

May 9, 2022

## 2022 Election Finance Rules Q & A – Issue 1

Dear candidates and CFOs:

With the Ontario Election called for June 2, 2022, we have been fielding several interesting questions regarding the finance rules pertaining to the campaign. We conducted a webinar for CFOs on April 10, 2022 and have posted it on our website – [www.impactcpas.ca](http://www.impactcpas.ca). This periodical newsletter is produced to share our response to questions from the webinar and any other finance related questions during the election period.

***Q1: What is the difference between election period and campaign period?***

A: Election period means the period beginning with the issue of the writ and ending on the election day, whereas campaign period is the period beginning with the issue of the writ and ending three months after election day. For the 2022 election, the election period runs from May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, inclusively, and the campaign period runs from May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, inclusively.

***Q2: Do I need to open a separate bank account for election expenses, or can I simply keep track of all campaign expenses and pay them from our existing association's bank account?***

A: The Act does NOT require a separate bank account for an election campaign. Contributions can be made to the association and election expenses can be paid from the association's account. However, without a separate bank account for the campaign, any contributions made to the association's bank account should be counted towards the contribution limit for the association. With a separate account for campaign, contributors are allowed to make

additional contributions to the campaign, aside from any contributions to the association.

***Q3: When to best file a candidate's nomination paper F400 with Election Ontario (presumed we can do that any time now)?***

A: Candidate Nomination Papers (F0400) can be filed at any time prior to the nomination period. The nomination period begins when the writ is issued and ends at 2 pm on May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

After the issue of the writ, nomination papers can be filed with the returning officer for the electoral district during the nomination period. If approved, a Certificate of Nomination (F0403) will be issued by the Returning Officer. A person is deemed a registered candidate on and from the day the Certificate of Nomination (F0403) has been issued.

***Q4: How to write our rental lease? Do we need a transfer of lease from the association to the campaign?***

A: If the association holds the lease, then no need to transfer the lease to the campaign. Rents paid by the association can be recorded on CR-3 return for the association filing.