



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")

**A Compliance Audit Application regarding the
Campaign Finances of Mike Britton, 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 Monday, July 10, 2023.

PURPOSE

The Niagara Compliance Audit Committee (the "Committee") met on July 10, 2023 to consider an application for a Compliance Audit submitted by Zoe Lachance (the "Applicant") with respect to the 2022 Municipal and School Board Election and the campaign finances of Mike Britton (the "Candidate"), Candidate for office of Mayor.

DECISION

That a request for a Compliance Audit of the Mike Britton campaign be denied.

REASONS

The reasons for the decision are as follows:

1. With respect to the application from Zoe Lachance, and the evidence presented on election signage: the Committee finds that the Candidate provided a reasonable explanation for the existence of the sign prior to the start of the official campaign period, and therefore, that the existence of the sign did not constitute a campaign expense for the Candidate.

2. With respect to the allegations regarding the existence of the campaign website prior to the start of the campaign period: the committee is satisfied with the manner that the Candidate has recorded the expense on a pro-rata basis, reflecting expenses for the website as a campaign expense during the period which the website was being utilized as the campaign website during the campaign period.

Written and approved by the following Committee Members:

July 14, 2023
Date

Murray Christie
Murray Christie, Chair
Niagara Compliance Audit Review Committee Member

13 July 2023
Date

Larry Peebles
Larry Peebles,
Niagara Compliance Audit Review Committee Member

14 July 2023
Date

Heather Salter
Heather Salter,
Niagara Compliance Audit Review Committee Member

Jul 14/23
Date

Margo Pinder
Margo Pinder,
Niagara Compliance Audit Review Committee Member

13 July 2023
Date

Dinesh Parakh
Dinesh Parakh,
Niagara Compliance Audit Review Committee Member