

# **Authorized Participants – Recall Vote**

In this document, an **authorized participant for a recall vote** refers to the applicant of the successful petition and the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) who is the subject of the recall vote. The Lieutenant Governor must issue an order authorizing a writ for the recall vote before the applicant or MLA can raise and spend funds to promote or oppose the recall vote. Each authorized participant must <u>appoint a chief financial officer</u> (participant cannot be their own chief financial officer). Chief financial officers are responsible for tracking and reporting all financial activities.

This document provides basic information for authorized participants and their chief financial officers on raising and spending funds related to a recall vote. For advertising guidelines click <u>here</u>.

#### **Contributions**

Authorized participants can accept contributions during the recall vote period, which starts on the date the Lieutenant Governor issues an order authorizing a writ for the recall vote and runs until the end of Election Day for the vote.

Authorized participants can only accept contributions from persons ordinarily resident in Alberta and within the electoral division. Contributions can be money or in-kind donations of goods or services. The maximum an authorized participant can receive from any given contributor is **\$4,000**, less any contributions the person may make to any other authorized participant during that recall vote period. The rules also apply to authorized participants who self-fund.

The authorized participant's chief financial officer is responsible for reporting contributions to Elections Alberta and issuing official contribution receipts to contributors. Contributions to authorized participants cannot be claimed for income tax credits.

Click <u>here</u> for more information on contributions and receipts.

## **Fundraising Events**

An authorized participant, or any person acting on their behalf, can hold events and activities during the recall vote period, to raise funds related to the recall vote. Examples of fundraising events include a luncheon, meet & greet, rally, golf tournament, silent auction etc. Contribution rules limit who can pay to attend events and who can donate/bid at a silent auction. All fundraising revenues and expenses must be reported on the authorized participant's financial report.

Click <u>here</u> for more information on fundraising events.

#### **Expense Limits**

Authorized participants can only spend funds during the recall vote period, which starts on the date the Lieutenant Governor issues an order authorizing a writ for the recall vote and runs until the end of Election Day for the vote.

A spending limit of **\$23,000** applies to "recall vote expenses" which are any property, goods or services used, distributed or consumed to directly promote or oppose the vote during the recall vote period. Examples include the production of recall advertising; the transmission, distribution, broadcast or publication of recall advertising in any media; the conduct or sponsorship of opinion surveys or other surveys or research; the payment of remuneration and expenses to or on behalf of an individual for their services as a chief financial officer or in any other capacity; and securing a meeting space.

Other expenses that must be reported but are not subject to the spending limit include fees charged by the Chief Electoral Officer, and legal or accounting services provided for compliance with the Act.

Click <u>here</u> for more information on expense limits.

#### **Filing Deadlines**

Authorized participants must disclose their financial activities, including filing nil reports (no financial activity) if applicable, to Elections Alberta. A recall vote expense limit report consisting of a financial statement, contribution report, expenses report, and supporting information and documentation must be filed within 30 days after the recall vote. Automatic late filing fees apply for failure to file the financial report on time.

Click <u>here</u> for more information on filing deadlines.

#### **Financial Reporting**

View financial information for authorized participants.

**View Financial Reporting Website** 

### Online Financial System (OFS)

Authorized participants and their chief financial officers are granted access to Elections Alberta's secure Online Financial System (OFS) to report contributions, issue official contribution receipts to contributors, and submitthe financial report.

Contact us for access and login queries.

**Login To OFS**