

February 25, 2024
Secretariat, Amanda Wahl
Compliance Audit Committee
City Hall, 10th Floor, West Tower
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

RE: NOTICE OF HEARING

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in response to notice that the Compliance Audit Committee will consider five auditor's reports that the City Clerk is sending to the Compliance Audit Committee on contributions made to my campaign for the office of Councillor during the 2022 Municipal Election which appear to have exceeded contribution limits under section 88.9 of the Act.

I am in receipt of the City Clerk's covering reports and the auditor's reports which will be considered by the Committee.

As you consider the reports and decide whether to commence a legal proceeding against the contributor for an apparent contravention, **I would like to take the opportunity to provide some additional information relevant to your deliberations. In 4 out of the 5 reports before you the processing fees from the merchant service provider Stripe caused the donations to exceed the maximum.**

1. The donation page of my website offered an option for donors to opt into covering the Stripe fee for processing the transaction.
2. These 4 individuals each made maximum donations (across 1 or more transactions) and also selected the option to cover the fees. This resulted in donations that exceeded the maximum allowable donation by exactly the Stripe fees in each instance. I believe these errors were most likely made in ignorance, as it wasn't fully communicated that choosing to cover the fees was also counted as part of the donation.
3. This applies to donations made by Matt Cook, Jasmin Dooh, Janet Swim and Simon Tran. The maximum amount over the limit for these 4 individuals is \$36.46 and the sum of the amount over the limit for these 4 individuals is \$118.03.
4. A final audit was completed by the third party auditor Chaplin and Co, which deemed the campaign finances in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Elections Act and was submitted to the City Elections Clerk for the Campaign period in question.
5. **My campaign finished with a surplus and when we submitted our finances to the City in March 2023 we also paid that \$1,894.83 surplus to the City.**

Please accept this written statement to be distributed to Committee members.

Thank you for your consideration.

Amber Morley