

November 19, 2025

Manitoba NDP  
878 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3G 0P1  
Attn: Evan Krosney, Provincial Secretary  
BY EMAIL

PC Party of Manitoba  
640-5 Donald St  
Winnipeg, MB R3L 2T4  
Attn: Mr. Peter Smith, President  
BY EMAIL

Dear Mr. Krosney and Mr. Smith,

**Re: Complaint of illegal contributions contrary to s. 33 *The Election Financing Act***

On August 15, 2023, Tim Johnson, the then Provincial Secretary and CFO of the Manitoba NDP, sent me a complaint alleging that the Government had breached s. 33 of *The Election Financing Act* (the “EFA”) by providing cheques or funds to PC Party candidates that were then given to various community organizations in Manitoba. The complaint was accompanied by several photographs that appeared to show PC candidates giving large oversized cheques to representatives of those organizations. Mr. Johnson’s complaint was that the Elections Financing Act only permits contributions to candidates to be made by individuals and the Government is not an individual. I arranged for the complaint to be investigated and I am writing now to report the results of that investigation.

The investigator contacted Mark Stonyk, counsel at Manitoba Justice and asked him to determine if the government had any record of cash or cheques being given to candidates to be distributed to community organizations. Mr. Stonyk conferred with his client and replied that it had no such record. This was consistent with denials made by some of the candidates and the Manitoba PC Party in the press.

The investigator wrote to the Manitoba NDP and asked if they had any further evidence that the government had given cash or cheques to PC Candidates. He did not receive a reply and we have concluded that no further evidence is available. It appears, therefore, that the oversized cheques in the photographs were mock ups and that the money was transferred by the government directly to the organizations. I note that in the text accompanying the photographs, the candidates are said to be congratulating the community organizations. Nothing is said about them giving any funds.

If the candidates did not receive money from the government, and the money went directly to the community organizations, I do not believe a contribution to the candidates was made.

Yours truly,



Bill Bowles  
Commissioner of Elections for Manitoba

cc. Mark Stronyk  
BY EMAIL