



## City of St. Catharines

### Decision of the Niagara Compliance Audit Committee

Established under Section 88.37(1) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* (the "Act")

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#### A Compliance Audit Application regarding Campaign Finances of Mat Siscoe, Candidate, Mayor

**IN THE MATTER OF** an Application for a Compliance Audit pursuant to subsection 88.33(1) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*;

**AND IN THE MATTER OF** a meeting of the Compliance Audit Committee (the "Committee"), held Thursday, July 20, 2023.

#### PURPOSE

The Niagara Compliance Audit Committee (the "Committee") met on July 20, 2023, to consider an application for a Compliance Audit submitted by Jim Kretz (the "Applicant") with respect to the 2022 Municipal and School Board Election and the campaign finances of Mat Siscoe (the "Candidate"), Candidate for office of Mayor.

#### DECISION

On reading the documents submitted by the Applicant and the Respondent, and upon hearing submissions from the Applicant and the representative of the Respondent, Jeff Loucks, this Committee held that a request for a Compliance Audit of the Mat Siscoe campaign be denied.

#### REASONS

The reasons for the decision are as follows:

1. With respect to the manner in which intangible assets are undervalued, the Committee notes that, the *Municipal Elections Act* does not provide any detail or direction and therefore the Committee is not in a position to determine that there has been any contravention of the *Municipal Elections Act* in how they have been reported.

2. With respect to the omissions admitted by the Candidate, the Committee is of the same view as expressed in the earlier application (Romanuk decision). The amount is de minimis and can be corrected in this case by the Candidate filing a corrected supplementary Form 4.
3. Regarding the services provided by Mr. Ross and the video production, there is nothing before the committee to substantiate a belief that Mr. Ross or anyone else provided any services beyond those which were invoiced and reported on Form 4.

As noted in my opening statement this Committee has no jurisdiction to investigate any other person or other matter except election campaign finances under the *Municipal Elections Act* and to order compliance audits; which are not a forensic audit.

For the foregoing reasons it is the decision of this Committee that the application is rejected.

Written and approved by the following Committee Members:

July 25/23  
Date

  
Heather Salter, Chair  
Niagara Compliance Audit Review Committee Member

July 25/23  
Date

  
Larry Peebles,  
Niagara Compliance Audit Review Committee Member

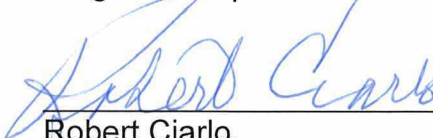
July 25, 2023  
Date

  
Murray Christie,  
Niagara Compliance Audit Review Committee Member

Jul 25, 2023  
Date

  
Margo Pinder,  
Niagara Compliance Audit Review Committee Member

July 25/2023  
Date

  
Robert Ciarlo,  
Niagara Compliance Audit Review Committee Member