

HALIFAX

P.O. Box 1749
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Item No. 9.2.1

Request for Executive Committee Consideration

☐ **Agenda Item**
(Submitted to Municipal
Clerk's Office by Noon at
least 5 working days prior to
the meeting)

☐ **Added Item**
(Submitted to Municipal
Clerk's Office by Noon at
least one day prior to
meeting)

☐ **Request from the Floor**

Date of Meeting: November 24, 2014

Subject: Campaign Finance Reform

Motion for the Committee to Consider:

Recognizing that municipal election contributions currently fall under the provincial Municipal Elections Act, that the Executive Committee request a staff report examining the legislative options and implications of campaign finance reform for municipal government. The report should include a review of practice in other jurisdictions, and address administrative, intergovernmental, legislative, and procedural implications. The scope of the report should include, but not be limited to: donation and spending limits, further disclosure of campaign spending, when money can be raised, and options, if any, for possible sanctions when rules are not followed.

Reason:

Today, a council district is larger than a provincial constituency, and the mayoral election includes multiple times more electors than a federal riding. Therefore, increased expenditures are required to run effective campaigns.

While there have been several recent changes to the ways in which provincial and federal elections are financed, there are currently limited rules within the Municipal Elections Act that govern municipal campaign finance.

Outcome Sought:

A staff report that examines the legislative options and implications of campaign finance reform for municipal government in Halifax.

Mayor Savage Original Signed

