

Campaign Contributions:

In accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act*, Section 70(4), the *Elections Finances Act*, Section 16(1), and *Canada Elections Act*, Section 404(1), St. Thomas Public Library may not make a contribution to the campaign of any candidate or political party in the form of money, goods or services.

Use of Library Resources and Property:

- a) All candidates and political parties have equal access to publicly available resources and services of the library.
- b) Meeting rooms may be rented in accordance with the Meeting Room Policy.
- c) Candidates cannot use equipment, supplies, staff or other operational resources of the library nor may they use the library's logo in any campaign material.
- d) 'All-candidates' meetings can be held at the library, either as a library program or sponsored by another group, provided that all candidates are invited to attend such meetings. A candidate cannot be featured or promoted in association with any other regular library program or event.
- e) Candidates and political parties are not permitted to distribute campaign materials on library premises.
- f) In accordance with the *Canada Elections Act* section 81.1(1) federal election candidates or their representatives are allowed to campaign in facilities that are available for free to the public. During municipal and provincial elections candidates will be granted the same right to campaign in the library.
- g) No election sign or poster specific to a candidate or political party can be posted on the grounds of the library or in the library building.

Employee and Volunteer Participation in Election Campaigns:

Any library employee running as a candidate in the municipal election will comply with Section 30 of the *Municipal Elections Act*. A library employee or volunteer involved in a political campaign must be politically neutral in carrying out their library duties and must not participate in campaign activities during their working hours.

Library Board Members as Candidates:

Board members may continue their library board responsibilities when they are running for office.

Requests for Information about the Library:

The CEO or designate will coordinate requests for information about the library received from candidates or political parties. Information that is provided by the library to one candidate or political party will be provided to all other candidates and political parties upon request during an election.

Any candidate or political party may request a meeting with the CEO or tour of the library.

Approved Date: May 16, 2018

Supersedes Date: New Policy

Review Date: October 2018

Reference: Library Board Meeting, May 16, 2018