



MEMORANDUM

To: All Town of Essex Candidates
From: Town of Essex Legal and Legislative Team
Date: July 20, 2022
Re: Corporate and Business Campaign Contributions

There have been questions concerning donations from businesses. To sum up, corporations and unions **cannot** make direct donations to candidates but there is the ability for those corporations and/or unions to register to be a Third-Party Advertiser in the Election.

Further, a business that is not incorporated but is being operated as a sole proprietorship or partnership cannot directly make a donation from that business, they can only make a donation individually in the name of the person(s) that own/operate the business.

A third-party advertising refers to any advertisements or other materials that supports, promotes or opposes a candidate (s) during the election. The meaning of "third party" in this context means a person or entity (i.e. corporation/union) who is **not a candidate**. Eligible individuals, corporations and trade unions can **register with the Municipal Clerk to be third party advertisers**. Third party advertising is separate from any candidate's campaign and **must be done independently from a candidate**. Third party advertisers who want to spend money on advertisements during the election must register with the municipal clerk and must file a financial statement. For more information about third party advertising rules, including eligibility, spending limits and enforcement, see [the Third Party Advertisers' Guide](#) on the Ontario website.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us at elections2022@essex.ca or visit our website at <https://elections.essex.ca/>.

Sincerely,

The Town of Essex

Municipal Clerk