

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

TO: Shane Bourke, City Manager	DATE: March 16, 2026
FROM: Kim Pinnock, Director, Legislative and Executive Services	MEETING: City Council
REPORT WRITER: Kim Pinnock, Director, Legislative and Executive Services	
SUBJECT: 2025 Municipal Election – Non-Compliance with Campaign Disclosure Statements	

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council receive this report for information.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL / COMMITTEE DIRECTIONS

None.

BACKGROUND

Section 147.4(1) of the *Local Authorities Election Act* (LAEA) requires all nominated candidates to file a Campaign Disclosure Statement and Financial Statement (Form 26) on or before March 1 following a general election. As March 1, 2026, fell on a Sunday, the filing deadline for the 2025 General Election was extended to March 2, 2026, pursuant to the *Interpretation Act*.

Legislative and Executive Services communicated this requirement to all candidates by email on November 5, 2025, and follow-up reminders, with Form 26 attached, on January 26, 2026 and February 20, 2026. On March 3, 2026, a formal Notice of Default was issued to candidates who had failed to meet the deadline.

Despite these notices, the candidates listed in Attachment 1 failed to file the required statements by the legislated deadline.

ANALYSIS

Statutory Duty to Report

Pursuant to Section 147.8(1)(a) of the LAEA, the Secretary (City Manager) must report to Council any candidate who fails to file a disclosure statement as required. This report must be presented at the first Council meeting following the filing deadline.

Legal Consequences of Non-Compliance

The presentation of this report to Council triggers immediate statutory consequences for the named candidates:

1. **Ineligibility (s. 22(1.2)):** Upon presentation of this report, the named individuals become ineligible to be nominated as a candidate in any election under the LAEA. This ineligibility remains in effect for:
 - **Eight (8) years** (expiring March 16, 2034); OR
 - **Three (3) years** from the date of filing, if the candidate subsequently files the required documents.
2. **Financial Penalty (s. 147.7):** The candidates are liable for a mandatory late filing fee of \$500.00.
3. **Public Disclosure (s. 147.8):** The municipality is required to publish this report, or the information contained within it, on the City's website.

Judicial Relief

Pursuant to Section 147.8(2) of the LAEA, a candidate named in this report may apply to the Court for relief within 60 days of the report being published on the City's website.

Relationship to City Council's Areas of Focus / Strategic Priorities

This report aligns with Council's Strategic Objective – Innovative Efficiencies and Economic Readiness as it supports adherence to statutory election requirements and transparency standards.

Environmental Impact

None.

Economic Impact

None.

Social Impact

Enforcing campaign disclosure rules maintains the integrity of the democratic process and ensures transparency for the electorate regarding campaign finances.

Relevant Statutes / Master Plans / City Documents

- *Local Authorities Election Act*, RSA 2000, c L-21 (Sections 22, 147.4, 147.7, 147.8)
- *Interpretation Act*, RSA 2000, c I-8

Risk

Failure to present this report would result in non-compliance with the LAEA.

Alternatives (Optional)

None. The reporting of non-compliant candidates is a mandatory statutory requirement.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Internal coordination was undertaken between the City Solicitor and Legislative and Executive Services to verify files and dates. Direct engagement occurred with the affected candidates via the notices detailed in the Background section.

BUDGET / FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

SUMMARY / CONCLUSION

The candidates listed in Attachment 1 failed to file their Campaign Disclosure Statements by the legislated deadline. As a result, they are subject to a \$500.00 penalty and are ineligible for nomination in future elections for a period of up to eight years. Council receives this report to fulfill the City Manager's statutory reporting obligations.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Candidates that have Failed to File Campaign Disclosure Statements by the Legislated Deadline (2025 Municipal Election)

ATTACHMENT 1

Candidates that have Failed to File Campaign Disclosure Statements by the Legislated Deadline (2025 Municipal Election)

Office	Candidate's Name
Councillor	Garry Singh