

# Election compliance audit application form

## Instructions

Under the [Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#) (the “MEA”), any eligible elector who believes that a candidate or registered third party advertiser has contravened the campaign finance rules in the statute may apply for a compliance audit of that party’s election campaign finances.

To apply for a compliance audit of a candidate for the office of Mayor or City Councillor, or a registered third-party advertiser:

1. Complete this form and the required fields marked with an asterisk ( \* ).
2. Submit this form and any supporting documents in person at the City of Ottawa’s [Elections Office](#) during regular business hours (Monday to Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm).

The Elections Office must receive this form by the deadline(s) prescribed in Subsection 88.33(3) or Subsection 88.35(3) of the MEA.

All applications will be submitted to the Election Compliance Audit Committee for review in accordance with the MEA.

## Applicant information\*

First name:

Last name:

Full qualifying address (qualifying address in the City of Ottawa):

Mailing address (if different than qualifying address):

Telephone:

Email:

## Candidate or registered third party advertiser details\*

Election compliance audit of the campaign finances of:

Candidate’s name:

Registered third party advertiser's name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reasons for compliance audit\***

Indicate the reasons you believe that the candidate or registered third party has contravened the provisions of the MEA related to campaign finances. If known, identify what section(s) of the MEA you believe has been contravened. Additional documents may be attached to this application.

On reviewing the Form 4 Financial Statement of Doug Thompson, candidate for the office of City Councillor – Ward 20 Osgoode, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Mr. Thompson has contravened the campaign finance rules set out in the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. Mr. Thompson is an experienced candidate in municipal elections. He was previously the Mayor of the former Township of Osgoode, and was a City Councillor for a decade. He was previously subject to the same elections campaign finance rules. Mr. Thompson filed his Financial Statement on March 22, 2023, and swore a declaration that it was true and correct. However, in light of his campaign activities and the financial items he reported, there are inaccuracies in his financial statement.

See attached pages for evidence and photographs.

**Declaration\***

The definition of an “eligible elector” under Subsection 17(2) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* is as follows:

A person is entitled to be an elector at an election held in a local municipality if, on voting day, they

(a) resides in the local municipality or is the owner or tenant of land there, or the spouse of such owner or tenant;

(b) are a Canadian citizen;

(c) are at least 18 years old; and



Throughout the course of his campaign, Mr. Thompson reused many of his old elections signs from his previous campaigns. There were two versions of previous campaign signage used in Mr. Thompson’s 2022 election bid. One version of his signs had a blue and white colour scheme, with a black and white photo of the candidate. This sign appeared to state “elect,” but on closer examination, a white sticker was used to cover part of the word “re-elect.” Another version of his signage had white background with Mr. Thompson’s name in blue and red text. Again, the sign appeared to state the word “elect,” however on closer examination a white sticker was used to cover a portion of the word “re-elect.” A photo of these signs is enclosed. These signs were clearly reused from Mr. Thompson’s previous bids for public office. In total there were several hundred of Doug Thompson’s signs that I counted throughout the ward including dozens of large format signs. These signs comprised of various previous elections and some new signs as well. I have attached some photos as evidence of these signs.

In Schedule 1 “Contributions”, under Part II “Contributions from candidate or spouse”, in Table 2 for inventory from previous campaign, Mr. Thompson reported the value of these signs at the suspiciously round number of \$100.00. The financial statement makes no remarks about the style, size, or materiality of the signage, although there were two version of previous elections signs used. Mr. Thompson failed to report the quantity of signs he used from his previous election, which the Form 4 requires, leaving the public in the dark as to how he came up with this valuation. Mr. Thompson also failed to report any value or quantity of metal pickets or wooden stakes he reused along with theses signs. An extract from the financial statement is below:

Table 2: Inventory of campaign goods and materials from previous municipal campaign used in this campaign  
(Note: Value must be recorded as a contribution from the candidate and as an expense.)

Description	Date Acquired (yyyy/mm/dd)	Supplier	Quantity	Current Market Value (\$)
Signs from previous election	2010/09/01	Hawley Signs		100.00
			Total	100.00

*Subsection 88.19(3) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 provides that the “replacement value” of goods retained by a candidate from any previous municipal election and used in the candidate’s campaign are expenses. On the opposite side of the ledger, the replacement value of those goods are also a contribution from the candidate personally.*

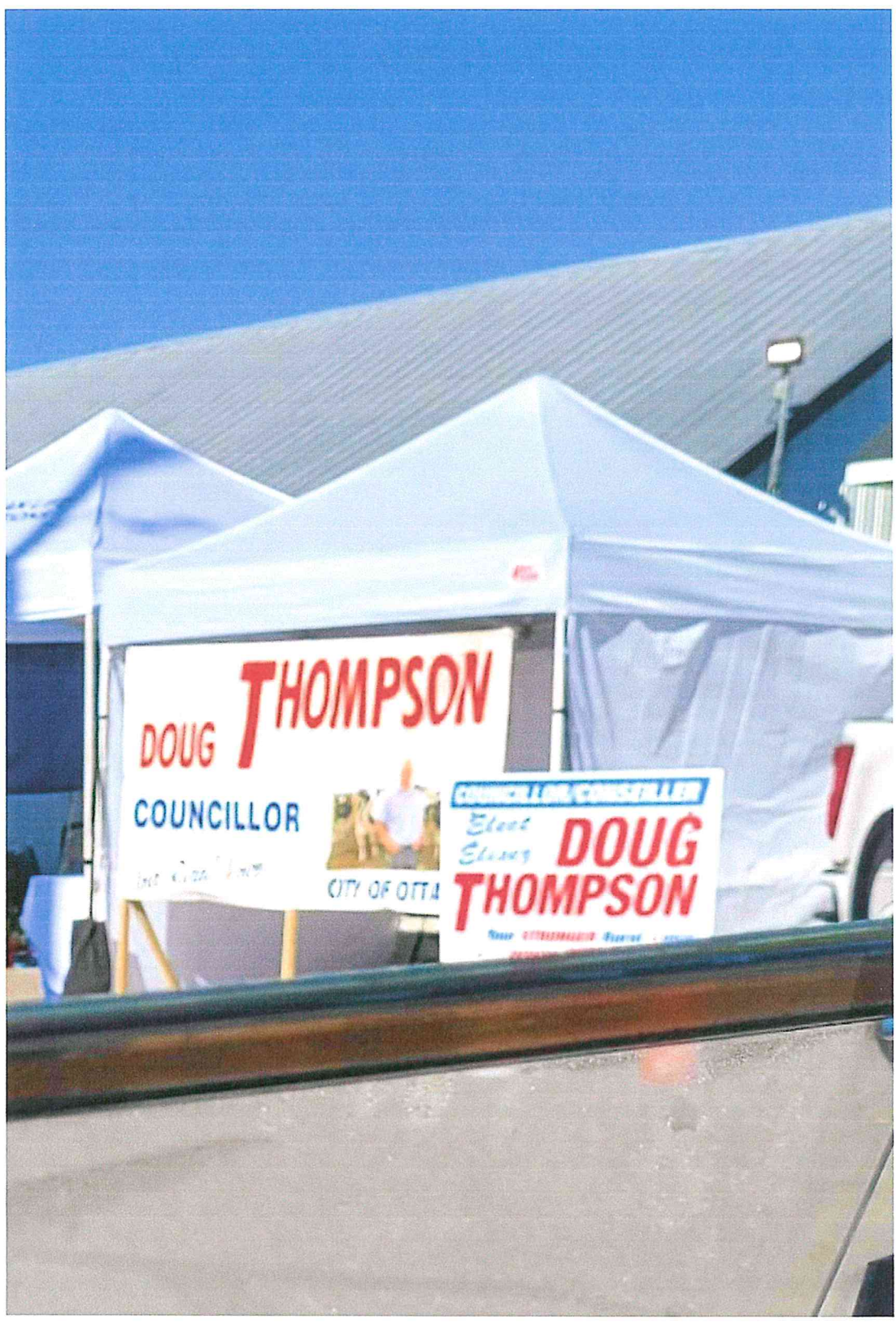
The 2022 Candidates’ Guide also states that if a candidate uses leftover goods from a previous election, the candidate must establish the “current market value of the goods,” or in other words “what it would cost you to purchase them today.”

This rule is in place to ensure that candidates who have previously run in an election, or the incumbent candidate, do not have an advantage over other candidates by virtue of having pre-incurred campaign expenses at lower costs prior to the current election. The requirement to use the current market value also levels the playing field between repeat











facebook



Follow

1h ·

"I hope to see you around the Ward in my Votemobile! It gets more than a few waves and honks, and gives me a chance to talk with more people!"

Please check out Doug's platform at:  
<https://withdoug.ca/index.php/en/platform>



