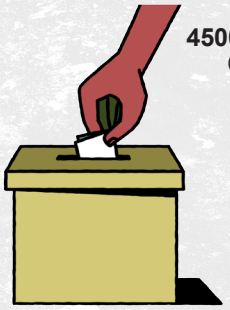
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2026 General Local Elections



Local Sponsorship Contributions

This quick reference sheet outlines the rules for local sponsorship contributions that third party sponsors should be aware of before they start advertising.

To ensure you understand the rules and requirements under the Act, please review the detailed forms, guides, training materials and other resources on our website. Contact us at 1-800-661-8683 or electoral.finance@elections.bc.ca if you have questions.

What is a sponsorship contribution

- A sponsorship contribution is the value of any money, property or services provided without compensation to a third-party sponsor to be used for election advertising.
- Sponsorship contributions of money can be made by cash, cheque, credit card or electronic funds transfer, including online crowdfunding.

Who can contribute

- Sponsorship contributions can only be made by eligible individuals. An eligible individual is:
  - a resident of British Columbia, and
  - a Canadian citizen or permanent resident.
- Sponsorship contributions cannot be made by organizations.
- Indirect contributions are prohibited. Eligibile individuals must only make sponsorship contributions with their own funds or property.

Sponsorship contribution limits

- Eligible individuals are subject to a limit for sponsorship contributions made to each third party sponsor during a calendar year.
- The 2026 local sponsorship contribution limit is $1429.70.

Accepting sponsorship contributions

- Third party sponsors can only accept sponsorship contributions from eligible individuals.
- It is the responsibility of the third party sponsor to verify contributor eligibility and maintain records detailing how eligibility was determined.

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- When accepting a sponsorship contribution, third party sponsors must record:
  - the value of the contribution,
  - the date the contribution was made, and
  - the contributor's name and residential address.

Valuing sponsorship contributions

- If property or services are provided by an eligible individual to the sponsor at less than market value, the eligible individual is making a sponsorship contribution.
- The sponsorship contribution is the difference between the price paid for the property or service and the market value.
- Donated property or services (in-kind contributions) must be assigned a market value, recorded and disclosed in the same way as contributions of money

Anonymous contributions

- Anonymous sponsorship contributions of $50 or less are permitted.
- The contributions must be truly anonymous, meaning the sponsor does not know who made the contribution. It is **not** permissible for a contributor to ask that their contribution be anonymous.
- Anonymous contributions cannot be collected by crowdfunding or crowdsourcing over the internet.

Significant contributors

- Significant contributors are eligible individuals who make sponsorship contributions of $100 or more to the same third party sponsor.
- This includes single contributions of $100 or more, and multiple contributions totaling $100 or more.
- Information about significant contributors must be disclosed in the third party sponsor's disclosure statement. The names of significant contributors, the value of their contributions and dates of the contributions will be made public.

Prohibited contributions

- If a third party sponsor becomes aware that a contribution they have received is prohibited, they must return the contribution, or an amount equal to its value, within 30 days.
- If the contribution cannot be returned (such as an anonymous contribution over $50) the sponsor must remit the amount to Elections BC.
- Making or accepting prohibited contributions may result in monetary penalties or disqualification

Resources

- Local guides
- Local forms
- Information sessions
- Online learning

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