



ELECTIONS BC
A non-partisan Office of the Legislature

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ELECTOR ORGANIZATION NEWSLETTER

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Introduction

Welcome to the October 2017 edition of the Elector Organization Newsletter published by Elections BC. This edition will focus on preparing for the 2018 General Local Elections and take a closer look at campaign period expenses, which were first discussed in the March 2017 edition located [here](#).

Preparing for the 2018 General Local Elections

The election period for the 2018 General Local Elections begins on January 1, 2018. Elector organizations can begin campaigning and raising funds for the election at any time, even before January 1. However, they must appoint a financial agent first. The financial agent

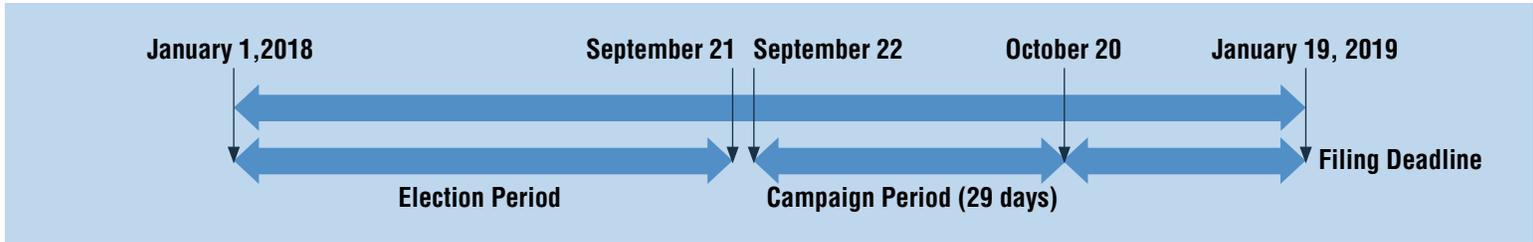


must open a campaign account before receiving any campaign contributions for the election or paying any election expenses.

If campaign contributions were received and deposited into an operating account, they must be moved to a designated campaign account as soon as possible, provided the contributor information has been recorded by the financial agent. All campaign contributions received in relation to the 2018 General Local Elections must be reported in the elector organization's disclosure statement following the election. Elector organizations are not allowed to use their operating funds for the election.

All election expenses must be paid from or reimbursed from the campaign account. These can include expenses paid from the campaign account prior to 2018. Remember an election expense is the value of property or services used in an election campaign to promote the elector organization or any of its candidates, or to oppose other elector organizations or other candidates.

All election expenses must be reported in the elector organization's disclosure statement.



Attributing Campaign Period Expenses

As discussed in the [previous edition of this newsletter](#), elector organizations do not have their own campaign period expense limit – they must share their candidates' limits. An elector organization must have a Campaign Financing Arrangement (CFA) with each candidate they endorse. The CFA must be on the prescribed form and be signed before September 22, 2018 (the start of the campaign period).



Election expenses incurred by the elector organization in the campaign period are campaign period expenses. Each campaign period expense must be attributed to the elector organization's share of the applicable candidate(s) expense limit.

Attribution must be done on a reasonable basis in proportion to the benefit each candidate is receiving. For election advertising, factors that must be considered in determining the benefit each candidate is receiving include the time and space the ad relates to each candidate.

Examples of Attribution

1. An elector organization places election signs that state the name of the elector organization, but does not include any candidate information. The elector organization must evenly attribute the campaign period expense to each of its candidates.
 2. An elector organization pays to operate a call centre that is used to equally promote all of its candidates. The elector organization must evenly attribute the campaign period expense to each of its candidates.
 3. An elector organization places a newspaper ad with half the space dedicated to the mayoral candidate. The remaining half is equally dedicated to each of the five councillors for councillor.
- The elector organization must attribute half of the campaign period expense to the mayoral candidate and evenly attribute the remaining half to each of the five councillor candidates.

For more information about the campaign financing rules for elector organizations, please contact Elections BC using the information below.

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