

Post-Election

Part 6 – Campaign Financing Offenses

There are a number of campaign financing offences under *The Municipal Act* which carry penalties. For example,

It is illegal for a candidate to:

- accept a contribution before being registered – section 93.4
- accept an illegal contribution (eg. from a union or corporation) or a contribution over the maximum amount – section 93.6
- accept an anonymous contribution – section 93.8
- accept a loan from other than a bank, credit union, trust company etc or gives a loan if not a bank, credit union, trust company – section 93.9
- lend campaign funds raised to another candidate – section 93.10
- not keep proper records, deposit campaign contributions and/or pay expenses from a campaign account – section 93.11
- not file Election Finance Statement as required – section 93.12
- not pay surplus funds raised to the municipality – section 93.15

It is an offence if a candidate contravenes the municipality's campaign expenses and contributions by-law by:

- spending more than the maximum expense limit
- exceeding the portion of fund-raising deemed to be a contribution / expense
- failing to keep additional finance records, if required
- failing to report within the time period required (reference Part 5.3)

Did you know?

The Court would determine if the person is guilty of the offence. If found guilty, the Court could impose a fine of not more than \$5,000.