

Municipal Legislation Review
Submitted by: Pamela Gill

Jan. 31, 2018

To whom it may concern:

Thanks for the opportunity to contribute to this discussion. I have three points I would like to make re: municipal elections:

1. In city elections, any breaches of local regulations should be managed by a local adjudicator. There should be a local ombudsman who can issue judgments on contraventions of operating procedures to which candidates are meant to adhere. This regulator should not be the same person as the chief returning officer/city clerk, as this would be a conflict of interest. Having these matters overseen by the provincial body makes the process unwieldy and inaccessible. Local matters should be managed locally.
2. Municipal elections should adopt a ranked ballot. This promotes a diversity of candidates. Recently, all federal political parties have used ranked ballots to select their leaders. We should follow suit.
3. Corporate and union donations should not be allowed at the municipal election level. Elected officials are answerable to their constituents; that's where the financial support should come from. Let's level the playing field.

Thanks for the opportunity.

Pamela Gill

