual Surplus (Deficit)	2014 Net Assets	Required to file 2015
Alberta Union of Provincial Employees*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Nil	Yes
Democratic Renewal Project	\$ 783	\$ (490)	\$ 293	\$ (292)	\$ 1	Yes
Envision Edmonton Opportunities Society	Nil	N/A	Nil	N/A	Nil	No
Merit Contractors Association	\$ 3,100	\$ 15,000	\$ 18,100	\$ 73,156	\$ 91,256	Yes
Proud of Alberta	\$ 355	\$ (355)	Nil	N/A	Nil	No
Value Drug Mart Associates Ltd.	Nil	N/A	Nil	N/A	Nil	No

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

*Registered December 29, 2014

LEADERSHIP CONTESTS

Elections Alberta is responsible for maintaining oversight of political party leadership contests, the process by which a political party selects a leader. In accordance with sections 9.2 and 44.96 of the *EFCDA*, Elections Alberta's responsibilities include the management of registration, reporting and disclosure of leadership contests. The information below outlines key dates, contestant registrations and contestants' financial reporting as required.

REGISTRATION

During the 2014 calendar year, there were two political party leadership contests registered with this Office.

The **Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta** filed a statement with the Chief Electoral Officer setting out April 15, 2014 as the date of the official call of the leadership contest. Three leadership contestant registration applications were received by Nomination Day, May 30, 2014, and all were approved.

Leadership Contestant	Date Registered
Jim Prentice	May 16, 2014
Ric McIver	May 26, 2014
Thomas Lukaszuk	May 30, 2014

A leadership vote was held on September 6, 2014 in which Jim Prentice was voted in as the new leader.

The **Alberta New Democratic Party** filed a statement with the Chief Electoral Officer setting out May 30, 2014 as the date of the official call of the leadership contest. Three leadership contestant registration applications were received by Nomination Day, August 5, 2014, and all were approved.

Leadership Contestant	Date Registered
Rachel Notley	June 12, 2014
David Eggen	June 16, 2014
Rod Loyola	July 30, 2014

A leadership vote was held on October 18, 2014 in which Rachel Notley was voted in as the new leader.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta Leadership Contestants were required to file a Leadership Contestant Financial Statement with the Chief Electoral Officer on or before January 6, 2015.

Alberta New Democratic Party Leadership Contestants were required to file on or before February 18, 2015.

All contestants filed their statements by the required filing deadline.

Leadership Contribution Highlights

The following represents the number, monetary amount, and category of contributions reported by leadership contestants as represented by the contribution receipts issued. Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

PC Leadership

Thomas Lukaszuk – PC	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
59 Individual(s)	\$ 4,544	\$ 77
1 Corporation(s)	\$ 90	\$ 90
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
27 Individual(s)	\$ 67,131	\$ 2,486
57 Corporation(s)	\$ 206,030	\$ 3,615
4 Trade Union(s)	\$ 14,850	\$ 3,713
Total	\$ 292,645	

Ric McIver – PC	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
49 Individual(s)	\$ 5,685	\$ 116
6 Corporation(s)	\$ 945	\$ 158
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
45 Individual(s)	\$ 135,577	\$ 3,013
91 Corporation(s)	\$ 295,378	\$ 3,246
Total	\$ 437,585	

Jim Prentice – PC		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
402	Individual(s)	\$ 39,822	\$ 99
30	Corporation(s)	\$ 4,344	\$ 145
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
322	Individual(s)	\$ 1,321,552	\$ 4,104
276	Corporation(s)	\$ 1,257,484	\$ 4,556
4	Trade Union(s)	\$ 11,750	\$ 2,938
1	Employee Association(s)	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Total		\$ 2,644,952	

NDP Leadership

David Eggen – NDP		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
113	Individual(s)	\$ 11,206	\$ 99
1	Trade Union(s)	\$ 100	\$ 100
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
10	Individual(s)	\$ 8,850	\$ 885
4	Trade Union(s)	\$ 21,250	\$ 5,312
Total		\$ 41,406	

Rod Loyola – NDP		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
30	Individual(s)	\$ 2,992	\$ 100
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
3	Individual(s)	\$ 1,500	\$ 500
2	Trade Union(s)	\$ 5,443	\$ 2,722
Total		\$ 9,935	

Rachel Notley – NDP		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
294	Individual(s)	\$ 35,825	\$ 122
1	Corporation(s)	\$ 100	\$ 100
2	Trade Union(s)	\$ 484	\$ 242
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
50	Individual(s)	\$ 35,792	\$ 716
9	Trade Union(s)	\$ 42,050	\$ 4,672
Total		\$ 114,251	

Revenue and Expenses Reported by Leadership Contestants per Financial Statements

PC Leadership Contestant	Amounts to \$250	Amounts over \$250	Other Revenue	Total Revenue	Total Expenses	Surplus (Deficit)
Thomas Lukaszuk	\$ 4,634	\$ 288,010	\$ 43,694	\$ 336,338	\$ 288,883	\$ 47,455
Ric McIver	\$ 6,630	\$ 430,955	Nil	\$ 437,585	\$ 435,408	\$ 2,177
Jim Prentice	\$ 44,166	\$2,600,785	\$ 16,250	\$2,661,201	\$2,637,050	\$ 24,151
NDP Leadership Contestant	Amounts to \$250	Amounts over \$250	Other Revenue	Total Revenue	Total Expenses	Surplus (Deficit)
David Eggen	\$ 11,306	\$ 30,100	Nil	\$ 41,406	\$ 33,768	\$ 7,638
Rod Loyola	\$ 2,992	\$ 6,943	Nil	\$ 9,935	\$ 9,774	\$ 161
Rachel Notley	\$ 36,409	\$ 77,842	\$ 9,698	\$ 123,949	\$ 117,841	\$ 6,108

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

Section Two

THE 2014 BY-ELECTIONS

OVERVIEW

Four vacancies were created in the Legislative Assembly with the resignations of the Members listed below. By-elections in the four electoral divisions were held on October 27, 2014.

Electoral Division	Member	Date
Calgary-Elbow	Alison Redford Q.C.	August 6, 2014
Calgary-Foothills	Len Webber	September 28, 2014
Calgary-West	Ken Hughes	September 26, 2014
Edmonton-Whitemud	Dave Hancock Q.C.	September 25, 2014

The campaign period for the by-elections commenced with the issuance of the writs of election on September 29, 2014 and ended December 27, 2014, two months after polling day.

Political Parties – Campaign Period Financial Statements

Six political parties endorsed one or more candidates in the by-elections. Only the parties that received contributions or made payments or transfers in relation to the by-elections were required to file campaign period financial statements, which were due April 27, 2015. All six parties filed campaign period financial statements by the required deadline.

Political Parties – Campaign Period Contribution Highlights

The following represents the number, monetary amount, and category of contributions reported by political parties for the 2014 by-elections as represented by the contribution receipts issued. Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Alberta Liberal Party (LIB)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
No contributions were reported.		
Alberta New Democratic Party (NDP)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
166 Individual(s)	\$ 17,415	\$ 105
1 Corporation(s)	\$ 250	\$ 250
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
34 Individual(s)	\$ 19,260	\$ 566
Total	\$ 36,925	

Alberta Party (AP)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
188 Individual(s)	\$ 19,974	\$ 106
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
44 Individual(s)	\$ 40,118	\$ 912
4 Corporation(s)	\$ 8,885	\$ 2,221
Total	\$ 68,977	

Green Party of Alberta (GPA)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
29 Individual(s)	\$ 2,580	\$ 89
1 Corporation(s)	\$ 90	\$ 90
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
11 Individual(s)	\$ 9,887	\$ 899
Total	\$ 12,557	

Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (PC)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
11 Individual(s)	\$ 1,300	\$ 118
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
13 Individual(s)	\$ 187,000	\$ 14,385
10 Corporation(s)	\$ 91,875	\$ 9,188
Total	\$ 280,175	

Wildrose Alliance Party (WRP)

Verifiable contributor information is unavailable from the Wildrose Party. Outstanding issues are pending resolution.

Total Contributions to Political Parties per Campaign Period Financial Statements		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
394	Individual(s)	\$ 41,269	\$ 105
2	Corporation(s)	\$ 340	\$ 170
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
102	Individual(s)	\$ 256,265	\$ 2,512
14	Corporation(s)	\$ 100,760	\$ 7,197
Total		\$ 398,634	

By-Election Campaign Period Revenue and Expenses Reported by Political Parties per Campaign Period Financial Statements

Political Party	Amounts to \$250	Amounts over \$250	Other Revenue	Total Campaign Revenue	Fund Transfer	Campaign Expenses	Total Campaign Expenses	Campaign Surplus (Deficit)
LIB	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	\$ 15,910	\$ 3,000	\$ 18,910	\$ (18,910)
NDP	\$ 17,665	\$ 19,260	Nil	\$ 36,925	\$ 66,470	\$ 36,971	\$ 103,441	\$ (66,516)
AP	\$ 19,974	\$ 49,003	\$ 545	\$ 69,522	\$ 67,004	Nil	\$ 67,004	\$ 2,518
GPA	\$ 2,670	\$ 9,887	\$ 198	\$ 12,755	\$ 1,000	\$ 8,621	\$ 9,621	\$ 3,134
PC	\$ 1,300	\$ 278,875	Nil	\$ 280,175	Nil	\$ 491,321	\$ 491,321	\$ (211,146)
WRP	See disclaimer below*							

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

*The Wildrose Party filed a financial statement with Elections Alberta on March 31, 2015. However, verifiable information to support the financial statement filed has not been provided. Outstanding issues are pending resolution.

Candidates – Campaign Period Financial Statements

Twenty three candidates were registered and required to submit a Candidate Financial Statement on or before February 27, 2015 in accordance with section 43 of the *EFDA*. All candidates filed the required statement by the due date.

Candidates – Campaign Period Contribution Highlights

The following represents the number, monetary amount, and category of contributions reported by candidates for the 2014 by-elections as represented by the contribution receipts issued. Figures are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Alberta Liberal Party (LIB)		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
108	Individual(s)	\$ 13,358	\$ 124
2	Corporation(s)	\$ 450	\$ 225
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
46	Individual(s)	\$ 31,685	\$ 689
6	Corporation(s)	\$ 9,100	\$ 1,517
Total		\$ 54,593	

4 of 4 candidates reported receiving contributions.

Alberta Party (AP)		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
142	Individual(s)	\$ 15,474	\$ 109
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
26	Individual(s)	\$ 19,824	\$ 762
Total		\$ 35,298	

4 of 4 candidates reported receiving contributions.

Green Party of Alberta (GPA)		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
1	Individual(s)	\$ 20	\$ 20
Total		\$ 20	

1 of 2 candidates reported receiving contributions.

Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (PC)		Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:			
257	Individual(s)	\$ 32,285	\$ 126
34	Corporation(s)	\$ 5,135	\$ 151
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:			
269	Individual(s)	\$ 327,711	\$ 1,218
167	Corporation(s)	\$ 220,506	\$ 1,320
3	Trade Union(s)	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,667
Total		\$ 590,637	

4 of 4 candidates reported receiving contributions.

Wildrose Alliance Party (WRP)	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
76 Individual(s)	\$ 10,960	\$ 144
7 Corporation(s)	\$ 821	\$ 117
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
62 Individual(s)	\$ 51,165	\$ 825
8 Corporation(s)	\$ 9,250	\$ 1,156
Total	\$ 72,196	

4 of 4 candidates reported receiving contributions.

Total Contributions to Candidates per Campaign Period Financial Statements	Total Contributions	Average Contribution
Contribution amount(s) to \$250:		
584 Individual(s)	\$ 72,097	\$ 123
43 Corporation(s)	\$ 6,406	\$ 149
Contribution amount(s) over \$250:		
403 Individual(s)	\$ 430,385	\$ 1,068
181 Corporation(s)	\$ 238,856	\$ 1,320
3 Trade Union(s)	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,667
Total	\$ 752,744	

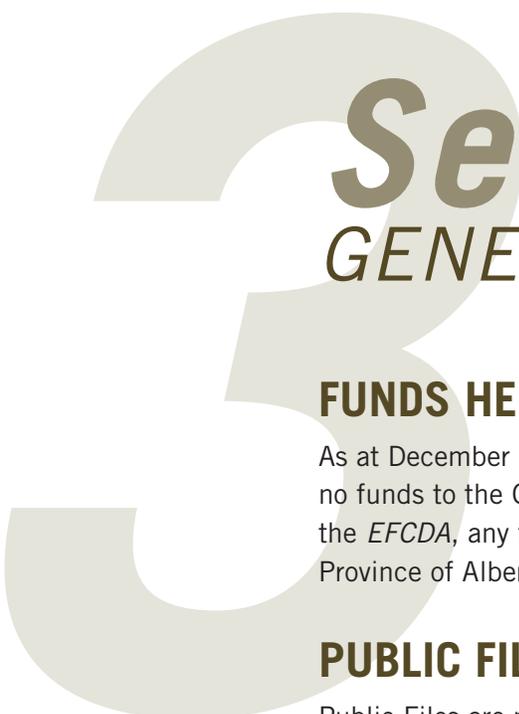
**By-Election Campaign Period Revenue and Expenses
Reported by Registered Candidates
per Campaign Period Financial Statements**

Electoral Division	Candidates (Elected in Bold)	Party Affiliation	Total Contributions	Other Revenue	Total Revenue	Total Expenses
09 Calgary-Elbow	Greg Clark	AP	\$ 30,137	\$ 55,400	\$ 85,537	\$ 85,537
	Gordon Dirks	PC	\$ 100,806	\$ 50,030	\$ 150,836	\$ 135,950
	John Everett Fletcher	WRP	\$ 28,158	\$ 88,555	\$ 116,713	\$ 74,598
	Stephanie Mclean	NDP	Nil	\$ 9,766	\$ 9,766	\$ 9,766
	Susan Wright	LIB	\$ 33,682	\$ 15,158	\$ 48,840	\$ 48,840
11 Calgary-Foothills	Jennifer Burgess	NDP	Nil	\$ 11,337	\$ 11,337	\$ 11,337
	Michelle Glavine	AP	\$ 500	\$ 1,600	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,100
	Polly Knowlton Cockett	GPA	\$ 20	\$ 500	\$ 520	\$ 503
	Kathy Macdonald	WRP	\$ 11,649	\$ 67,054	\$ 78,703	\$ 77,930
	Dave Phillips	IND	Nil	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500
	Robert Prcic	LIB	\$ 1,717	\$ 1,550	\$ 3,267	\$ 3,238
	Jim Prentice	PC	\$ 160,602	\$ 10,000	\$ 170,602	\$ 170,602
27 Calgary-West	Mike Ellis	PC	\$ 55,535	\$ 15,323	\$ 70,858	\$ 63,239
	David Khan	LIB	\$ 7,557	\$ 1,915	\$ 9,472	\$ 9,370
	Brian Malkinson	NDP	Nil	\$ 8,872	\$ 8,872	\$ 8,872
	Troy Millington	AP	\$ 460	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,560	\$ 2,560
	Sheila Taylor	Wrp	\$ 16,769	\$ 73,625	\$ 90,394	\$ 89,637
46 Edmonton-Whitemud	Tim Grover	WRP	\$ 15,620	\$ 51,186	\$ 66,806	\$ 66,806
	Rene Malenfant	GPA	Nil	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500
	Stephen Mandel	PC	\$ 273,695	\$ 3,135	\$ 276,830	\$ 127,669
	William Munsey	AP	\$ 4,201	\$ 5,213	\$ 9,414	\$ 9,414
	Bob Turner	NDP	Nil	\$ 34,995	\$ 34,995	\$ 34,995
	Donna Wilson	Lib	\$ 11,637	\$ 14,716	\$ 26,353	\$ 26,353

**Total Combined By-Election Campaign Period Contributions
to Political Parties and Candidates
per Campaign Period Financial Statements**

Political Party	Party	Candidates	Total
Alberta Liberal Party (LIB)	Nil	\$ 54,593	\$ 54,593
Alberta New Democratic Party (NDP)	\$ 36,925	N/A	\$ 36,925
Alberta Party (AP)	\$ 68,977	\$ 35,298	\$ 104,275
Green Party of Alberta (GPA)	\$ 12,557	\$ 20	\$ 12,577
Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (PC)	\$ 280,175	\$ 590,637	\$ 870,812
Wildrose Alliance Party (WRP)	\$ 882,886	\$ 72,196	\$ 955,082
Total	\$ 1,281,520	\$ 752,744	\$ 2,034,264

For detailed information, reference the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.



Section Three

GENERAL INFORMATION

FUNDS HELD IN TRUST

As at December 31, 2014, the Chief Electoral Officer held no funds in trust and transferred no funds to the General Revenue Fund during 2014. In accordance with section 10(12) of the *EFDA*, any funds held in trust must be transferred to the General Revenue Fund for the Province of Alberta after one year.

PUBLIC FILES AND REPORTS

Public Files are maintained at the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer and contain information concerning political financing of registered political organizations in Alberta. The Public Files now contain data for thirty-eight consecutive calendar years including ten provincial general elections starting March 14, 1979, twenty by-elections held starting November 21, 1979 and four Senate Nominee elections held in 1989, 1998, 2004 and 2012.

Copies of financial statements are contained in the Public Files and are available for examination from 8:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. Copies of data maintained in the Public Files are available at a rate prescribed under authority of section 11 of the *EFDA*.

For ease of access throughout the province, copies of financial statements from 2004 onward, along with redacted lists of contributors, are available on the Elections Alberta website at www.elections.ab.ca.

Reports published by the Chief Electoral Officer are available to the public at no cost and are also available on the Elections Alberta website.

INVESTIGATIONS

The Chief Electoral Officer's ability to apply sanctions such as administrative penalties and letters of reprimand was expanded in December 2012 through legislative changes to the *EFDA* to include recipients of prohibited contributions, in addition to contributors. It also became mandatory to disclose via web-posting, the findings and decisions of investigations where administrative penalties are applied or letters of reprimand are issued. In addition, for investigations that have determined no violation occurred, public disclosure may be authorized in writing by the complainant, subject of the complaint or others involved in the matter.

A total of 18 investigations opened in circumstances of possible violation of the *EFCDA* were carried-forward from 2013. An additional 19 investigations were opened during 2014. The status of these investigations is listed in the table below.

Summary Investigations Table	
Transfers-in from 2013	18
Initiated in 2014	19
Subtotal	37
Completed in 2014	29
Carry-forward to 2015	8

Findings and decisions relating to those files which were found to demonstrate violations appear on the Elections Alberta website.

ALBERTA TAX CREDIT CLAIMED FOR POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The Tax and Revenue Administration division of Alberta Treasury Board and Finance prepared a summary of political tax credits claimed by corporations and individuals during the calendar year. Only registered candidates, constituency associations and political parties may issue tax receipts for contributions received. Contributors to leadership contestants are ineligible for income tax credits.

The maximum tax credit of \$1,000 is reached when contributions total \$2,300. The following table shows the dollar value of credits claimed for political contributions for the last four years:

Summary of Political Tax Credits Claimed by Calendar Year

Year	Corporate *	Individual**	Total Credits Claimed
2014	\$176,895	\$2,504,000	\$ 2,680,895
2013	\$284,346	\$2,143,000	\$ 2,427,346
2012	\$202,276	\$3,728,000	\$ 3,930,276
2011	\$149,863	\$1,952,000	\$ 2,101,863

* Based on tax credits assessed during calendar year, regardless of actual tax year end of claim period.

** Preliminary 2014 number; final data available in January 2016.

EVENTS OF INTEREST SINCE JANUARY 1, 2015

LEADERSHIP CONTEST

As at the date of publication of this report, one political party, the Wildrose Party, registered a leadership contest on January 23, 2015. Three leadership contestants registered during the nomination period January 26 to March 7, 2015 and the leadership vote was held on March 28, 2015. Additional details will be provided in the 2015 Annual Report.

POLITICAL PARTY NAME CHANGE

Elections Alberta approved a request from the Wildrose Alliance Party that their name be changed to “Wildrose Party”, which was approved and made effective February 3, 2015. The party also requested that their legal name be changed from Wildrose Alliance Political Association to Wildrose Political Association.

THIRD PARTY ADVERTISER NAME CHANGE AND REGISTRATIONS

Elections Alberta approved a request from the registered third party Democratic Renewal Project that their name be amended to “Change Alberta”, which was approved and made effective April 10, 2015.

Elections Alberta also approved requests for initial registration for the following registered third parties:

Third Party	Date of Registration
1AB Vote	April 13, 2015
Alberta Medical Association	April 24, 2015
United Nurses of Alberta	March 13, 2015

GENERAL ELECTION

A Provincial General Election was held on May 5, 2015. The campaign period for the election commenced with the issuance of the writs of election on April 7, 2015 and ended July 5, 2015, two months after polling day.

Detailed information on the conduct of the election will appear in the Chief Electoral Officer’s Report on the 2015 Provincial General Election. Information on contributions and expenses of political parties and candidates will appear in the 2015 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer.

PASSAGE OF LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS

Bill 1, An Act to Renew Democracy in Alberta (the Act), received Royal Assent on June 29, 2015, with an effective date of June 15, 2015. The Bill amended the *EFCD*A and had an immediate and significant impact on all registered political entities.

Effective June 15, 2015, only persons ordinarily resident in Alberta may make political contributions. Corporations, trade unions or employee organizations are no longer eligible. In addition, corporations, trade unions or employee organizations that make a payment as part of a loan or loan guarantee to a registered political party or registered candidate must be reimbursed prior to the filing of the party's or candidate's financial statement.

Due to the *EFCD*A changes taking effect during the 2015 Provincial General Election Campaign Period which ended on July 5, 2015, all political parties, candidates and CFOs were made aware that contributions from corporations, trade unions or employee organizations were no longer considered acceptable as related to the campaign period.

A Select Special Ethics and Accountability Committee has been appointed to review the *Election Act*, the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*, the *Conflicts of Interest Act*, and the *Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblower Protection) Act*. The Committee has one year after commencing their review on September 29, 2015 to report the results of their review to the Legislative Assembly. Recommendations for legislative amendments were presented by Elections Alberta to the Committee on October 22, 2015 as detailed in Section Four of this report on page 41.

CALGARY-FOOTHILLS BY-ELECTION

On May 25, 2015, a vacancy was created in the electoral division of Calgary-Foothills when Jim Prentice disclaimed his right to become a Member of the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to section 139(1) of the *Election Act*. The resulting by-election was held on September 3, 2015. The campaign period for the by-election commenced with the issuance of the writ of election on August 6, 2015 and ended November 3, 2015, two months after polling day.

Detailed information on the conduct of the by-election will appear in the Chief Electoral Officer's Report on the 2015 Calgary-Foothills By-Election. Information on contributions and expenses of political parties and candidates will appear in the 2015 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer.

Section Four

RECOMMENDATIONS

LEGISLATION

Recommendations for legislative amendments to the *EFDA* as published in the 2013 Annual Report, were provided by the Chief Electoral Officer to the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices on July 3, 2014 and discussed further on September 4, 2014. A motion was passed by the Committee on September 10, 2014 to transmit the recommendations to the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General for the preparation of amendments for introduction in the Assembly. No recommendations were considered prior to the 2015 Provincial General Election.

The Committee was also provided with a recommendation for a comprehensive review of electoral legislation to commence within one year of the provincial general election. The purpose of a comprehensive review is to write the legislation in plain language to be more easily understood and interpreted, modernize the electoral process and introduce best practices in electoral administration using new procedures and equipment.

Recommendations for legislative amendments were presented to the Select Special Ethics and Accountability Committee on October 22, 2015 as follows:

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
1. 2 Acts	<p>Combine the two Acts into one.</p> <p>Jurisdictions that have one Act to cover operations and financing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Canada 2) BC 3) Newfoundland & Labrador 4) Nova Scotia 5) Quebec 6) Saskatchewan (but a separate act for Controverted Elections) 7) Yukon 8) Northwest Territories 9) Nunavut 	
2. EVERYWHERE in Act “depository of record”	→ “financial institution of record”	<p>Rationale: update language. “Financial institution” is defined:</p> <p><i>1(1)(h) “financial institution” means a bank, a treasury branch, a credit union, a loan corporation or a trust corporation;</i></p>
3. 1(1)(b) “campaign period” means (i) in the case of a general election held in accordance with section 38.1(2) of the <i>Election Act</i> , the period commencing on February 1 in the year in which the election is held and ending 2 months after polling day, (ii) in the case of a general election held other than in accordance with section 38.1(2) of the <i>Election Act</i> , the period commencing with the issue of a writ for the election and ending 2 months after polling day, (iii) in the case of an election held under the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i> , the period commencing with the issue of a writ for the election and ending 2 months after polling day, (iv) in the case of a by-election, the period commencing with the issue of a writ for the by-election and ending 2 months after polling day, and (v) in the case of a leadership contest, the period beginning on the date of the official call of the leadership contest, as set out in a statement filed by a registered party under section 9.2, and ending 2 months after the date of the leadership vote;	<p>NO CHANGE</p> <p>1(1)(b) “campaign period” means (i) in the case of a general election held in accordance with section 38.1(2) of the <i>Election Act</i>, the period commencing on <u>February 1</u> in the year in which the election is held and ending 2 months after polling day, (ii) in the case of a general election held other than in accordance with section 38.1(2) of the <i>Election Act</i>, the period commencing with the issue of a writ for the election and ending 2 months after polling day, (iii) in the case of an election held under the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>, the period commencing with the issue of a writ for the election and ending 2 months after polling day, (iv) in the case of a by-election, the period commencing with the issue of a writ for the by-election and ending 2 months after polling day, and (v) in the case of a leadership contest, the period beginning on the date of the official call of the leadership contest, as set out in a statement filed by a registered party under section 9.2, and ending 2 months after the date of the leadership vote;</p>	<p>Note:</p> <p>(i) is to match with the proposed definition in the <i>Election Act</i> s. 38.1 and definition section</p> <p>Rationale: Would allow to open returning officer offices early, and to pre-register candidates.</p> <p>For a fixed election, the recommendation is for the second Tuesday of March – Elections Alberta would train returning officers, election clerks and administrative assistants in January, then open offices on February 1.</p> <p>If the fixed date is changed to October – then change (i) to September 1.</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>4. 1(1)(c) “candidate” means</p> <p>(i) with respect to an election under the <i>Election Act</i>, a person</p> <p>(A) repealed 2010 c8 s56,</p> <p>(B) who is nominated as a candidate for an electoral division in accordance with the <i>Election Act</i>,</p> <p>(C) who is nominated by a constituency association of a registered party in an electoral division for endorsement as the official candidate of that party in the electoral division, or</p> <p>(D) who, on or after the date of the issue of a writ for an election in an electoral division, declares the person’s candidacy as an independent candidate at the election in the electoral division;</p> <p>(ii) with respect to an election under the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>, a person</p> <p>(A) who is nominated as a candidate,</p> <p>(B) who is nominated by a registered political party for endorsement as the official candidate of that party, or</p> <p>(C) who, on or after the date of the issue of a writ for an election, declares the person’s candidacy as an independent candidate at the election;</p>	<p>1(1)(c) “candidate” means</p> <p>(i) with respect to an election under the <i>Election Act</i>, a person</p> <p>(A) repealed 2010 c8 s56,</p> <p>(B) who is nominated as a candidate for an electoral division in accordance with the <i>Election Act</i>,</p> <p>(C) who is nominated by a constituency association of a registered party in an electoral division for endorsement as the official candidate of that party in the electoral division, or</p> <p>(D) who, <u>after the commencement of the campaign period</u>, declares the person’s candidacy as an independent candidate at the election in the electoral division;</p> <p>(ii) with respect to an election under the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>, a person</p> <p>(A) who is nominated as a candidate,</p> <p>(B) who is nominated by a registered political party for endorsement as the official candidate of that party, or</p> <p>(C) who, <u>after the commencement of the campaign period</u>, declares the person’s candidacy as an independent candidate at the election;</p>	<p>“Date of issue for writ of election” → “after the commencement of the campaign period”</p> <p>For level playing field as between party-supported candidates and independent candidates – this was in recommendations in the 2013 Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer.</p> <p>Also to be consistent with 9(2)(a) and (b).</p>
<p>5. 1(1)(e) “contribution” means any money, real property or goods or the use of real property or goods that is provided</p> <p>(i) to a political party, constituency association, candidate or leadership contestant, or</p> <p>(ii) for the benefit of a political party, constituency association, candidate or leadership contestant with the consent of the political party, the constituency association, the candidate or the leadership contestant,</p> <p>without compensation from that political party, constituency association, candidate or leadership contestant;</p>	<p>1(1)(e) “contribution” means, <u>subject to subsection (5)</u>, any money, real property, goods or <u>services</u> or the use of real property, goods or <u>services</u> that is provided</p> <p>(i) to a political party, constituency association, candidate or leadership contestant, or</p> <p>(ii) for the benefit of a political party, constituency association, candidate or leadership contestant with the consent of the political party, the constituency association, the candidate or the leadership contestant,</p> <p>without compensation from that political party, constituency association, candidate or leadership contestant;</p>	<p>Including non-volunteer services in the definition of “contribution” would be in line with most other jurisdictions. In most jurisdictions, volunteer services are excluded from the concept of political contribution, while services rendered at below market value are included as a contribution to the extent of the benefit.</p> <p>This change also assists interpreting “use of a good” which, broadly interpreted, includes most services.</p> <p>The organization will have to show it is a paid position, or there will need to be an invoice, in order to issue a tax receipt for services. If there is an invoice, it will be income as well as a tax contribution receipt.</p>

SECTION FOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
5.		<i>See supporting proposed section 1(5), which explains what is included and what is excluded in “services.”</i>
6. NEW	ADD: 1(1)(e.1) “corporation” means a body corporate however incorporated;	Eliminates uncertainty about statutory corporations, municipalities, Metis settlements, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Metis settlements are corporations under section 2 <i>Metis Settlements Act</i>.• Municipalities are incorporated under the <i>Municipal Government Act</i>.
7. NEW	ADD: 1(1)(i.05) “law enforcement” means (i) policing, including criminal intelligence operations, (ii) a police, security or administrative investigation, including the complaint giving rise to the investigation, that leads or could lead to a penalty or sanction, including a penalty or sanction imposed by the body conducting the investigation or by another body to which the results of the investigation are referred, or (iii) proceedings that lead or could lead to a penalty or sanction, including a penalty or sanction imposed by the body conducting the proceedings or by another body to which the results of the proceedings are referred;	This definition is borrowed from the <i>Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act</i> (Alberta) (FOIPPA). This incorporates a broader concept of “law enforcement” for the purposes of referring a breach of law over to another body, to include whether the other body did the penalty/ investigation first or not (ii). It supports disclosure exception under section 5.2(2).
8. NEW	ADD: 1(1)(i.4) “ordinarily resident” means ordinarily resident as under the <i>Election Act</i>	Provides consistency between the Acts, and allows greater certainty in relation to who may contribute and who may not, particularly now that the categories of permissible contributors have been reduced to being ordinarily resident in Alberta. <i>Election Act</i> – the rules of ordinary residence are set out in section 1(2)-(4) and section 121

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
9. 1(1)(j) “person” means an individual;	1(1)(j) “person” includes an individual, a corporation, an entity, and a group as defined in Part 6.1 of the <i>Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act</i> ;	<p>“Person” will be changed to “individual” where individual is meant. This is to make the legislation more consistent, more accessible and inclusive – except where individual is intended, “individual” is to be used.</p> <p>All corporations and other organizations are generally prohibited from contributing so the distinction is not necessary as a blanket. This definition is based on that in the <i>Interpretation Act</i>. Sometimes this legislation will intend to keep “person” as the more inclusive definition as here, and as in the <i>Election Act</i> – e.g. when a third party advertiser that is not an individual needs to be regulated. It is far more cumbersome to list all the possible entities each time more than individuals is intended, than to replace “person” with “individual” where individuals is intended.</p>
10. NONE	<p>ADD:</p> <p>1(1)(j.1) “political party” means an organization one of whose fundamental purposes is to participate in public affairs by endorsing one or more of its members as candidates and supporting their election, <u>and who uses contributions to support that purpose</u>;</p>	<p>Same definition as in proposed <i>Election Act</i> amendments, for consistency and accessibility.</p> <p>This definition is borrowed from the <i>Canada Elections Act</i>.</p>
11. NEW	<p>ADD:</p> <p>1(1)(l.2) “record” means a record of information in any form and includes notes, images, audiovisual recordings, x-rays, books, documents, maps, drawings, photographs, letters, vouchers and papers and any other information that is written, photographed, recorded or stored in any manner, but does not include software or any mechanism that produces records;</p>	<p>Borrowed directly from FOIPPA. Same definition as in proposed <i>Election Act</i> amendments, for consistency and accessibility.</p> <p>This definition is triggered by the update in language in the current section 5(2), from “books and documents” to “records,” which is more inclusive and can contemplate future technologies. The intent is to include items such as e-mails, and to include technologies not yet contemplated.</p>

SECTION FOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
12. 1(1)(k) “polling day”	1(1)(k) “voting day”	To work with <i>Election Act</i> updated language. Also add consequential amendments elsewhere in the <i>EFCDA</i> .
13. 1(1)(l) “prohibited corporation” means (i) a Provincial corporation as defined in the <i>Financial Administration Act</i> , and includes a management body within the meaning of the <i>Alberta Housing Act</i> and a regional health authority and a subsidiary health corporation under the <i>Regional Health Authorities Act</i> , (ii) a municipality, (iii) a Metis settlement, (iv) a school board under the <i>School Act</i> , (v) a public post secondary institution under the <i>Post-secondary Learning Act</i> , (vi) repealed 2012 c5 s58, (vi.1) a corporation associated with a corporation referred to in subclauses (i) to (v) as determined under subsections (2.1) to (2.3), (vi.2) a corporation that does not carry on business in Alberta, (vi.3) a registered charity, (vi.4) a publicly funded corporation as determined by the regulations, or (vii) any corporation, or corporation within a class of corporation, designated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council as a prohibited corporation;	DELETE	Adding new definition of “corporation” allows this definition to be deleted. Corporations are prohibited from contributing, so they are all prohibited. Note: However, if allowing non-individuals to contribute to third parties, then a definition of “prohibited corporations” will need to remain.
14. 1(2) For the purposes of this Act, a document that is required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer is filed when it is actually received by the Chief Electoral Officer.	1(2) For the purposes of this Act, a document that is required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer is filed when it is actually received by the Chief Electoral Officer. NEW: (2.01) <u>The Chief Electoral Officer may issue guidelines to identify which documents required to be filed under this Act may be filed electronically, and shall publish these guidelines in advance of an election to which the guidelines are to apply.</u>	Documents authorized by the Chief Electoral Officer can be something other than in original form. The Chief Electoral Officer is best situated to determine the most efficient and fair way of documents being filed. Where the Legislature wishes to keep original documents as a requirement, the legislation will do so.

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>15. 1(2.1), (2.2), (2.3), (3), (3.1), (4)</p> <p>(2.1) For the purposes of this Act,</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(a) a corporation is associated with another corporation if one of them is the subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same corporation or each of them is controlled by the same person, and</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(b) if 2 corporations are associated with the same corporation at the same time, they are deemed to be associated with each other.</p> <p>(2.2) For the purposes of this Act, a corporation is controlled by a person if</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(a) securities of the corporation to which are attached more than 50% of the votes that may be cast to elect directors of the corporation are held, other than by way of security only, by or for the benefit of that person, and</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(b) the votes attached to those securities are sufficient, if exercised, to elect a majority of the directors of the corporation.</p> <p>(2.3) For the purposes of this Act, a corporation is a subsidiary of another corporation if</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(a) it is controlled by</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(i) that other corporation,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(ii) that other corporation and one or more corporations, each of which is controlled by that other corporation, or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(iii) 2 or more corporations, each of which is controlled by that other corporation,</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">or</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">(b) it is a subsidiary of a corporation that is that other corporation's subsidiary.</p> <p>(3) Corporations that are associated with one another as determined under subsections (2.1) to (2.3) are considered a single corporation for the purposes of this Act.</p> <p>(3.1) Repealed 2012 c5 s58.</p>	<p>DELETE</p>	<p>Proposal: Treat third parties as other political entities (during the election period only)</p> <p>Below, in third party advertising provisions, the proposal is to restrict election advertising contributions to coming from individuals only. This will match the restrictions on contributions to political entities brought in by Bill 1. This change will dilute what could be a disproportionate influence on the election dialogues by non-individuals, in a regime where political entities may receive contributions from individuals only.</p> <p>During an election, third parties may only spend money they have received from individuals. It is as minimally restrictive of freedom of speech as workable, in that it is only 28 days, the "election period," and not the entire "campaign period."</p> <p>In this way:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only individuals contribute to political entities during campaign period. • Only individuals contribute to third parties during election period.

SECTION FOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>15. (4) Nothing done or omitted to be done by a corporation is a contravention of this Act solely because that corporation subsequently becomes associated with any other corporation.</p>		
<p>16. NEW</p>	<p>ADD:</p> <p>1(5) For the purposes of subsection (1)(e), services do not include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) services provided by a volunteer who voluntarily performs the services and receives no compensation, directly or indirectly, in relation to the services or time spent providing the services, (ii) services provided by a chartered professional accountant or lawyer engaged in work relating to compliance of the recipient of the service with this Act, (iii) services provided by the auditor of the recipient of the service if the services are provided free of charge, or (iv) services provided free of charge by a person acting as the chief financial officer or legal counsel of the recipient of the service in work relating to compliance with this Act, (v) services that a candidate or leadership contestant provides in support of his or her own campaign. <p>but for greater clarity do include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (vii) the value of services provided free of charge by a self-employed individual who normally charges for them. 	<p>Purpose is to explain “services” in the proposed revision to the definition of “contribution.”</p> <p>The rules here distinguish volunteer from non-volunteer services. This will continue to encourage volunteer participation in elections, without allowing valued services to slip into campaigns unrecognized and unaccounted for. It is also entirely in line with other jurisdictions.</p> <p>“Chartered” is added to (ii) to reflect changes in the <i>Regulated Accounting Professionals Act</i> (Alberta).</p> <p><i>See proposed amendment to definition of “contribution” in section 1(1)(e) above.</i></p>
<p>17. 3 The Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by regulation,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) designate a corporation to be a prohibited corporation; (b) designate a class of corporation, a corporation within which class is a prohibited corporation; (c) determine what constitutes a corporation to be a publicly funded corporation for the purpose of section 1(1)(l)(vi.4). 	<p>DELETE</p>	<p>Designation of prohibited corporations is no longer necessary if taking out the ability of corporations to contribute to third parties.</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>18. Duties of Chief Electoral Officer</p> <p>4(1) The Chief Electoral Officer, in addition to the Chief Electoral Officer's other powers and duties under this Act, the <i>Election Act</i> and the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>,</p> <p>(a) may examine all financial statements required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer;</p> <p>(b) may inquire into or conduct periodic investigations of the financial affairs and records of</p> <p>(i) registered parties and registered constituency associations,</p> <p>(ii) registered candidates in relation to election campaigns,</p> <p>(ii.1) registered leadership contestants in relation to leadership contests, and</p> <p>(iii) registered third parties in relation to election advertising under Part 6.1;</p> <p>(b.1) may, on the Chief Electoral Officer's own initiative or at the request of another person or organization, conduct an investigation into any matter that might constitute an offence under this Act;</p> <p>(c) shall provide or approve forms for the purposes of this Act;</p> <p>(d) with respect to a registered party, constituency association and registered candidate, shall publish a statement on the Chief Electoral Officer's website within 30 days after the date on which</p> <p>(i) a return is required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer under section 32(3) or (4), and</p> <p>(ii) the financial statement is required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer under section 42 or 43;</p> <p>(d.1) with respect to a registered leadership contestant, shall publish a statement on the Chief Electoral Officer's website within 30 days after the date on which the financial</p>	<p><u>Powers of the CEO</u></p> <p>4(1) The Chief Electoral Officer, in addition to the Chief Electoral Officer's other powers under this Act, the <i>Election Act</i> and the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>,</p> <p>(a) may examine all financial statements required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer;</p> <p>(b) may inquire into or conduct periodic investigations of the financial affairs and records of</p> <p>(i) registered parties and registered constituency associations,</p> <p>(ii) registered candidates in relation to election campaigns,</p> <p>(ii.1) registered leadership contestants in relation to leadership contests, and</p> <p>(iii) registered third parties in relation to election advertising, and</p> <p>(c) may, on the Chief Electoral Officer's own initiative or on request, conduct an investigation into any matter that might constitute an offence under this Act.</p> <p>(2) For the purpose of carrying out an examination or inquiry, or conducting an investigation, referred to in subsection (1), the Chief Electoral Officer has all the powers of a commissioner under the <i>Public Inquiries Act</i> as though the examination, inquiry or investigation were an inquiry under that Act.</p> <p>(3) For the purpose of carrying out an examination or inquiry, or conducting an investigation, referred to in subsection (1), a representative of the Chief Electoral Officer, on production of the representative's authorization from the Chief Electoral Officer, may at any reasonable time enter any premises referred to in the authorization in which books or documents of a political party, constituency association, candidate, leadership contestant or third party relevant to the subject matter of the examination, inquiry or investigation are kept and may examine and make copies of the books or documents or remove</p>	<p>Combined and streamlined Duties, Powers and the obligation to respond into 3 new sections. They are 3 separate concepts.</p> <p>New 4(c) Proposed amendment removes any limitation on who may request an investigation (now includes political parties or constituency associations). In addition, "organization" is removed as it is not meaningful because not defined.</p> <p>Remove limitation by changing it to "on request", without eliminating the discretion of the Chief Electoral Officer to investigate a matter whether requested to or not.</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>18. statement and return are required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer under section 44.96;</p> <p>(d.2) shall include in the statements published by the Chief Electoral Officer under clauses (d) and (d.1) the name of any contributor who has contributed an amount exceeding \$250 in the aggregate and the actual amount contributed;</p> <p>(e) with respect to a third party, shall publish a statement on the Chief Electoral Officer's website within 30 days after the date on which the election advertising report is required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer under section 44.9, which must include the name of any contributor who has contributed to the third party an amount exceeding \$250 in the aggregate, and the actual amount contributed.</p> <p>(2) The Chief Electoral Officer shall after the end of each year prepare a report on the exercise of the Chief Electoral Officer's functions under this Act, including any recommendations for amendments to this Act, and shall transmit the report to the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices, which shall on its receipt lay the report before the Assembly if it is then sitting or, if it is not then sitting, within 15 days after the commencement of the next sitting of the Assembly.</p> <p>Powers of Chief Electoral Officer</p> <p>5(1) For the purpose of carrying out an examination or inquiry, or conducting an investigation, referred to in section 4(1), the Chief Electoral Officer has all the powers of a commissioner under the <i>Public Inquiries Act</i> as though the examination, inquiry or investigation were an inquiry under that Act.</p> <p>(2) For the purpose of carrying out an examination or inquiry, or conducting an investigation, referred to in section 4(1), a representative of the Chief Electoral Officer, on production of the representative's authorization from the Chief Electoral Officer, may at any</p>	<p>them temporarily for the purpose of making copies.</p> <p><u>Duties of the CEO</u></p> <p>5 The Chief Electoral Officer, in addition to the Chief Electoral Officer's other duties under this Act, the <i>Election Act</i> and the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>,</p> <p>(a) shall provide or approve forms for the purposes of this Act;</p> <p>(b) shall publish a statement on the Chief Electoral Officer's website</p> <p>(i) with respect to a registered party, constituency association, registered candidate, within 30 days after the date on which a return is required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer under section 32(3) or (4),</p> <p>(ii) with respect to a registered party, constituency association, registered candidate within 30 days after the date on which the financial statement is required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer under section 42 or 43,</p> <p>(iii) with respect to a registered leadership contestant, within 30 days after the date on which the financial statement and return are required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer under section 44.96, and</p> <p>(iv) with respect to a registered third party, within 30 days after the date on which the election advertising report is required to be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer under section 44.9,</p> <p>and shall include in the statements the name of any contributor who has contributed an amount exceeding \$250 in the aggregate and the actual amount contributed;</p> <p>(c) shall after the end of each year prepare a report on the exercise of the Chief Electoral Officer's functions under this Act, including any recommendations for amendments to this Act, and shall transmit the report to the Standing Committee on</p>	

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>18. reasonable time enter any premises referred to in the authorization in which books or documents of a political party, constituency association, candidate, leadership contestant or third party relevant to the subject matter of the examination, inquiry or investigation are kept and may examine and make copies of the books or documents or remove them temporarily for the purpose of making copies.</p> <p>(3) A registered party, registered constituency association, registered candidate, registered leadership contestant or registered third party shall, within 30 days after receiving a written request from the Chief Electoral Officer or within an extended period that the Chief Electoral Officer may determine, provide any information with respect to the financial affairs of the registered party, registered constituency association, registered candidate, registered leadership contestant or registered third party that is reasonably required by the Chief Electoral Officer in the course of the Chief Electoral Officer's duties under this Act.</p>	<p>Legislative Offices, which shall on its receipt lay the report before the Assembly if it is then sitting or, if it is not then sitting, within 15 days after the commencement of the next sitting of the Assembly.</p> <p><u>Obligation to provide information</u></p> <p>6 A registered party, registered constituency association, registered candidate, registered leadership contestant or registered third party shall, within 30 days after receiving a written request from the Chief Electoral Officer or within an extended period that the Chief Electoral Officer may determine, provide any information with respect to the financial affairs of the registered party, registered constituency association, registered candidate, registered leadership contestant or registered third party that is reasonably required by the Chief Electoral Officer in the course of the Chief Electoral Officer's duties under this Act.</p>	
<p>19. 5(2) For the purpose of carrying out an examination or inquiry, or conducting an investigation, referred to in section 4(1), a representative of the Chief Electoral Officer, on production of the representative's authorization from the Chief Electoral Officer, may at any reasonable time enter any premises referred to in the authorization in which books or documents of a political party, constituency association, candidate, leadership contestant or third party relevant to the subject-matter of the examination, inquiry or investigation are kept and may examine and make copies of the books or documents or remove them temporarily for the purpose of making copies.</p>	<p>5(2) For the purpose of carrying out an examination or inquiry, or conducting an investigation, referred to in section 4(1), a representative of the Chief Electoral Officer, on production of the representative's authorization from the Chief Electoral Officer, may at any reasonable time enter any premises referred to in the authorization in which <u>records</u> of a political party, constituency association, candidate, leadership contestant or third party relevant to the subject-matter of the examination, inquiry or investigation are kept and may examine and make copies of the <u>records</u> or remove them temporarily for the purpose of making copies.</p>	<p>Propose to replace "books and documents" with "records" in order to be consistent with section 4.2(2) of the <i>Election Act</i>, and to include electronic documents.</p> <p><i>See proposed definition of "records" added above at section 1(1)(1.2).</i></p>

SECTION FOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>20. 5.2(2) Information and allegations to which subsection (1) applies may be</p> <p>(a) disclosed to the person or organization whose conduct is the subject of proceedings under this Act,</p> <p>(b) disclosed by a person conducting an investigation to the extent necessary to enable that person to obtain information from another person,</p> <p>(c) disclosed in a report made by the Chief Electoral Officer under section 44(1),</p> <p>(d) adduced in evidence at an inquiry, and</p> <p>(e) disclosed where the Chief Electoral Officer believes on reasonable grounds that the disclosure is necessary for the purpose of advising the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General or a law enforcement agency of an alleged offence under this Act or any other enactment of Alberta or an Act or regulation of Canada.</p>	<p>5.2(2) Information and allegations to which subsection (1) applies may be</p> <p>(a) disclosed to the person or organization whose conduct is the subject of proceedings under this Act,</p> <p><u>(a.1) disclosed to a political party if a candidate or constituency association of that party is under investigation,</u></p> <p><u>(a.2) disclosed to Alberta Treasury Board and Finance where a contribution has been made or accepted in contravention of this Act and official tax receipts had been issued and potentially filed on an Alberta tax returns, if Alberta Treasury Board and Finance has requested notification .</u></p> <p>(b) disclosed by a person conducting an investigation to the extent necessary to enable that person to obtain information from another person,</p> <p>(c) disclosed in a report made by the Chief Electoral Officer under section 44(1),</p> <p>(d) adduced in evidence at an inquiry, and</p> <p>(e) disclosed where the Chief Electoral Officer believes on reasonable grounds that the disclosure is necessary for the purpose of advising the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General or a law enforcement agency of an alleged offence under this Act or any other enactment of Alberta or an Act or regulation of Canada.</p>	<p>Consistent with proposed revision in <i>Election Act</i> section 4.4(2).</p> <p>(a.1) added to permit disclosure of relevant information, where advisable, to parties whose candidates or constituency associations are under investigation. They are frequently supported by the associated political party. In the current version the Chief Electoral Officer is not permitted to disclose information or allegations to the associated party.</p> <p>(a.2) added to permit the Chief Electoral Officer to disclose relevant information, as it may affect tax claims, to Alberta Treasury Board and Finance. It is conditional on Alberta Treasury Board and Finance requesting notification of such instances by the Chief Electoral Officer.</p> <p>(e) Note: an expanded definition for “law enforcement” proposed (<i>see 1(1)(i.05) on page 44</i>).</p>
<p>21. 6(3) A political party shall not be registered under this Act unless the Chief Electoral Officer is satisfied that prior to filing an application for registration the party has established a non profit corporation or trust as a foundation for the purposes of receiving and managing the assets, except the premises, equipment, supplies and other such property required for the administration of the affairs of the party, held by the political party immediately prior to filing the application.</p>	<p>DELETE 6(3), (4), (5), (6)</p>	<p>Recommend: delete foundations and trusts.</p> <p>The purpose of the pre-registration trust for political parties was to ensure the proposed party have some substance, while at the same time limiting the contribution-free startup amount to \$5,000.</p> <p>Deleting this makes the process of founding and registering a new political party easier and less administratively burdensome.</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>21. (4) The assets of a foundation established under subsection (3) shall consist of funds, not exceeding \$5000, either on deposit with a financial institution or invested in accordance with the <i>Trustee Act</i>.</p> <p>(5) No funds or other property may be received by or transferred to a foundation after the filing of an application for registration of the political party that established the foundation except for interest on the funds on deposit or the income from investments referred to in subsection (4).</p> <p>(6) Each foundation shall file with the Chief Electoral Officer on or before April 1 in each year a report of the expenditures of that foundation during the previous year.</p>		<p>The \$5000 limit is proposed to be relocated into the new section 6(3)(g), below.</p>
<p>22. 7(1) The Chief Electoral Officer shall maintain a register of political parties and, subject to this section, shall register in it any political party that is qualified to be registered and that files with the Chief Electoral Officer an application for registration setting out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the full name of the political party; (b) the political party name and the abbreviation of it to be shown in election documents; (c) the name of the leader of the political party; (d) the address of the place or places where records of the political party are maintained and of the place to which communications may be addressed; (e) the names of the principal officers of the political party; (f) the name of the chief financial officer of the political party; (g) the name and address of the financial institutions to be used by the political party as the depositories for all contributions made to that political party; (h) the names of the political party's signing officers responsible for each 	<p>6(1) No political party and no person acting for a political party may accept contributions for the political party or for any constituency association of that party unless the political party is registered under this Act.</p> <p>(2) Any political party that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) held a minimum of 3 seats in the Legislative Assembly following the most recent election, (b) endorsed candidates nominated in at least 50% of the electoral divisions in the most recent general election, (c) endorses candidates in at least 50% of the electoral divisions following the issue of a writ of election for a general election, or (d) subject to subsection (2.1), at any time other than during a campaign period, provides the Chief Electoral Officer with the names, addresses and signatures of persons who <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) represent 0.3% of the number of electors eligible to vote at the last general election, (ii) are currently eligible to vote in an election, and 	<p>Combining existing sections 6 and 7 into one section on political party registration: (2) for qualifications, (3) for required paperwork.</p> <p>This change will be consistent with the registration provisions of other political entities.</p> <p>(3)(g) A party may still open an account with up to \$5000 (which formerly existed in the pre-registration trust requirement). It is not \$5000 "free" from accountability, as the party must record where the money comes from.</p> <p>(3)(k) To require the statement of legitimate political purpose. <i>See the proposed definition of "political party" in section 1(1)(j.1) on page 45.</i></p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>22. depository referred to in clause (g); (i) an indication of the provision of section 6(2) under which the political party qualified for registration; (j) a statement of the assets and liabilities of the political party as of a date not earlier than 90 days prior to the date of its application for registration attested to by its chief financial officer.</p> <p>(2) On receipt of an application for registration of a political party, the Chief Electoral Officer shall examine the application and determine if the political party is entitled to be registered and</p> <p>(a) if the political party is entitled to be registered, enter it in the register of political parties and so inform the political party, or</p> <p>(b) if the political party is not entitled to be registered, so inform the political party with written reasons for the determination.</p>	<p>(iii) request the registration of that political party, is, subject to subsection (3), qualified for registration in the register of political parties.</p> <p>(3) The Chief Electoral Officer shall maintain a register of political parties and, subject to this section, shall register in it any political party that is qualified to be registered and that files with the Chief Electoral Officer an application for registration setting out</p> <p>(a) the full name of the political party; (b) the political party name and the abbreviation of it to be shown in election documents; (c) the name of the leader of the political party; (d) the address of the place or places where records of the political party are maintained and of the place to which communications may be addressed; (e) the names of the principal officers of the political party; (f) the name of the chief financial officer of the political party; (g) the name and address of the financial institutions to be used by the political party as the depositories for all contributions made to that political party, <u>where the account may not at the time of registration hold more than \$5,000;</u> (h) the names of the political party's signing officers responsible for each financial institution referred to in clause (g); (i) an indication of the provision of section 6(2) under which the political party qualified for registration; (j) a statement of the assets and liabilities of the political party as of a date not earlier than 90 days prior to the date of its application for registration attested to by its chief financial officer; and (k) <u>a statement, attested to by the leader of the party or the independent</u></p>	

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
22.	<p><u>member, that participating in public affairs by endorsing candidates and supporting their election is a fundamental purpose of the constituency association, and that the constituency association uses contributions to support that purpose.</u></p> <p>(4) On receipt of an application for registration of a political party, the Chief Electoral Officer shall examine the application and determine if the political party is entitled to be registered and</p> <p>(a) if the political party is entitled to be registered, enter it in the register of political parties and so inform the political party, or</p> <p>(b) if the political party is not entitled to be registered, so inform the political party with written reasons for the determination.</p>	
23.	<p>8(2) The Chief Electoral Officer shall maintain a register of constituency associations and, subject to this section, shall register in it any constituency association of a registered party or of an independent member in an electoral division that files with the Chief Electoral Officer an application for registration setting out</p> <p>(a) the full name of the constituency association and of the registered party or independent member endorsing the constituency association;</p> <p>(b) the address of the place or places where records of the constituency association are maintained and of the place to which communications may be addressed;</p> <p>(c) the names of the principal officers of the constituency association;</p> <p>(d) the name of the chief financial officer of the constituency association;</p> <p>(e) the name and address of the financial institutions to be used by the constituency association as the depositories for all contributions made to that constituency association;</p> <p>(f) the names of the constituency association's signing officers</p>	<p>8(2) The Chief Electoral Officer shall maintain a register of constituency associations and, subject to this section, shall register in it any constituency association of a registered party or of an independent member in an electoral division that files with the Chief Electoral Officer an application for registration setting out</p> <p>(g) a statement of the assets and liabilities of the constituency association as of a date not earlier than 90 days prior to the date of its application for registration attested to by the chief financial officer; and</p> <p>(h) <u>a statement, attested to by the leader of the party or the independent member, that participating in public affairs by endorsing candidates and supporting their election is a fundamental purpose of the constituency association, and that the constituency association uses contributions to support that purpose.</u></p> <p>(h) Adding a "purpose" provision to the registration of a constituency association, to match the "purpose" statement required of political parties upon registration. <i>See section 6(3)(k) proposed. See the proposed definition of "political party" in section 1(1)(j.1) on page 45.</i></p> <p>Allows an independent <u>member</u> to set up a constituency association – only after elected.</p>

SECTION FOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>23. responsible for each depository referred to in clause (e);</p> <p>(g) a statement of the assets and liabilities of the constituency association as of a date not earlier than 90 days prior to the date of its application for registration attested to by the chief financial officer.</p>		
<p>24. 8(4) When there is any change in the information required to be provided by subsection (2)(a) to (f), the registered constituency association shall notify the Chief Electoral Officer in writing within 60 days after the alteration and, subject to section 10, on receipt of the notice the Chief Electoral Officer shall vary the register of constituency associations accordingly.</p>	<p>8(4) When there is any change in the information required to be provided by subsection (2)(a) to (f), the registered constituency association shall notify the Chief Electoral Officer in writing within <u>30</u> days after the alteration and, subject to section 10, on receipt of the notice the Chief Electoral Officer shall vary the register of constituency associations accordingly.</p>	<p>Change 60 days to 30 days to match political parties.</p>
<p>25. 9(1) Subject to subsection (1.1), no candidate and no person acting on behalf of a candidate shall</p> <p>(a) accept contributions pursuant to section 17 or 18, as the case may be, or</p> <p>(b) use any funds, including the funds of the candidate,</p> <p>unless the candidate is registered under this Act.</p>	<p>9(1) Subject to subsection (1.1), no candidate and no person acting on behalf of a candidate shall</p> <p>(a) accept contributions pursuant to section 17 or 18, as the case may be, or</p> <p>(b) incur any expenses <u>use any funds,</u> including using the funds of the candidate,</p> <p>unless the candidate is registered under this Act.</p>	<p>Use this section to tell would-be candidates (in Guidelines) not to do anything.</p> <p>Note: 9(1) is for spending own money outside campaign period, 17(5) is for spending own money during campaign period</p> <p>(a) Delete “pursuant to section 17 or 18,” as a candidate may not accept <u>any</u> contributions before registration, whether within the section 17 or 18 limit or not.</p> <p>Ordinarily, if they are reimbursed, it is not a contribution.</p> <p>(b) says even if they are going to be reimbursed, they still can’t use their own funds. The intent is to stop people using their own money (to avoid, e.g. wealthy individuals starting with an unfair advantage).</p> <p>The proposal acknowledges the problem of unequal situation for independent candidates, as party-supported candidates receive funds transferred from their party without it being a “contribution” and without it breaching this provision. Independent candidates who were not members of the Legislative Assembly prior to the writ cannot create a constituency association either.</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>25.</p>		<p>However, the proposals have made it easier to set up and register a political party – e.g. deleting the requirement for a pre-registration foundation and trust (s. 6).</p>
<p>26. 9(2) The Chief Electoral Officer shall maintain a register of candidates in relation to each election and, subject to this section, shall register in it any candidate who is qualified to be registered and who files with the Chief Electoral Officer an application for registration setting out</p> <p>(a) that, in the case of a candidate under the <i>Election Act</i>, the candidate</p> <p>(i) repealed 2012 c5 s66,</p> <p>(ii) has been nominated as a candidate for a named electoral division in accordance with the <i>Election Act</i>,</p> <p>(iii) has been nominated by a named constituency association of a named registered party in a named electoral division for endorsement as the official candidate of that party in the electoral division and enclosing with the candidate's application a statement to that effect attested to by one of the principal officers of the association, or</p> <p>(iv) has, after the date of the issue of a writ for an election in a named electoral division, declared the candidate's candidacy as an independent candidate at the election in that electoral division;</p> <p>(b) that, in the case of a candidate under the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>, the candidate</p> <p>(i) has been nominated as a candidate in accordance with the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>,</p> <p>(ii) has been nominated by a named registered party for endorsement as the official candidate of that party and has enclosed with the candidate's application a statement to that effect attested to by one of</p>	<p>9(2) The Chief Electoral Officer shall maintain a register of candidates in relation to each election and, subject to this section, shall register in it any candidate who is qualified to be registered and who files with the Chief Electoral Officer an application for registration setting out</p> <p>(a) that, in the case of a candidate under the <i>Election Act</i>, the candidate</p> <p>(i) repealed 2012 c5 s66,</p> <p>(ii) DELETE</p> <p>(iii) <u>has been endorsed</u> as the official candidate of that party in the electoral division and enclosing with the candidate's application a statement to that effect attested to by <u>the authorized representative of the party</u>, or</p> <p>(iv) has, <u>after the commencement of the campaign period</u>, declared the candidate's candidacy as an independent candidate at the election in that electoral division;</p> <p>(b) that, in the case of a candidate under the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>, the candidate</p> <p>(i) has been nominated as a candidate in accordance with the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>,</p> <p>(ii) has been nominated by a named registered party for endorsement as the official candidate of that party and has enclosed with the candidate's application a statement to that effect attested to by one of the principal officers of the registered party, or</p> <p>(iii) has, <u>after the commencement of the campaign period</u>, declared the candidate's candidacy as an independent candidate at the election;</p> <p>....</p>	<p>Replace “after the date of the issue of a writ for an election in a named electoral division” in (iv) with “after the commencement of the campaign period” – to match definition of “candidate” in 9(2)(b)(iii).</p> <p>DELETE 9(2)(a)(ii) because of section 56(c)(i) <i>Election Act</i> to “will be nominated” – subjective test – can't even be eligible until registered. Under the <i>Election Act</i> the person must be registered before nominated as a candidate.</p> <p>(iii) “has been endorsed as the official candidate of that party ...” “attested to by the authorized representative of the party” – reflects reality which is that the party officials sign the endorsement. Clears up ambiguous language of “nomination” which in the <i>Election Act</i> means nomination as filing the papers with the returning officer, but which in common political parlance also sometimes means selection of a nominee to represent the party in that electoral division (“endorsed”).</p> <p>(a)(iv) and (b)(iii) “after the issue of the writ” → “after the commencement of the campaign period”</p> <p>Consistency with other proposed amendments, to level the playing field somewhat for independents.</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>26. the principal officers of the registered party, or (iii) has, after the date of the issue of a writ for an election, declared the candidate's candidacy as an independent candidate at the election;</p>		
<p>27. NEW</p>	<p>9(2.2) An application under subsection (2) shall be accompanied by a deposit of \$500, which shall consist of: (a) Bank of Canada notes, (b) a certified cheque, (c) a bank or postal money order, or (d) a combination of any of those forms. and which shall not be considered a contribution under this Act.</p>	<p>Propose to relocate the candidate deposit from nomination under the <i>Election Act</i> to registration under the <i>EFCDA</i> – i.e. moving section 62 <i>Election Act</i> here. First step: register. Make deposit under registration, not under nomination. Registration under <i>EFCDA</i> is required prior to filing nomination papers under the <i>Election Act</i>. Rather than with nomination forms, which are processed by each returning officer, can have Elections Alberta process the registration deposit payment centrally. Purpose of the deposit is to enhance the incentive to file a financial statement. Note: This deposit is not a contribution, nor is it an expense. It is outside of electoral financing. Elections Alberta receives it from the candidate, and it should be returned to the candidate.</p>
<p>28. 9.2(1) The chief financial officer of a registered party that proposes to hold a leadership contest shall promptly file with the Chief Electoral Officer a statement setting out the date of the official call of the leadership contest and the date fixed for the leadership vote or votes and shall submit to the Chief Electoral Officer an application for each leadership contestant setting out (a) the full name and contact information of the leadership contestant, (b) the addresses of the place or places where records of the leadership contestant are maintained and of the place to which communications may be addressed,</p>	<p>NO CHANGE RECOMMENDED YET 9.2(1) The chief financial officer of a registered party that proposes to hold a leadership contest shall promptly file with the Chief Electoral Officer a statement setting out the date of the official call of the leadership contest and the date fixed for the leadership vote or votes and shall submit to the Chief Electoral Officer an application for each leadership contestant setting out (a) the full name and contact information of the leadership contestant, (b) the addresses of the place or places where records of the leadership contestant are maintained and of the</p>	<p><u>A note about Leadership contest deposits:</u> Leadership contest deposit structures may inherently encourage breaches of contributions to the party. When money flows to the party without compensation from the party that is a “contribution” under the Act. But the deposit monies from the contestants to the parties are not being reported as contributions. The role of the Chief Electoral Officer in leadership contests is minimal and is only for transparency, achieved by registration and reporting requirements. The basic rule already exists in the legislation: a</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>28. (c) the name of the chief financial officer of the leadership contestant,</p> <p>(d) the names and addresses of the financial institutions to be used by or on behalf of the leadership contestant as depositories for contributions made to that leadership contestant,</p> <p>(e) the names of the signing authorities for each depository referred to in clause (d), and</p> <p>(f) the date the person became a leadership contestant.</p>	<p>place to which communications may be addressed,</p> <p>(c) the name of the chief financial officer of the leadership contestant,</p> <p>(d) the names and addresses of the financial institutions to be used by or on behalf of the leadership contestant as depositories for contributions made to that leadership contestant,</p> <p>(e) the names of the signing authorities for each institution referred to in clause (d), and</p> <p>(f) the date the person became a leadership contestant.</p>	<p>contribution to the party is money for the benefit of the party for which there is no compensation.</p>
<p>29. 10(3) If the chief financial officer of a registered party or registered constituency association fails to comply with section 42 or 43, the Chief Electoral Officer may cancel the registration of the registered party or constituency association, as the case may be.</p> <p>(11) When the registration of a political party or constituency association is cancelled for failure to comply with section 42 or 43, it may not again apply for registration until the financial statements required by section 42 or 43 that were not filed have been filed with the Chief Electoral Officer.</p>	<p>10(3) If the chief financial officer of a registered party or registered constituency association fails to comply with section 32, 42 or 43, the Chief Electoral Officer may cancel the registration of the registered party or constituency association, as the case may be.</p> <p>(11) When the registration of a political party or constituency association is cancelled for failure to comply with section 32, 42 or 43, it may not again apply for registration until the financial statements required by section 42 or 43 that were not filed have been filed with the Chief Electoral Officer.</p>	<p>In the event that quarterly reporting is <i>not</i> removed, add section 32 to 10(3) and 10(11). Failure in quarterly reporting should be a basis for de-registration.</p> <p>Would also have to add s. 32(3). There is confusion about how things are to be reported, especially for parties who file (a) annually, (b) after campaign, and then (c) every quarter.</p> <p>There is no real connection between quarterly statements and annual statements. It will not balance. E.g. \$25/mo. not over the \$250 aggregate until the end of the year. There is also no quarterly contribution limit.</p>
<p>30. 13(1) Funds transferred from</p> <p>(a) a foundation under section 6 or a trust under section 12, or</p> <p>(b) a trust under section 12 or 13(2) of chapter 18 of the Statutes of Alberta, 1977,</p> <p>to a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate are not contributions for the purposes of this Act but shall be recorded as to amount and source by the recipient of the funds.</p>	<p>13(1) Funds transferred from</p> <p>(a) a foundation under section 6 or a trust under section 12, or</p> <p>(b) a trust under section 12 or 13(2) of chapter 18 of the Statutes of Alberta, 1977,</p> <p>to a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate are not contributions for the purposes of this Act but shall be recorded as to amount and source by the recipient of the funds.</p>	<p>Consequential: delete reference to the section 6 trust (deleting section 6 trust).</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>31. 13(2) Money or goods provided by any person that do not exceed \$50 in the aggregate are not a contribution for the purposes of this Act but shall be recorded as to the gross amount by the chief financial officer of the recipient unless the donor specifically requests that the amount be considered a contribution.</p>	<p>13 (2) Money, goods, <u>services, use of good or services or real estate</u> provided by any <u>individual</u> that do not exceed \$50 in the aggregate are not a contribution for the purposes of this Act but shall be recorded as to the gross amount by the chief financial officer of the recipient unless the <u>individual</u> specifically requests that the amount be considered a contribution.</p>	<p>Add “services” to match new definition of “contribution.” “Donor” is outdated language and found nowhere else in the Act. Now the would-be contributor is always an individual.</p>
<p>32. 17(1) Contributions by a person ordinarily resident in Alberta shall not exceed</p> <p>(a) in any year,</p> <p>(i) \$15,000 to each registered party, and</p> <p>(ii) \$1000 to any registered constituency association, and \$5000 in the aggregate to the registered constituency associations of each registered party,</p> <p>and</p> <p>(b) in any campaign period,</p> <p>(i) \$30,000 to each registered party less any amount contributed to the party in that calendar year under clause (a)(i), and</p> <p>(ii) \$2000 to any registered candidate, and \$10,000 in the aggregate to the registered candidates of each registered party.</p> <p>(2) If writs for 2 or more by-elections bear the same date and provide for the same polling day, all the by-elections are deemed to be one election for the purposes of subsection (1)(b).</p> <p>(3) Contributions may be made to a registered constituency association at any time except during a campaign period.</p> <p>(4) No contributions may be made to a candidate except during a campaign period.</p> <p>(5) Any money paid during a campaign period by a candidate out of the candidate’s personal funds for the purposes of the candidate’s campaign for which the candidate is not reimbursed from the candidate’s campaign account</p>	<p>REDRAFT:</p> <p>17 An individual ordinarily resident in Alberta shall not make in any year contributions exceeding</p> <p>(a) \$15,000 to each registered party, and</p> <p>(b) \$1000 to any registered constituency association, and \$5000 in the aggregate to the registered constituency associations of each registered party.</p> <p>17.1(1) An individual ordinarily resident in Alberta shall not make in any campaign period contributions exceeding</p> <p>(a) <u>\$15,000</u> to each registered party, and</p> <p>(b) \$2000 to any registered candidate, and \$10,000 in the aggregate to the registered candidates of each registered party.</p> <p>(2) If writs for 2 or more by elections bear the same date and provide for the same election day, all the by elections are deemed to be one election for the purposes of subsection (1).</p> <p>(3) Contributions shall not be made to a registered constituency association during a campaign period.</p> <p>(4) Contributions may only be made to a candidate during a campaign period.</p> <p>(5) Any money paid during a campaign period by a candidate out of the candidate’s personal funds for the purposes of the candidate’s campaign for which the candidate is not reimbursed from the candidate’s campaign account</p> <p>(a) is a contribution for the purposes of this Act, and</p>	<p>In current version, a person could circumvent the intended \$30,000/year limit by giving an annual maximum contribution late in the calendar year (i.e. annual contribution after campaign contribution).</p> <p>In the proposed amendment, it is \$15,000 in a calendar year, plus \$15,000 maximum per campaign period. This avoids the loophole and also sidesteps the difficulty of a campaign period that bridges two calendar years. The intention is to simplify.</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>32. (a) is a contribution for the purposes of this Act, and</p> <p>(b) shall be paid into a depository of the candidate on record with the Chief Electoral Officer.</p>	<p>(b) shall be paid into a financial institution of the candidate on record with the Chief Electoral Officer.</p>	
<p>33. 22(2) If any real property or goods or the use of real property or goods is provided to a political party, constituency association or candidate registered under this Act for a price that is less than the market value at that time, the amount by which the value exceeds the price is a contribution for the purposes of this Act.</p>	<p>22(2) If any real property, goods, <u>services</u> or the use of real property or goods is provided to a political party, constituency association or candidate registered under this Act for a price that is less than the market value at that time, the amount by which the value exceeds the price is a contribution for the purposes of this Act.</p>	<p>Adds services into the valued contribution provision to be consistent with adding services (with volunteer services exempted out) in amended definition of “contribution” and the new clarification of services at proposed section 1(5).</p>
<p>34. 32(1) When any person accepts contributions in any year on behalf of a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate, the chief financial officer shall record all the contributions, including the names and the addresses of the contributors and the dates on which the contributions were made.</p> <p>(2) All contributions referred to in subsection (1) accepted on behalf of a registered party or registered candidate during a campaign period shall be recorded separately from other contributions accepted during that year.</p> <p>(3) Every registered party and registered constituency association shall file with the Chief Electoral Officer, in the form and manner approved by the Chief Electoral Officer,</p> <p>(a) within 15 days after the end of each quarter of each year a return setting out</p> <p>(i) the total amount of all contributions received during the quarter that did not exceed \$250 in the aggregate from any single contributor, and</p> <p>(ii) the total amount contributed, together with the contributor’s name and address, when the contribution of that contributor during the quarter exceeded an aggregate of \$250,</p> <p>and</p>	<p>32(1) When any person accepts contributions in any year on behalf of a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate, the chief financial officer shall record all the contributions, including the names and the addresses of the contributors and the dates on which the contributions were made.</p> <p>(2) All contributions referred to in subsection (1) accepted on behalf of a registered party or registered candidate during a campaign period shall be recorded separately from other contributions accepted during that year.</p> <p>(3) DELETE</p> <p>(4) Every registered party and registered candidate shall file with the Chief Electoral Officer, in the form and manner approved by the Chief Electoral Officer, within the period during which a financial statement must be filed relating to a campaign period under section 43, a return setting out</p> <p>(a) the total amount of all contributions received during the campaign period that did not exceed \$250 in the aggregate from any single contributor, and</p> <p>(b) the total amount contributed, together with the contributor’s name and address, when the contribution of that contributor during the campaign period exceeded an aggregate of \$250.</p>	<p>DELETE quarterly reporting, i.e. 32(3) and (6). Quarterly reporting is confusing for volunteers. Many are Nil statements. The purpose of quarterly reporting is disclosure. Corporate and union contributions are now prohibited. Data cannot be used by Elections Alberta. Annual and campaign-period reports are comprehensive.</p> <p>Note: If the Legislature retains quarterly reporting, section 32 should be amended to include details of the under-\$250 and include receipts – then get to year-end, only have a quarter left. It will be more functional.</p>

SECTION FOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>34. (b) within the period during which an annual financial statement must be filed under section 42, a return setting out for the previous year</p> <p>(i) the total amount of all contributions received that did not exceed \$250 in the aggregate from any single contributor, and</p> <p>(ii) the total amount contributed that, together with the contributor's name and address, when the contribution of that contributor during the year exceeded an aggregate of \$250,</p> <p>but in the case of a registered party returns under clauses (a) and (b) shall not include the information relating to contributions made during the period commencing the day a writ of election is issued and concluding at the end of polling day.</p> <p>(4) Every registered party and registered candidate shall file with the Chief Electoral Officer, in the form and manner approved by the Chief Electoral Officer, within the period during which a financial statement must be filed relating to a campaign period under section 43, a return setting out</p> <p>(a) the total amount of all contributions received during the campaign period that did not exceed \$250 in the aggregate from any single contributor, and</p> <p>(b) the total amount contributed, together with the contributor's name and address, when the contribution of that contributor during the campaign period exceeded an aggregate of \$250.</p> <p>(5) Separate returns must be filed for contributions made in respect of an election under the <i>Election Act</i> and those made in respect of an election under the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>.</p> <p>(6) For the purpose of subsection (3), the ends of each quarter of a year are as follows:</p> <p>(a) for the first quarter, March 31 of the year;</p>	<p>(5) Separate returns must be filed for contributions made in respect of an election under the <i>Election Act</i> and those made in respect of an election under the <i>Senatorial Selection Act</i>.</p> <p>(6) DELETE</p>	

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>34. (b) for the 2nd quarter, June 30 of the year;</p> <p>(c) for the 3rd quarter, September 30 of the year;</p> <p>(d) for the final quarter, December 31 of the year.</p>		
<p>35. 40(1) A registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate</p> <p>(a) may borrow money only from a financial institution other than a treasury branch, and</p> <p>(b) shall record all loans and their terms and shall report accordingly to the Chief Electoral Officer.</p> <p>(2) Only the following may make a payment on behalf of the borrower in respect of a loan to which subsection (1) applies:</p> <p>(a) a person ordinarily resident in Alberta;</p> <p>(b) a corporation that is not a prohibited corporation;</p> <p>(c) an Alberta trade union;</p> <p>(d) an Alberta employee organization.</p> <p>(3) Any payment in respect of a loan to which subsection (1) applies made by a person or entity referred to in subsection (2) becomes, for the purposes of this Act, including, without limitation, sections 16, 17 and 35,</p> <p>(a) a contribution by that person or entity, and</p> <p>(b) a contribution accepted by the borrower,</p> <p>if the person or entity is not reimbursed by the borrower before the borrower is next required to file a financial statement pursuant to section 42 or 43.</p> <p>(4) This section does not apply to the borrowing of money by a registered candidate for purposes unrelated to the candidate's campaign.</p> <p>...</p>	<p>40(1) A registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate</p> <p>(a) may borrow money only from <u>an individual ordinarily resident in Alberta</u>, or from a financial institution other than a treasury branch, and</p> <p>(b) shall record all loans and their terms and shall report accordingly to the Chief Electoral Officer.</p> <p>ADD:</p> <p>(1.1) A loan is only a contribution under this Act to the extent:</p> <p>(a) of the benefit of the difference between the amount of interest that would be payable at that prime rate and the amount of interest being charged for the loan, if a loan to a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate is made at a rate of interest that is less than the prime rate of the principal banker to the government at the time the rate of interest for the loan is fixed,</p> <p>(b) that the loan to a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate is forgiven or written off, and</p> <p>(c) that the loan remains unpaid for 6 months after becoming due and no legal proceedings to recover the debt have been commenced by the creditor.</p> <p>ADD:</p> <p>(1.2) For certainty, nothing in subsection (1.1) affects the rights of a creditor in relation to a debt that becomes a contribution under that subsection.</p> <p>(2) <u>Subject to section 41.2, only an individual ordinarily resident in Alberta</u> may make a payment on behalf of the borrower in respect of a loan to which subsection (1) applies.</p>	<p>The problem in the current version, which allows payments on loans by corporations or unions, is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Borrowing from a non-financial institution, possibly not paying interest, is a significant advantage. And it is non-transparent. • If the political entity defaults on the loan, then the loaning/guaranteeing corporation or union makes a payment → contribution → prohibited contribution. The corporation or union commits a breach by making a prohibited contribution, <u>and</u> the political entity commits a breach by accepting the prohibited contribution. • As currently drafted, the Act facilitates a breach of itself. <p>The challenge from an enforcement perspective would be distinguishing a legitimate attempt to recover money, versus not really attempting to recover it and sliding in a prohibited contribution that way. The 6 months and no legal action to recover the amount, proposed in (1.1)(c), deems it a contribution and avoids having to make such a distinction.</p> <p>Consider adding third parties to this list of regulated entities.</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>35.</p>	<p>(3) Any payment in respect of a loan to which subsection (1) applies made by an individual referred to in subsection (2) becomes a contribution for the purposes of this Act, if the individual is not reimbursed by the borrower before the borrower is next required to file a financial statement pursuant to section 42, 43 or 43.1.</p> <p>(4) This section does not apply to the borrowing of money by a registered candidate for purposes unrelated to the candidate's campaign.</p> <p>...</p>	
<p>36. 41(1) Only the following may sign, co-sign or otherwise guarantee or provide collateral security for any loan, monetary obligation or indebtedness on behalf of or in the interest of any registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate:</p> <p>(a) a person ordinarily resident in Alberta;</p> <p>(b) a corporation that is not a prohibited corporation;</p> <p>(c) an Alberta trade union;</p> <p>(d) an Alberta employee organization.</p> <p>(2) Any payment required to be made on behalf of or in the interest of a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate by a person or entity acting under subsection (1) becomes, for the purposes of this Act, including, without limitation, sections 16, 17 and 35,</p> <p>(a) a contribution by that person or entity, and</p> <p>(b) a contribution accepted by the borrower,</p> <p>if the person or entity is not reimbursed by the borrower before the borrower is next required to file a financial statement pursuant to section 42 or 43.</p> <p>(3) This section does not apply to payments made on behalf of a registered candidate for purposes unrelated to the candidate's campaign.</p> <p>....</p>	<p>41(1) <u>Subject to section 41.2, only an individual ordinarily resident in Alberta</u> may sign, co-sign or otherwise guarantee or provide collateral security for any loan, monetary obligation or indebtedness on behalf of or in the interest of any registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate.</p> <p>(2) Any payment required to be made on behalf of or in the interest of a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate by <u>an individual</u> acting under subsection (1) becomes a contribution for the purposes of this Act if the <u>individual</u> is not reimbursed by the borrower before the borrower is next required to file a financial statement pursuant to section 42, 43 or 43.1.</p> <p>(3) This section does not apply to payments made on behalf of a registered candidate for purposes unrelated to the candidate's campaign.</p> <p>....</p>	<p><i>See rationale for proposed amendments to section 40, on page 63.</i></p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
37. NEW	<p>ADD:</p> <p>41.2 For greater clarity, the total amount of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) contribution other than under section 40 or 41, (b) contributions made under section 40, and (c) contributions made under section 41 <p>shall not exceed the limits set out in section 17 of this Act.</p>	<p>The purpose is to protect a contributor from running the risk of breaching the contribution limits by virtue of potentially making payments on a loan or under a guarantee.</p>
38. NEW	<p>42.1(1) Where a registered political party or registered constituency association has failed to file a report with the Chief Electoral Officer as required under sections 42 or 43, if</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the report is filed with the Chief Electoral Officer up to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) 30 days after the date required in the case of a report required under section 42, or (ii) 10 days after the date required in the case of a report required under section 43, and (b) the report is accompanied by a \$500 late filing fine plus \$25 late filing fine per day for each day the report is not filed, <p>the Chief Electoral Officer shall not cancel the registration of the registered party or constituency association under section 10(3).</p> <p>(2) The late filing fines set out in subsection (1)(b) are payable by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the registered political party or by the registered constituency association, or (b) the chief financial officer of the registered political party or of the registered constituency association, or (c) both (a) and (b), <p>at the option of the Chief Electoral Officer.</p> <p>(3) If the registered political party or registered constituency association fails to pay the late filing fines set out in section (1)(b), the Chief Electoral Officer</p>	<p>Automatic late filing fines to give greater incentive to have annual and campaign reports submitted by parties and constituency associations to the Chief Electoral Officer in a timely manner.</p>

SECTION FOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>38.</p>	<p>may file a copy of a notice of the late filing fine with the clerk of the Court of Queen's Bench, and on being filed, the notice has the same force and effect and may be enforced as if it were a judgment of the Court.</p> <p>ADD section 32 to section 42.1 if not remove quarterly reporting.</p> <p>PLUS amend section 10(3):</p> <p>10(3) <u>Subject to section 42.1</u>, if the chief financial officer of a registered party or registered constituency association fails to comply with section 42 or 43, the Chief Electoral Officer may cancel the registration of the registered party or constituency association, as the case may be.</p>	
<p>39. 43(2) Subject to subsection (7) and section 44(3), within 4 months after polling day the chief financial officer of a registered candidate shall file with the Chief Electoral Officer a financial statement setting out, in the form and manner approved by the Chief Electoral Officer, assets of over \$1000 in the aggregate, liabilities, revenue and expenses, including expenses paid on behalf of the candidate by a registered party or a constituency association, during the campaign period or that relate to the campaign period.</p> <p>(3) ...</p> <p>(4) This section also applies to any registered candidate</p> <p>(a) who withdraws the candidate's candidacy, or</p> <p>(b) who, having been registered before becoming nominated, does not in fact become nominated,</p> <p>with respect to the period during which the candidate is registered.</p> <p>....</p>	<p>43(2) Subject to subsection (7) and section 44(3), within 4 months after <u>election</u> day the chief financial officer of a registered candidate shall file with the Chief Electoral Officer a financial statement setting out, in the form and manner approved by the Chief Electoral Officer, assets of over \$1000 in the aggregate, liabilities, revenue and expenses, including expenses paid on behalf of the candidate by a registered party or a constituency association, during the campaign period or that relate to the campaign period.</p> <p>(3) ...</p> <p>(4) This section also applies to any registered candidate</p> <p>(a) who withdraws the candidate's candidacy, or</p> <p>(b) who, having been registered before becoming nominated, does not in fact become nominated,</p> <p>with respect to the period during which the candidate is registered.</p> <p>....</p> <p><u>(10) Subject to subsections (10.1) and (10.2), if the required financial statement is filed within the time period referred to in subsection (2), the Chief Electoral Officer shall refund the deposit received under section 9(2.2) to the candidate.</u></p>	<p>In the proposed amendments, the taking of the candidate deposit moved from nomination papers in section 62 of the <i>Election Act</i> to registration in section 9.2 of the <i>EFCDA</i>. In essence, section 62 is split into 9.2 (giving deposit) and 43(10) (returning the deposit) of the <i>EFCDA</i>.</p> <p>Note: it is a deposit, and not a contribution.</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>39.</p>	<p><u>(10.1) If a candidate dies after being registered and prior to the closing of the polling places on polling day, the Chief Electoral Officer shall refund the deposit to the candidate's chief financial officer.</u></p> <p><u>(10.2) A deposit that is not refunded under this section shall be paid by the Chief Electoral Officer into the General Revenue Fund.</u></p>	
<p>40. NEW</p>	<p>ADD</p> <p>43.2 (1) Where a registered candidate has failed to file a report with the Chief Electoral Officer as required under section 43 or 43.1, the report may be filed with the Chief Electoral Officer up to 10 days after the date required, or on a date permitted by a court under section 44(3), and if accompanied by a late filing fee of \$500 plus \$25 late filing fine per day for each day the report is not filed.</p> <p>(2) The late filing fines set out in subsection (1) are payable by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the registered candidate, or (b) the chief financial officer of the registered candidate, or (c) both (a) and (b), <p>at the option of the Chief Electoral Officer.</p> <p>(3) If the registered candidate fails to pay the late filing fines set out in section (1), the Chief Electoral Officer may file a copy of a notice of the late filing fine with the clerk of the Court of Queen's Bench, and on being filed, the notice has the same force and effect and may be enforced as if it were a judgment of the Court.</p> <p>ALSO amend section 44(1).</p>	<p>The deadline for filing is black and white: either the candidate files on time or they do not. At that point, the candidate's and the CFO's names go on a list to the Speaker. Once the Speaker tables the list before the Legislative Assembly, the candidate and CFO face serious democratic consequences: they cannot run as a candidate, nor act as a CFO, for a period of 5 or 8 years (depending on whether they filed but late, or did not file at all). In the past there have been, for the most part, mitigating or sympathetic circumstances.</p> <p>The purpose of the automatic fine schedule is simultaneously to (1) provide further financial incentive for filing on time (in addition to losing the deposit), and (2) create a mechanism by which those who file late but only a bit late, or those who have reasonable excuses for filing late, can be penalized in proportion. The intention is to create an "out" for those who merit the "out" without endorsing their conduct in a late filing. It allows the remedy to be proportionate to the breach.</p> <p>If the person has still not complied by the grace period, <i>then</i> the name goes on the list to the Speaker.</p>
<p>41. 44(1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), if the chief financial officer of a registered candidate fails to file a financial statement as required by section 43 or a registered candidate fails to eliminate a campaign deficit referred to in section 43.1, the Chief Electoral Officer shall transmit a report to that effect to the Speaker of the Assembly,</p>	<p>44(1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), if</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the chief financial officer of a registered candidate fails to file a financial statement as required by section 43 or a registered candidate <u>fails to submit a report</u> as required by section 43.1, and 	<p>(1)(a) from "fails to eliminate a campaign deficit" to "fails to submit a report." Currently, one event that triggers the name on the list in section 44 is when the candidate "fails to eliminate a campaign deficit." It is not the failure to file an amended statement. Under this proposal, it is much more</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>41. who shall on its receipt lay the report before the Assembly if it is then sitting or, if it is not then sitting, within 15 days after the commencement of the next sitting</p>	<p>(b) <u>the chief financial officer or the registered candidate fails to file a report within the late filing deadline and under the requirements set out in section 43.2,</u> the Chief Electoral Officer shall transmit a report to that effect to the Speaker of the Assembly, who shall on its receipt lay the report before the Assembly if it is then sitting or, if it is not then sitting, within 15 days after the commencement of the next sitting.</p> <p>(1.1) <u>After the Chief Electoral Officer transmits the report under subsection (1), the Chief Electoral Officer may publish a copy of the report on the Chief Electoral Officer's website.</u></p> <p>(2) If the Speaker lays a report before the Assembly under subsection (1), the registered candidate concerned or the candidate's chief financial officer, or both, may, within the 60 day period following the date on which the report was laid before the Assembly, apply to the Court of Queen's Bench for relief.</p>	<p>ascertainable to create the list to the Speaker based on failure to file by a specific date.</p> <p>It also builds in responsibility to the CFO:</p> <p>Note: 43.1(3) requirement to eliminate the deficit – on the candidate</p> <p>43.1(6) requirement to file amended FS re deficit elimination – on CFO</p> <p>If they don't file, we don't know if they have a deficit or not. The list to the Speaker should relate to failure to file financial statements on time – like the other failures to file.</p> <p>The breach by the candidate of the requirement to, in fact, eliminate the deficit is a separate breach to be remedied by administrative penalty.</p> <p>(1)(b) is added to reflect the proposed late filing possibility (10 days, with a fine) in section 43.2.</p> <p>(1.1) for public disclosure, transparency.</p>
<p>42. 44(3) On hearing the application, the Court may</p> <p>(a) dispense with compliance with section 43 or 43.1, or any provision of it, if it considers that the non-compliance is due to circumstances beyond the control of the candidate or the chief financial officer, or both, and that it is not reasonably possible to comply with the section,</p> <p>(b) extend the time for compliance with section 43 or 43.1, or any provision of it, if it finds mitigating reasons for non-compliance with the section,</p> <p>(c) make any order that it considers appropriate to secure compliance with so much of section 43 or 43.1 as it considers reasonable in the circumstances, or</p> <p>(d) refuse the application.</p>	<p>44(3) On hearing the application, the Court may</p> <p>(a) dispense with compliance with section 43 or 43.1, or any provision of it, if it considers that the non-compliance is due to circumstances beyond the control of the candidate or the chief financial officer, or both, and that it is not reasonably possible to comply with the section,</p> <p>(b) extend the time, <u>subject to subsection (3.1),</u> for compliance with section 43 or 43.1, or any provision of it, if it finds mitigating reasons for non-compliance with the section,</p> <p>(c) make any order that it considers appropriate to secure compliance with so much of section 43 or 43.1 as it considers reasonable in the circumstances, or</p> <p>(d) refuse the application.</p> <p>ADD:</p> <p><u>(3.1) Any relief granted under paragraph (3)(a) through (c) does not extend the</u></p>	<p>(3)(b) and (3.1) – In the past, the Chief Electoral Officer has seen candidates ask for their deposit to be refunded after the candidate has missed the deadline and had to seek relief in the Court. The deposit will have less purpose if a person can get it back even after missing the deadline.</p> <p>Section 43(10) is the deposit refund provision as proposed to provide:</p> <p><i>43(10) The Chief Electoral Officer shall refund the deposit received under subsection (2.2) to the candidate if the required financial statement is filed within the time period referred to in subsection (2), except that</i></p> <p><i>(a) if a candidate dies after being nominated and prior to the closing of the polling places on polling day, the deposit shall be refunded to the candidate's chief financial officer, and</i></p> <p><i>(b) a deposit that is not refunded under this section shall be</i></p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
42.	<u>time in section 43 or 43.1 for the purposes of section 43(10).</u>	<i>transmitted to the Chief Electoral Officer for deposit to the General Revenue Fund.</i>
43.	<p>ADD:</p> <p>44 (6) In the case of a registered candidate who has been declared elected as a member of the Legislative Assembly, if the 60 day period in subsection (2) passes without the registered candidate filing an application to the Court of Queen's Bench for relief, the member ceases to hold office, the seat of the member becomes vacant, and the Chief Electoral Officer shall present a report to the Clerk of the Assembly that there is a vacancy for that electoral division, in which case an order shall be issued by the Lieutenant Governor in Council under section 39 as if the election were a by-election.</p>	<p>(6) is added to ensure that members who do not file their financial statement – even after the 10-day grace late filing period – are not sitting in the Legislative Assembly. This is a serious consequence and will trigger a by-election.</p> <p>Note: There may have to be consequential amendments to the <i>Legislative Assembly Act</i>.</p>
44. 44.1- 44.92	MOVE and INTEGRATE	<p><u>Third party advertisers:</u></p> <p>Recommend that third parties be treated the same as a regulated political entity.</p> <p>Third party provisions can be incorporated into the rest of the Act, and Part 6.1 eliminated. The definitions in 44.1 would move to section 1(1).</p> <p>Key differences between third parties and other regulated political entities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The \$1,000 threshold that gets third parties into regulation under this Act. Recommend maintaining that threshold so as to minimally impair freedom of expression. • Allow “groups” to be third parties. This will minimally impair both freedom of expression and freedom of association. <p>It would be critical to keep or adapt section 44.21 – a third party that is an individual and uses own funds, that is an election advertising contribution by that individual for the purposes of the <i>EFDA</i>. And keep or adapt section 44.3 (rules for groups), as groups are permissible as a third party.</p>

SECTION FOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
45. 44.1	MOVE: “advertising account” “election advertising” “election advertising contribution” “election advertising expense” “election period” “group” “political advertising” “registered third party” “third party”	MOVE definitions in s. 44.1 TO SECTION 1 DEFINITIONS
46. 44.1(1)(c) “election advertising contribution” means any (i) money provided to or for the benefit of a third party, or (ii) real property or goods, or the use of real property or goods, provided to or for the benefit of a third party, without compensation from that third party, for the purpose of election advertising, whether given before or after the third party becomes registered under section 9.1;	44.1(1)(c) “election advertising contribution” means any (i) money provided to or for the benefit of a third party, or (ii) real property, goods <u>or services</u> or the use of real property, goods or <u>services</u> , provided to or for the benefit of a third party, without compensation from that third party, for the purpose of election advertising, whether given before or after the third party becomes registered under section 9.1;	44.1(c)(ii) add “services” to definition to be consistent with “contribution” definition as proposed to be changed. “Services” definition will not apply to volunteer services.
47. 44.1(1)(f) “group” means an unincorporated group of persons or corporations acting in consort for a common purpose and includes a trade union and an employee organization or any combination of persons, corporations, trade unions or employee organizations;	44.1(1)(f) “group” means a group of persons or corporations acting in consort for a common purpose and includes <u>an individual not ordinarily resident in Alberta, a corporation and an unincorporated association or organization</u> ;	Borrowed language from “prohibited person or entity” definition. Proposed principle: While third parties should only accept contributions from individuals, the upside is that anybody can be a third party. Recall: “person” here would encompass the wider definition (as long as the “individual” definition is erased). “Corporation” would also encompass the wider definition.
48. 44.1(1)(g) “political advertising” means advertising, for which there is or normally would be a charge, in any broadcast, print, electronic or other media, including telephone, fax, internet, electronic mail and text messaging, with the purpose of promoting or opposing any registered party or the election of a registered candidate, including advertising that takes a position on an issue with which a	44.1(1)(g) “political advertising” means advertising, for which there is or normally would be a <u>cost</u> , in any broadcast, print, electronic or other media, including telephone, fax, internet, electronic mail and text messaging, with the purpose of promoting or opposing any registered party or the election of a registered candidate, including advertising that takes a position on an	Change “charge” to “cost” because the regulation should be based on the total cost of the advertising, including production costs. “Charge” attracts the argument it is only the cost of transmitting the advertisement that is regulated. That could generate conflicting results. E.g. no “charge” for YouTube, Twitter, even if it is the exact same

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>48. registered party or registered candidate is associated, but does not include</p> <p>(i) the publication without charge of news, an editorial, an editorial comment, an interview, a column, a letter, a debate, a speech or a commentary in a bona fide periodical publication, a radio or television program or a website or online discussion forum,</p> <p>(ii) the distribution of a book, or the promotion of the sale of a book, for no less than its commercial value,</p> <p>(iii) the transmission of a document in any form directly by a person, corporation or group to its members, employees or shareholders or other persons, groups or corporations who have given permission to the person, corporation or group to transmit information to them, or</p> <p>(iv) advertising by the Government in any form;</p>	<p>issue with which a registered party or registered candidate is associated, but does not include</p>	<p>advertisement broadcast on television.</p> <p>The “charge” section is being proposed to be removed from section 134 of the <i>Election Act</i>.</p> <p>The <i>EFCDA</i> binds both political entities and third parties. The advertising provisions in the <i>EFCDA</i> are about money and accountability and knowing who is paying. Conversely, the <i>Election Act</i> binds only political entities and the purpose of the advertising provision (section 134) is for contact information, so that the public can address who is doing the advertising. The purpose of the rules are different in the <i>Election Act</i> – to identify the source. The purpose of section 134 of the <i>Election Act</i> is not to regulate the amount spent on advertising – that is for the <i>EFCDA</i>.</p>
<p>49. 44.2(1) No election advertising contribution shall be made by a person, corporation, trade union or employee organization to a third party or used to incur election advertising expenses unless</p> <p>(a) the third party to whom the contribution is made is registered under section 9.1, or</p> <p>(b) the third party is not required to be registered under section 9.1.</p> <p>...</p> <p>(3) Subject to subsection (5), election advertising contributions made by any person, corporation, trade union or employee organization to third parties shall not exceed, in the aggregate,</p> <p>(a) \$15,000 in any calendar year in which there is not a general election, or</p> <p>(b) \$30,000 in any calendar year in which there is a general election, less any amount contributed under clause (a).</p>	<p>44.2 (1) No election advertising contribution shall be made by <u>an individual</u> person, corporation, trade union or employee organization to a third party or used to incur election advertising expenses unless</p> <p>(a) the third party to whom the contribution is made is registered under section 9.1, or</p> <p>(b) the third party is not required to be registered under section 9.1.</p> <p>...</p> <p>(3) Subject to subsection (5), an <u>individual ordinarily resident in Alberta</u> shall not make election advertising contributions person, corporation, trade union or employee organization to third parties exceeding</p> <p>(a) \$15,000, in the aggregate, in any calendar year in which there is not a general election, and</p> <p>(b) \$30,000, in the aggregate, in any calendar year in which there is a general election or by election, or both.</p>	<p>Consistent with treating third parties the same as other political entities, and only individuals can contribute to third parties.</p> <p>Section 44.2(3) amended to reflect the new drafting of section 17:</p> <p><i>17 An individual ordinarily resident in Alberta shall not make in any year contributions exceeding</i></p> <p><i>(a) \$15,000 to each registered party, and</i></p> <p><i>(b) \$1000 to any registered constituency association, and \$5000 in the aggregate to the registered constituency associations of each registered party.</i></p> <p><i>17.1(1) An individual ordinarily resident in Alberta shall not make in any campaign period contributions exceeding</i></p> <p><i>(a) \$15,000 to each registered party, and</i></p> <p><i>(b) \$2000 to any registered candidate, and \$10,000 in the aggregate to the registered candidates of each registered party.</i></p>

SECTION FOUR RECOMMENDATIONS

	Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
50.	<p>44.2(5) The following shall not make an election advertising contribution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a person ordinarily resident outside Alberta; (b) a prohibited corporation; (c) a registered charity; (d) a trade union or employee organization that is not an Alberta trade union or Alberta employee organization. 	<p>44.2(5) Only a person ordinarily resident in Alberta may make an <u>election advertising contribution</u> to a <u>third party</u>.</p> <p>(5.1) A prohibited person or entity shall not make an <u>election advertising contribution</u> to a <u>third party</u>.</p>	<p>44.2(5)</p> <p>Mirroring the permission for individuals and prohibition against everyone else, in the new section 16. Could even move this language to section 16.</p>
51.	NEW	<p>ADD:</p> <p>44.901 (1) Where a registered third party has failed to file a report with the Chief Electoral Officer as required under section 44.9, if</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the report is filed with the Chief Electoral Officer up to 30 days after the date required, and (b) the report is accompanied by a \$500 late filing fine plus \$25 late filing fine per day for each day the report is not filed, <p>the Chief Electoral Officer shall not cancel the registration of the registered third party under section 10(4.1).</p> <p>(2) The late filing fines set out in subsection (1)(b) are payable by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the registered third party, or (b) the chief financial officer of the registered third party, or (c) both (a) and (b), <p>at the option of the Chief Electoral Officer.</p> <p>(3) If the registered third party fails to pay the late filing fines set out in section (1)(b), the Chief Electoral Officer may file a copy of a notice of the late filing fine with the clerk of the Court of Queen's Bench, and on being filed, the notice has the same force and effect and may be enforced as if it were a judgment of the Court.</p> <p>PLUS amend section 10(4.1):</p> <p>10(4.1) Subject to section 44.901, if the chief financial officer of a third party fails to file an election advertising report under section 44.9 or 44.92, the Chief Electoral Officer may cancel the registration of the third party.</p>	<p>Automatic late filing fines to give greater incentive to have annual and campaign reports submitted by parties and constituency associations to the Chief Electoral Officer in a timely manner.</p> <p>See also proposed sections 42.1, 43.2</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>52. NEW</p>	<p>ADD:</p> <p>44.951(1) Any surplus funds held by a leadership contestant at the end of a campaign period must be dealt with in one or more of the following ways:</p> <p>(a) donate the surplus to a registered charity;</p> <p>(b) return the surplus to the contributors if they can be identified;</p> <p>(c) give the surplus to the registered party that held the leadership contest, as long as it is made clear to each contributor whose funds constitute the surplus:</p> <p>(i) that the leadership contestant intended to pass all or a portion of the contribution made to the leadership contestant to the party under this Act;</p> <p>(ii) the amount of the contribution that would become a contribution to the party under this Act, and</p> <p>(iii) the contributor had an opportunity to object to the proposed contribution to the party.</p> <p>(d) pay the surplus into the General Revenue Fund if the surplus or any portion of it cannot be dealt with in accordance with clauses (a) to (c).</p> <p>(2) In the event of a surplus dealt with under subsection (1)(c), the party must treat it as a contribution by the contributor to the party, and the party must issue a receipt under section 33.</p> <p>(3) The leadership contestant shall advise the Chief Electoral Officer of its decisions under this section.</p> <p>(4) The chief financial officer of a leadership contestant that has not dealt with its surplus funds under subsection (1) shall file a report with the Chief Electoral Officer within 6 months after the date of the leadership vote.</p>	<p><u>Surpluses from leadership contests</u></p> <p>1) Identify the problem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Object is to provide accountability and transparency to candidates that collect contributions. • Public needs to know what will happen to their money if a surplus. • Elections Alberta does not regulate leadership contestant funds except for the purpose of transparency. <p>This proposed model of surpluses is based on third party surpluses regulated through section 44.92.</p> <p>Recall that “campaign period” for leadership contestants is:</p> <p><i>1(1) (v) in the case of a leadership contest, the period beginning on the date of the official call of the leadership contest, as set out in a statement filed by a registered party under section 9.2, and ending 2 months after the date of the leadership vote;</i></p> <p>This proposal works with the amendment to the reporting requirement of the leadership contestant under section 44.96.</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
<p>53. 44.96(1) Within 4 months after the date fixed for the leadership vote, the chief financial officer of a registered leadership contestant shall file with the Chief Electoral Officer a financial statement setting out, in the form and manner approved by the Chief Electoral Officer, revenue, expenses and liabilities and a return setting out</p> <p>(a) the total amount of all contributions received during the campaign period that did not exceed \$250 in the aggregate from any single contributor, and</p> <p>(b) the total amount contributed, together with the contributor's name and address, when the contribution of that contributor during the campaign period exceeded \$250 in the aggregate.</p> <p>(2) This section also applies to any registered leadership contestant who withdraws from the leadership contest.</p>	<p>44.96(1) Within 4 months after the date fixed for the leadership vote, the chief financial officer of a registered leadership contestant shall file with the Chief Electoral Officer a financial statement setting out, in the form and manner approved by the Chief Electoral Officer, revenue, expenses and liabilities and a return setting out</p> <p>(a) the total amount of all contributions received during the campaign period that did not exceed \$250 in the aggregate from any single contributor,</p> <p>(b) the total amount contributed, together with the contributor's name and address, when the contribution of that contributor during the campaign period exceeded \$250 in the aggregate, <u>and</u></p> <p><u>(c) if there was a surplus at the time of filing the financial statement, how the surplus was dealt with.</u></p>	<p>44.96(1)(c) This proposed amendment creates transparency as to what happened to surplus leadership funds, and transparency is one of the objects of the Act.</p> <p>Goes with requirements on how to deal with surplus monies from leadership contestant campaigns, around section 9.2 above.</p>
<p>54. 48(1) The chief financial officer of a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate who contravenes section 42 or 43 is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of not more than \$1000.</p> <p>(2) When any contravention of section 42 or 43 is committed by a chief financial officer of a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate, the political party or constituency association or candidate for which the chief financial officer acts is also guilty of an offence and liable,</p> <p>(a) in the case of a registered party, to a fine of not more than \$5000, and</p> <p>(b) in the case of a registered constituency association or registered candidate, to a fine of not more than \$1000.</p> <p>(3) The chief financial officer of a registered leadership contestant who contravenes section 44.96 is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of not more than \$1000.</p>	<p>48(1) The chief financial officer of a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate who contravenes section 42 or 43 is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of not more than \$1000.</p> <p>(2) When any contravention of section 42 or 43 is committed by a chief financial officer of a registered party, registered constituency association or registered candidate, the political party or constituency association or candidate for which the chief financial officer acts is also guilty of an offence and liable,</p> <p>(a) in the case of a registered party, to a fine of not more than \$5000, and</p> <p>(b) in the case of a registered constituency association or registered candidate, to a fine of not more than \$1000.</p> <p>(3) The chief financial officer of a registered leadership contestant who contravenes section 44.96 is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of not more than \$1000.</p>	<p>This amendment would make the registered leadership <u>contestant</u> also liable for failure of their chief financial officer to file financial statement. Shared liability already exists in section 48(2) for registered parties, constituency associations and candidates.</p> <p>Use penalty amount for individuals (e.g. candidates), \$1000.</p>

Current Provision	Proposed Revised Provision	Rationale
54.	<p>ADD:</p> <p><u>(4) When any contravention of section 44.96 is committed by a chief financial officer of a registered leadership contestant, the registered leadership contestant for whom the chief financial officer acts is also guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of not more than \$1000.</u></p>	
<p>55. 49.1 A third party that contravenes Part 6.1 of this Act is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding</p> <p>(a) \$10,000 if the third party is a person;</p> <p>(b) \$100,000 if the third party is a trade union, employee organization, corporation or other organization.</p>	<p>49.1 A third party that contravenes Part 6.1 of this Act is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding</p> <p>(a) \$10,000 if the third party is a person;</p> <p>(b) \$100,000 if the third party is a trade union, employee organization, corporation or other organization.</p>	<p>If the amendments do not relocate third party provisions throughout the rest of the Act, then note that section 9.1 (registration) is not in Part 6.1.</p> <p>Failure to register as a third party breaches section 9.1, but that is not currently a prosecutable offence.</p> <p>There is no other way to remedy a third party who failed to register, as other remedies only allow the CEO to penalize a <i>registered</i> third party.</p>
<p>56. 52(1) A prosecution for an offence under this Act may be instituted against a political party, constituency association or unincorporated organization or association in the name of the political party, constituency association or unincorporated organization or association and for the purposes of prosecution, a political party, constituency association or unincorporated organization or association is deemed to be a person.</p> <p>(2) Any act or thing done or omitted by an officer, official or agent of a political party, constituency association or unincorporated organization or association within the scope of the officer's, official's or agent's authority to act on behalf of the political party, constituency association or unincorporated organization or association is deemed to be an act or thing done or omitted by the political party, constituency association or unincorporated organization or association.</p> <p>(3) A prosecution under this Act may be commenced within 3 years of the commission of the alleged offence but not afterwards.</p>	<p>ADD:</p> <p>(2.1) For the purpose of a prosecution for an offence under this Act, a political party, constituency association, or unincorporated organization or association has the capacity of a natural person of full age and capacity.</p>	<p>Third parties take different shapes and sizes. They may be individuals or corporations, in which case prosecuting them as individuals or corporations will not be problematic. However, the status of a trade union, employee organization, or a third party that is a group of individuals and/or corporations is not clear. A prosecutor may not be able to name an unincorporated association, for instance, in an Information in order to prosecute them for an offence committed under this Act.</p> <p>The addition of (2.1) should go some way to address that deficiency and hold all entities accountable if they are regulated under the Act.</p>

Section Five

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

On the following pages is a copy of the Audited Annual Financial Statements for the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer for the year ended March 31, 2015.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

**Financial Statements
Year Ended March 31, 2015**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS AT MARCH 31, 2015

Independent Auditor's Report

Statement of Financial Position

Statement of Operations

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



To the Members of the Legislative Assembly

Report on the Financial Statements

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2015, and the statements of operations and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these 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 financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer as at March 31, 2015, and the results of its operations, its remeasurement gains and losses, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

[Original signed by Merwan N. Saher FCPA, FCA]

Auditor General
July 14, 2015
Edmonton, Alberta

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT MARCH 31, 2015

	2015	2014
ASSETS		
Assets		
Cash	\$ 150	\$ 150
Prepaid Expenses	-	19
Tangible Capital Assets (Note 4)	609,354	847,259
	\$ 609,504	\$ 847,428
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	\$ 998,516	\$ 389,163
Accrued vacation pay	284,663	219,114
	\$ 1,283,179	\$ 608,277
Net Assets		
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	239,151	290,926
Net Operating Results	(7,880,986)	(3,785,459)
Net Financing Provided from General Revenues	6,968,160	3,733,684
Net Assets (Liabilities) at End of Year	(673,675)	239,151
	\$ 609,504	\$ 847,428

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

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2015

	2015		2014
	Budget	Actual	Actual
Revenues:			
Other Revenue	\$ -	\$ 11,056	\$ 6,683
Expenses (Schedules 1 & 3):			
Voted:			
Corporate Services	5,049,000	3,931,444	3,375,995
Elections	1,468,000	3,426,450	-
	6,517,000	7,357,894	3,375,995
Amounts Not Voted:			
Amortization of Capital Assets	685,000	468,599	474,278
Provision for Vacation Pay	-	65,549	(58,131)
	685,000	534,148	416,147
	7,202,000	7,892,042	3,792,142
Net Operating Results	\$ (7,202,000)	\$ (7,880,986)	\$ (3,785,459)

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

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2015

	2015	2014
Operating transactions:		
Net operating results	\$ (7,880,986)	\$ (3,785,459)
Non-cash items included in Net Operating Results		
Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets	468,599	474,278
	(7,412,387)	(3,311,181)
(Increase) Decrease in Prepaid Expenses	19	(19)
Increase (Decrease) in Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	609,354	208,506
Decrease in accrued Vacation Payable	65,548	(58,131)
Cash Applied to Operating Transactions	(6,737,466)	(3,160,825)
Capital transactions:		
Acquisition of Tangible Capital Assets	(230,694)	(572,859)
Cash Applied to Capital Transactions	(230,694)	(572,859)
Financing transactions:		
Net Financing Provided from General Revenues	6,968,160	3,733,684
Increase in Cash and Equivalents	-	-
Cash, beginning of year	150	150
Cash at End of Year	\$ 150	\$ 150

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

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1 AUTHORITY

The Office of the Chief Electoral Officer (the “Office”) is operated under the authority of the *Election Act*, the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act* and the *Senatorial Selection Act*. The net cost of the operations of the Office is borne by the General Revenue Fund of the Province of Alberta. Annual operating budgets are reviewed by the Select Standing Committee on Legislative Offices.

NOTE 2 PURPOSE

The Chief Electoral Officer provides administrative, logistic and financial support for general and special enumerations, general elections and by-elections, and plebiscites in support of the *Election Act* and elections in support of the *Senatorial Selection Act*. The Chief Electoral Officer monitors and records the financial activities of registered parties, constituency associations and candidates to ensure compliance with the *Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act*.

NOTE 3 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND REPORTING PRACTICES

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

a) Reporting Entity

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

The Office operates within the General Revenue Fund (the “Fund”). The Fund is administered by the Minister of Treasury Board and Finance. All receipts of the Office are deposited into the Fund and all disbursements made by the Office are paid from the Fund.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 3 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND REPORTING PRACTICES (continued)

b) Basis of Financial Reporting

Revenues

All revenues are reported on the accrual basis of accounting.

Expenses

Expenses represent the costs of resources consumed during the year on the Office's operations.

Pension costs included in these statements comprise the cost of employer contributions for current service of employees during the year.

Assets

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

Tangible capital assets of the Office are recorded at historical cost. The threshold for capitalizing capital assets is \$5,000. Amortization is calculated on a straight-line basis, over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

Computer hardware and software	3 years
Warehouse equipment	10 years
Furniture and other office equipment	10 years
Election assets	20% each general election

In the year of addition and disposal, amortization is one-half of the prescribed amounts.

Liabilities

Liabilities represent all financial claims payable by the Office at fiscal year end.

Financial Instruments

As the Office does not have any transactions involving financial instruments that are classified in the fair value category and has no foreign currency transactions, there are no remeasurement gains and losses and therefore a statement of remeasurement gains and losses has not been presented.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 3 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND REPORTING PRACTICES (continued)

Net Assets/Net Liabilities

Net assets/liabilities represent the difference between the value of assets held by the Office and its liabilities. Canadian public sector accounting standards require a “net debt” presentation for the statement of financial position in the summary financial statements of the governments. Net debt presentation reports the difference between financial assets and liabilities as “net debt” or “net financial assets” as an indicator of the future revenues required to pay for past transactions and events. The Office operates within the government reporting entity, and does not finance its expenditures by independently raising revenues. Accordingly, these financial statements do not report a net debt indicator.

Valuation of Financial Assets and Liabilities

Fair value is the amount of consideration agreed upon in an arm’s length transaction between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act. The fair value of cash, accounts receivable and advances, accounts payable and accrued liabilities are estimated to approximate their carrying values.

NOTE 4 TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

	Equipment	Computer Hardware and Software	Election Assets	Total
Estimated Useful Life	10 years	3 years	5 elections	
Historical Cost				
Beginning of Year	\$ 183,694	\$ 4,846,996	\$ 142,434	\$ 5,173,124
Additions	13,844	216,850	-	230,694
Disposals, including write-downs	-	-	-	-
	197,538	5,063,846	142,434	5,403,818
Accumulated Amortization				
Beginning of Year	137,837	4,055,195	132,833	4,325,865
Amortization Expense	10,537	458,062	-	468,599
Effect of Disposals	-	-	-	-
	148,374	4,513,257	132,833	4,794,464
Net Book Value at March 31, 2015	\$ 49,164	\$ 550,589	\$ 9,601	\$ 609,354
Net Book Value at March 31, 2014	\$ 45,857	\$ 791,801	\$ 9,601	\$ 847,259

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 5 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 the plan is equivalent to the annual contribution of \$299,814 for the year ended March 31, 2015 (2014 – \$260,214). Departments are not responsible for future funding of the plan other than through contribution increases.

At December 31, 2014, the Management Employees Pension Plan reported a surplus of \$75,805,000 (2013 surplus – \$50,457,000) and the Public Service Pension Plan reported a deficiency of \$803,299,000 (2013 – deficiency of \$1,254,678,000). At December 31, 2014, the Supplementary Retirement Plan for Public Service Managers had a deficiency of \$17,203,000 (2013 – deficiency of \$12,384,000).

The Office also participates in two multi-employer Long Term Disability Income Continuance Plans. At March 31, 2015, the Bargaining Unit Plan reported an actuarial surplus of \$86,888,000 (2014 – \$75,200,000) and the Management, Opted Out and Excluded Plan an actuarial surplus of \$32,343,000 (2014 – \$24,055,000). The expense for these two plans is limited to the employer's annual contributions for the year.

NOTE 6 BUDGET (IN THOUSANDS)

The budget shown on the statement of operations is based on the budgeted expenses presented to the Legislative Assembly on March 7, 2014. The following table compares the Office's actual expenditures to the voted budget.

	2014-15 Voted Budget	2014-15 Actual	Unexpended
PROGRAM EXPENSE			
1 Corporate Services	\$ 4,549	\$ 3,931	\$ 618
2 Elections	1,468	3,426	(1,958)
	6,017	7,357	(1,340)
CAPITAL INVESTMENT	\$ 500	\$ 231	\$ 269
Total	\$ 6,517	\$ 7,588	\$ (1,071)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 7 CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS

	2015	2014
Obligations under contracts	\$ 1,842,967	\$ 2,788,495

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

2015-16	\$ 906,196
2016-17	651,651
2017-18	142,560
2018-19	142,560
2019-20	0
	\$ 1,842,967

NOTE 8 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These financial statements were approved by the Chief Electoral Officer.

Schedule 1

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

SCHEDULE OF EXPENSE DETAILED BY OBJECT

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2015

	2015		2014
	Budget	Actual	Actual
Voted:			
Salaries, wages and employee benefits	\$ 2,810,000	\$ 2,400,051	\$ 2,055,560
Supplies and services	3,707,000	4,957,843	1,320,435
Total voted operating expenses	\$ 6,517,000	7,357,894	3,375,995
Statutory:			
Valuation adjustment:			
Amortization of Capital Assets	685,000	468,599	474,278
Provision for Vacation Pay	-	65,549	(58,131)
	685,000	534,148	416,147
Total expenses	\$ 7,202,000	\$ 7,892,042	\$ 3,792,142

Schedule 2

SALARY AND BENEFITS DISCLOSURE

SALARY AND BENEFITS DISCLOSURE

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2015

	2015				2014
	Base Salary ⁽¹⁾	Other Cash Benefits ⁽²⁾	Other Non-cash Benefits ⁽³⁾	Total	Total
CURRENT EXECUTIVES					
Senior official					
Chief Electoral Officer	\$ 185,066	\$ -	\$ 52,692	\$ 237,758	\$ 135,552
Executive					
Deputy Chief Electoral Officer ⁽⁴⁾	\$ 145,804	\$ 80,706	\$ 36,407	\$ 262,917	\$ 201,837

⁽¹⁾ Base salary includes regular base pay.

⁽²⁾ Other cash benefits include vacation payouts and lump sum payments. There were no bonuses paid in 2015.

⁽³⁾ Other non-cash benefits include the office's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees including pensions, health care, dental coverage, group life insurance, short and long term disability plans and auto leases.

⁽⁴⁾ The position of Deputy Chief Electoral Officer was vacant as of March 18, 2015.

Schedule 3

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER
SCHEDULE OF ALLOCATED COSTS
 YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2015

Program	2015				2014	
	Expenses ⁽¹⁾	Expenses – Incurred by Others Accommodation Costs ⁽²⁾	Legal Costs ⁽³⁾	Amounts Not Voted ⁽⁴⁾	Total Expenses	Total Expenses
Operations	\$ 7,357,894	\$ 617,709	\$ 21,000	\$ 534,148	\$ 8,530,751	\$ 4,401,288

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

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

⁽³⁾ Unbilled expenses for shared services, financial services, IMAGIS, corporate overhead.

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

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