

For Immediate Release

Halifax Needham By-Election Report Volume I Tabled

February 15, 2017

The *Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on the Proceedings of the Halifax Needham By-Election August 30, 2016 Volume I: Statement of Votes and Statistics* was tabled in the House of Assembly last evening. In addition to the report documenting the results and analysis of voting opportunities and elector participation, the Chief Electoral Officer presents two recommendations. *Volume II: Statement of Financial Information & Statistics* will be released once the candidate and party filings have been reviewed.

Elections Nova Scotia has recommended the removal of the requirement to publish the notice of election and grant of poll in a newspaper. In his recommendation, Chief Electoral Officer Richard Temporale observes that newspaper advertising is now only one of several modes of communication used to reach the public, "Other modes of communicating the notice of election may cost less and reach more eligible electors. In some cases, use of direct mail, for example, may be more fiscally responsible.", says CEO Richard Temporale.

The report also updates a recommendation from the *Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer 2015-2016* regarding Communications Nova Scotia Election Advertising Policy. The recommendation again called for CNS policy to explicitly prohibit most government advertising and communications during an election. After meeting with CNS in November, ENS is awaiting a formal response to the recommendation.

The report is available online: electionsnovascotia.ca

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