

Notice of Compliance Agreement
Nova Scotia Elections Act

June 1, 2015

This notice is published by the Chief Electoral Officer of Nova Scotia, pursuant to section 299 of the *Elections Act* (hereafter referred to as the “*Act*”).

On June 1, 2015, and pursuant to section 294 of the *Act*, the Chief Electoral Officer entered into a Compliance Agreement with Mat Whynott, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Acting Chief of Staff of the Nova Scotia NDP Caucus Office, and with Sterling Belliveau, of Shelburne, Nova Scotia, Chair of the Nova Scotia NDP Caucus. The signatories to the Compliance Agreement acknowledged that:

- On April 14, 2015, the Nova Scotia NDP Caucus Office distributed brochures to 12,796 households in the electoral district of Dartmouth South, during an election, at a total cost of \$2,162.52. The Nova Scotia NDP Caucus Office thus incurred election advertising expenses that exceed the limit placed on third-party advertising in a by-election under section 275(4) of the *Act*. In addition, the advertising piece was published in contravention of section 277 of the *Act* as it did not indicate that it was authorized by the Nova Scotia NDP Caucus.
- The Nova Scotia NDP Caucus Office’s only source of funding is public funding from the Speaker’s Office. Therefore, pursuant to section 272 of the *Act*, the Nova Scotia NDP Caucus Office is in breach of the *Act* for election advertising using a means of transmission of the government of the Province.

The signatories have accepted responsibility for these acts. Before entering into this Compliance Agreement, the Chief Electoral Officer took into account a number of considerations, including the fact that Nova Scotia NDP Caucus Office has promptly admitted the facts and taken responsibility for the acts that led to the compliance agreement.

Under the Compliance Agreement, the Nova Scotia NDP Caucus Office has agreed to reimburse the election advertising expenses incurred from non-public funds.