

Political Contributions Regime Annual Report



January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013

Published June 2014 by the designated person

(Chief Electoral Officer) pursuant to the *Elections Act*



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This report is prepared pursuant to the *Elections Act*. This report is also available on the Elections Nova Scotia website or by contacting Elections Nova Scotia.

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<http://nslegislature.ca/legc/index.htm> for electronic versions of the *Elections Act*

1. Message from the Chief Electoral Officer

June, 2014

This report of annual disclosure of political contributions for the calendar year 2013 is published in accordance with Section 240 of the *Elections Act*.

For the first time, this report will not be available broadly in print copy — only electronically — and is available in PDF searchable format.

It includes reported political contributions to registered parties and electoral district associations during the 2013 calendar year. During this reporting period, a Provincial General Election took place on October 8, 2013. Candidate contribution disclosures were published on the website as the reports were received from the Official Agents. It is not within Elections Nova Scotia mandate to undertake a detailed review of the reports required to be filed.

There are no prescribed standards for the quality of the information disclosed and, aside from the deregistration process applicable to registered parties and electoral district associations under the *Elections Act*, there are no direct or effective consequences for failure to fully comply within the time limits prescribed for filing reports.

This annual report reflects the level of compliance with the *Elections Act* and its regulations, that is, the timeliness of filings and quality of reports filed, by those filing for the reporting year. Complete and timely disclosure and reporting as prescribed by the *Elections Act* are intended to provide transparency respecting the financial activities of those filing.

Timeliness of filing remains problematic but overall, continues to improve. The quality of reports filed has also improved.

Elections Nova Scotia provides support to official agents of candidates and registered parties, including financial support to electoral district associations, to assist them in record keeping and in meeting their reporting obligations.

Original signed by

Richard Temporale

2. Elections Nova Scotia Review Process

2.1 Political Contributions Rules

The *Elections Act* establishes the rules under which registered parties, electoral district associations and candidates may accept political contributions, make or receive loans, and issue tax receipts. The Act also provides the Chief Electoral Officer with the authority to prescribe forms and establishes deadlines by which these reports are to be filed.

2.2 Contribution Limit Review and Eligibility Review

Under subsection 236(1) of the *Elections Act* the contribution limit of \$5,000 applies to all contributions made to a registered party, its electoral district associations and its candidates combined in a calendar year. Compliance with the contribution limit can be problematic for a recognized party, electoral district association or candidate endorsed by that party since each associated entity can accept contributions independently. Even with collaboration, it is difficult to track contributions cumulatively in real time.

Elections Nova Scotia conducted a compliance review of the contribution limit. The review consolidated all political contributions disclosure statements for each registered party, its electoral district associations and its candidates on a contributor basis. There were no instances identified where a contributor exceeded the \$5,000 contribution limit during the 2013 calendar year.

2.2.1 Registered Parties

Contributor eligibility respecting political contributions disclosure statements filed by each registered party was reviewed. Eligible contributors during the 2013 reporting year were limited to individuals resident in Nova Scotia. No evidence of ineligible contributors was found during the review.

2.2.2 Electoral District Associations

Contributor eligibility respecting political contributions disclosure statements filed by each electoral district association was reviewed. Either the official agent of the electoral district association or the official agent of the registered party that endorsed the electoral district association addressed queries made by Elections Nova Scotia. Further communication with official agents is planned for outstanding issues with contributions. Amended disclosure statements were filed upon clarification where appropriate. Several errors and omissions were found on disclosures for contributions through fundraising that were not included, or disclosed for an incorrect value.

2.2.3 Candidates

Contributor eligibility respecting political contribution disclosure statements filed by the official agent of each registered candidate was reviewed. The candidates' contribution reports were posted on website as they were received

Registered Party	Disclosure Report for Party	Disclosure Report for EDA
Green Party of Nova Scotia (GPNS), (no contributions reported)	2013-_Party_Green.pdf	2013_EDA_Green.pdf
Nova Scotia Liberal Party (NSLP)	2013-_Party_Liberal.pdf	2013_EDA_Liberal.pdf
Nova Scotia New Democratic Party (NSNDP)	2013-_Party_NDP.pdf	2013_EDA_NDP.pdf
The Progressive Conservative Association of Nova Scotia (PC)	2013-_Party_PC.pdf	2013_EDA_PC.pdf

3. Registered Parties

Annually, by April 30th, the official agent of a registered party is required to file a disclosure statement detailing political contributions received by the official agent during the previous calendar year. While this statement discloses the name and full residential address of each contributor whose contributions received by the official agent during the calendar year exceeded \$200 and the total amount of the contributions, ENS discloses the community name only of the contributor as per Section 251 (3) of the *Elections Act*.

For the reporting period January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013, there were four registered parties in Nova Scotia:

- the Green Party of Nova Scotia (GPNS),
- the Nova Scotia Liberal Party (NSLP),
- the Nova Scotia New Democratic Party (NSNDP), and
- The Progressive Conservative Association of Nova Scotia (PC).

All four registered parties filed their statutory reports on or before the prescribed deadline.

4. Electoral District Associations

In 2013, there were 51 electoral districts in Nova Scotia; the Nova Scotia Liberal Party, the Nova Scotia New Democratic Party and The Progressive Conservative Association of Nova Scotia each of which had 51 electoral district associations. The Green Party of Nova Scotia had one registered electoral district association.

An electoral district association, with the endorsement of the leader of the registered party, must register in the prescribed form with the Chief Electoral Officer. The information contained in this registration must be confirmed annually under Section 196(2) of the *Elections Act*.

All 154 registered electoral district associations filed Form 4-3, *Electoral District Association's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules*. Several did not complete the forms in full and did not sign the forms appropriately. The official agent is the legislated person responsible for completing the annual filings and signing the declarations.

Registered Party	Number of EDA reports due	Number of EDA reports filed before the March 31 2014 deadline	Number of EDA reports not submitted as of June 19, 2014
Green Party of Nova Scotia	1	0	1
Nova Scotia Liberal Party	5€	44	2
Nova Scotia New Democratic Party	47	32	9
The Progressive Conservative Association of Nova Scotia	51	45	0

5. Candidates

The official agent of a registered candidate is required to file a statement of political contributions disclosing the name and residential address of each contributor who, during the calendar year, exceeded \$200 in total. Since a Provincial General Election took place in 2013, the report filed with the Chief Electoral Officer pursuant to Section 240 of the *Elections Act* was due to be submitted on January 6, 2014.

Subsection 230(1)(f) of the *Elections Act* requires the official agent of a candidate to provide a written loan agreement respecting all loans for their candidate's campaign. The loan agreement must be filed at the same time as the official agent files their disclosure statement of political contributions. The Act requires the official agent to report the outstanding balance of a loan and any changes to the loan agreement in years subsequent to the original loan contact.

The loans outstanding following the October 8, 2013 Provincial General Election are outlined on the following pages, based on information available on June 19, 2014.

Political Contributions Regime Annual Report, January 1 to December 31, 2013

ED	Candidate	Party	OA	Lender	Amount	Guarantor
03 - Argyle- Barrington	Kent Blades	NSLP	Cathy Blades	Cathy Blades	19,770.51	Cathy Blades
07 - Chester-St. Margaret's	Denise Peterson-Rafuse	NSNDP	Wallace Chandler	New Ross Credit Union	4,762.29	Denise Peterson-Rafuse, Olaf Peterson, Paul Brodie
08 - Clare-Digby	Dean Kenley	NSNDP	Kim Thibaudeau	Dean Kenley	700.00	Dean Kenley
09 - Clayton Park West	Diana Whalen	NSLP	Michael Hawkes	Clayton Park west Liberal Association	15,000.00	na
10 - Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley	Tom Martin	NSLP	Lindsay MacKinnon	Trevor Lawson	6,470.55	Trevor Lawson
10 - Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley	Larry Harrison	PC	Penny Gilbert	Andy & Vera Smith	2,074.75	Jeffrey Hunt
11 - Colchester North	Karen Casey	NSLP	Garth Coffin	Colchester North Liberal Association	10,000.00	na
13 - Cole Harbour-Portland Valley	Gregory Frampton	PC	Hanson Josey	Elizabeth Walker	11,000.00	Elizabeth Walker
16 - Dartmouth East	Deborah Stover	NSNDP	Lisa MacEwen	Credit Union	3,123.37	D Brown, Lisa MacEwen, Deborah Stover
17 - Dartmouth North	Steven Estey	NSNDP	Douglas Rigby	Douglas Rigby	1,056.16	Douglas Rigby

Political Contributions Regime Annual Report, January 1 to December 31, 2013

18 - Preston-Dartmouth	Andre Cain	NSNDP	Elmer Cain	Elmer & Opal Cain	5,875.27	Elmer & Opal Cain
19 - Dartmouth South	Allan Rowe	NSLP	Doug Livingstone	Dartmouth South Liberal Association	7,000.00	na
20 - Eastern Shore	Sid Prest	NSNDP	Gary Worth	Sidney Prest	3,400.00	Sidney Prest
22- Fairview-Clayton Park	Abad Khan	NSNDP	Janis Long	INOVA Credit Union	5,629.43	Janis Long, Kevin Moynihan, Melissa Brooks, Nathaniel Smith
24 - Halifax Armdale	Drew Moore	NSNDP	Nelson Larsen	Credit Union Atlantic	8,223.98	John Moore, Gerald MacKinlay, Ian Johnson, Bruce Gates
25 - Halifax Atlantic	Tanis Crosby	NSNDP	Tim Covert	Royal Bank	2,793.37	Tanis Crosby
29 - Hammonds Plains-Lucasville	Ben Jessome	NSLP	Darrell Jessome	Darrell & Pam Jessome, Ben Jessome	1,880.64	Darrell & Pam Jessome, Ben Jessome
30 - Hants East	John MacDonell	NSNDP	Randall Leighton	East Coast Credit Union	6,270.05	John MacDonell
31 - Hants West	Claude O'Hara	NSLP	Barry Alexander	CIBC	9,496.82	Claude & Judith O'Hara
34 - Kings South	Shane Buchan	PC	Sheila McKeand	Sheila McKeand	5,050.00	Sheila McKeand
36 - Lunenburg	Pam Birdsall	NSNDP	Angus Fields	Lahave River Credit Union	316.50	Paul Pross

Political Contributions Regime Annual Report, January 1 to December 31, 2013

38 - Northside-Westmount	John Higgins	NSLP	Hector diPersio	Phillip Murray	12,622.26	Phillip Murray
42 - Queens-Shelburne	Sterling Belliveau	NSNDP	Elizabeth Rhuland	CIBC	7,242.67	Sterling Belliveau
44 - Sackville-Cobequid	Dave Wilson	NSNDP	Penney Wilson	East Coast Credit Union	6,246.51	Bob Charles, Vernon Bates
49 - Victoria-The Lakes	John Toney	NSNDP	Allan Sampson	John Toney	2,400.00	John Toney