

Campaign Finance Seminar

August 14, 2018

Orillia City Centre

1. If a candidate contributes to their own campaign to a campaign account and then pays for advertising expenses by a personal credit card for which they have a paid invoice, can they withdraw the invoice amount from their campaign account to pay their credit card invoice
 - a. Candidates may use a personal credit card and reimburse from the campaign account. Make sure this is clearly documented, however.
2. Why are self-contribution limits less than fundraising candidates?
 - a. Refer directly to Ministry for policy justification
3. I have a family member who owns a sign making company. He has provided an estimate for the cost of his services. He would like to make a personal contribution to cover the cost. Is this ok?
 - a. Best served to speak to legal counsel regarding specific situational questions if candidate is unsure
4. What if today's cost of goods are less than original cost. What do you declare?
 - a. Goods and services must be declared at a market rate
5. For 2018, can the costs associated for a 2014 compliance audit (i.e. legal, court) be used as a deficit and brought forward, allowing fundraising to exceed the limits for 2018?
 - a. Best served to speak to legal counsel regarding specific situational questions if candidate is unsure
6. Can paypal be used if all information is retained for receipt purposes?
 - a. Electronic contributions are allowed
7. Are the candidates own donations to his/her campaign tax deductible?
 - a. Contributions are not tax deductible
8. Are the donations made by donors' tax deductible?
 - a. Contributions are not tax deductible
9. Are E-Transfer contributions allowed?
 - a. Electronic contributions are allowed
10. Who appoints the compliance audit committee?
 - a. A compliance audit committee is appointed locally. Candidates wanting more information about the compliance audit process should consult their local Clerk

11. How can the appointment be challenged?
 - a. Contact the clerk for the process on how to challenge
12. Can Sole Proprietorships donate?
 - a. Business, corporations and trade unions are not permitted to make contributions to candidates in municipal elections in Ontario
13. Can a corporation that has all shares owned by operator (doctor, lawyers) contribute?
 - a. Business, corporations and trade unions are not permitted to make contributions to candidates in municipal elections in Ontario
14. A ticket for \$10 for a fundraiser event. Does that require a receipt?
 - a. Tickets for fundraisers are considered contributions and therefore require a receipt
15. Can I count mileage as a campaign expense while canvassing?
 - a. Candidates may claim mileage and gas as a campaign expense