
CATEGORY: BUILDING & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

SUBCATEGORY: GENERAL

SUBJECT: USE OF REGIONAL FACILITIES FOR POLITICAL CAMPAIGN PURPOSES

A. PURPOSE

To outline the Policy and provide guidance regarding the use of Regional facilities for campaigning and campaign related activities with respect to municipal, provincial and federal elections.

B. SCOPE

This Policy applies to Members of Council and all Regional facilities.

C. DEFINITIONS

1. **Campaigning:** Refers to any and all forms of candidate promotion, including, but not limited to: distribution of promotional material; posting of election or campaign signs or placards; surveys by candidates or representatives; and an organized group demonstration of support.
2. **Campaign Related Activities:** Functions, events, meetings, communications including signs, posters, flyers and/or literature associated with the promotion of election/re-election of a Member of Council.
3. **Regional Business:** Business related activities that derive a benefit for the Region or to advance the interests of the Region.
4. **Regional Facilities:** All Region-owned or leased buildings and property including administrative facilities (e.g. 10 Peel Centre Drive) and program facilities (eg. Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives). Property includes buildings and the surrounding boulevards, sidewalks, parking lots and grounds.

D. POLICY

1. Use of Regional facilities is strictly prohibited for campaigning and campaign related activities with the exception of:
 - a. Candidate debates are permitted after normal business hours where such debates being those to which every registered candidate for the respective race has been invited, though not all may attend. The sponsor

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of the debate would be required to sign a declaration indicating proof of such invitations. Signs, banners or other printed material are only permitted within the confines of the room.

2. Members of Council may use Regional facilities for the purposes of Regional business per Policy B00-06 Use of Public/Common Areas at Regional Facilities for Meetings, Functions, Events and Display of Information.
3. As per the Corporate Policy NO. F30-02 Business Expense Accounts – Members of Council (Section 6.5.1 Internal Charge-back for the Use of Regional Services), ‘Expenses related to the use of Regional resources and/or property will be charged to the Member of Council’s expense account based on the Region’s price list.’ After-hours room rentals are available at an hourly rate and vary depending on support required (eg. dedicated security guard).
4. In an election year, after April 30th until the end of Council’s term, Members of Council are not permitted to use Regional facilities, property, and public spaces. Additionally, as per the Corporate Policy NO. F30-02 Business Expense Accounts – Members of Council (Section 7 – Ineligible Election Related Expenses), ‘The Members of Council will not be allowed to use their Business Expense Accounts for constituent related expenses after April 30th in an election year’.
5. Any requests for exemptions to this policy can be made to the Regional Clerk in writing.

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