

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
ON FORM 922, CANDIDATE'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPORTING
SCHEDULES**

To Pearson Singbeil Montgomery, Official Agent for Aaron Kowal, the Candidate

Report on the Audit of Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules, which comprise the Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Surplus (Deficit) as at December 4, 2023, the Statement of Income, Expenses and Transfers for the Candidacy Period and Schedules 1 to 9 for the candidacy of Aaron Kowal for the candidacy period from September 6, 2023 to December 4, 2023 relating to the election held on October 3, 2023 in the electoral division of Fort Garry.

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules for Aaron Kowal for the candidacy period from September 6, 2023 to December 4, 2023 in the electoral division of Fort Garry are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting requirements of *The Election Financing Act* of Manitoba and Accounting Guide - Accounting For Purposes of The Election Financing Act issued by the Chief Electoral Officer.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

Due to the nature of the types of transactions inherent in any election campaign, the completeness of contributions, fundraising and other income, transfers, expenses and donations in-kind income and expenses is not susceptible to satisfactory audit verification. Accordingly, our verification of these amounts was limited to the amounts recorded in the Candidate's election campaign accounting records and we were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to assets, liabilities, income, expenses and the candidacy period surplus (deficit).

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules* section of our report. We are independent of the Candidate in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our qualified opinion.

Other Matter - Basis of Accounting

The Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules are prepared in accordance with the accounting requirements of *The Election Financing Act* of Manitoba and Accounting Guide - Accounting For Purposes of The Election Financing Act to assist the Official Agent and the Candidate to meet the requirements of *The Election Financing Act* of Manitoba. As a result, the Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules may not be suitable for another purpose.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged With Governance for Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules

The Official Agent and the Candidate are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules in accordance with the accounting requirements of *The Election Financing Act* of Manitoba and Accounting Guide - Accounting For Purposes of The Election Financing Act and for such internal control they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Candidate's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates, if any, and related disclosures made by the Official Agent and the Candidate.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules, including any disclosures, and whether the Form 922, Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules represent the underlying transactions and events in manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

March 3, 2024
Winnipeg, Canada



Chartered Professional Accountants

922

Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules



To be filed within four months after election day.

For the candidacy period

DATE
September 6, 2023

To

RECEIVED
MAR 11 2024
ELECTIONS MANITOBA
DATE
December 4, 2023

Candidate

NAME
Aaron Kowal
ELECTORAL DIVISION
Fort Garry
REGISTERED PARTY / INDEPENDENT
Green Party of Manitoba

Official Agent

NAME
Pearson Singbeil Montgomery

Auditor

NAME OF AUDITOR
Magnus LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants
NAME OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT TO WHOM INQUIRY MAY BE DIRECTED (if different than above)
Brett Magnus, CPA, CA

DECLARATION

I, the undersigned official agent, hereby file a completed Form 922 – Candidate's Financial Statements and Supporting Schedules – along with an Auditor's Report from a qualified auditor. I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief the information contained herein is complete, true and correct and in compliance with The Election Financing Act.

Signature of official agent

03/06/2024
Date (mm/dd/yyyy)

Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Surplus (Deficit) as at the End of the Candidacy Period

Assets

100	Cash	\$ 46.88	_____
110	Accounts receivable		_____
115	Inventory*	30.24	_____
	Other assets (provide details)		_____
130	_____		_____
135	_____		_____

190 Total assets (total of lines 100 to 135) line 190 \$ 77.12

Liabilities and Surplus

200	Accounts payable	\$ 33.81	← From line 840	_____
205	Overdraft/ line of credit**			_____
220	Loans**			_____
	Other liabilities (provide details)			_____
230	_____			_____
240	_____			_____
275	Candidacy period surplus/(deficit)	43.31	← From line 440	_____

Lines 190 and 290 must be the same.

290 Total liabilities and surplus (total of line 200 to 275) line 290 \$ 77.12

* Inventory as of the end of the candidacy period would include items purchased but not used (i.e. expensed). Inventory should also be taken as of 8 p.m. on election day in order to exclude the value from the amount reported as election expenses.
 ** A written copy of each loan agreement must be filed separately if there was a loan, line of credit, or bank overdraft in existence at any time to the candidate during the candidacy period.

Schedule 1 – Expenses (INCLUDING NON-MONETARY EXPENSES)

Election expenses used in election period				
A Cash/Credit	B Non-monetary	C Property and services used and received through transfers	D Non-election expenses in candidacy period	E Total expenses (columns A plus B plus C plus D)
500 Advertising	34.66			34.66
505 Posters, pamphlets, promotional	660.80			660.80
511 Disability				
512 Child care				
515 Fundraising				
520 Furniture and equipment rental				
525 Honoraria/salaries				
530 Interest and bank charges			1.00	1.00
535 Audit fee (amount in excess of subsidy)				
545 Office occupancy (rent, utilities)				
550 Office supplies and postage				
555 Polling (opinion surveys/market research)				
560 Signs and structural support	20.16			20.16
565 Transportation, accommodation and food	33.81		61.42	95.23
570 Telephone				
575 Personal				
Other (provide details)				
580 _____				
585 _____				
590 Total (Total of 500 to 585)	749.43	Nil	Nil	62.42
595 Total election expenses (Total of line 590 column A, B and C)	749.43			62.42

From
schedule
7, line 850

From
schedule
8, line 860

749.43 ← To line 400 ↑ To line 405

Provide the amount of bank charges and loan interest incurred from election day to four months after election day.
(Not required if candidate did not qualify for reimbursement)

Loan interest line 597 \$ Nil _____
Bank Charges line 598 \$ 1.00 _____

Schedule 3 – Transfers from Endorsing Registered Party

Complete only if the candidate's campaign received transfers from the endorsing registered party:

- A. Total value of all **cash transfers** received during the candidacy period from the endorsing registered party: line 700 \$ 427.58
- B. Total value of all **transfers of property or services** received during the candidacy period from the endorsing registered party: line 710 \$ Nil
- C. Total transfers from endorsing registered party:
(total of line 700 to 710) line 720 \$ 427.58 ← **To line 320**
- D. If you entered an amount on line 710, report the value of property or services that were **used** in the election period: line 730 \$ Nil

Schedule 4 – Transfers from Candidate’s Constituency Association

Complete only if the candidate’s campaign received transfers from the constituency association:

A. Total value of all **cash transfers** received during the candidacy period from the constituency association: line 740 \$ Nil

B. Total value of all **transfers of property or services** received during the candidacy period from the constituency association: line 750 \$ Nil

C. Total transfers from constituency association: (total of line 740 to 750) line 760 \$ Nil ← To line 310

D. If you entered an amount on line 750, disclose the value of property or services that were used during the election period: line 770 \$ Nil

If the aggregate value of transfers, as calculated on line 760 is \$250 or more, provide the following information:

E. Were there contributions of \$250 or more to the constituency association during the candidacy period?

No (no further information is required)

Yes (complete the schedule below)

Name of contributors of \$250 or more to the constituency association (attach list if necessary)	\$ Aggregate value of contribution

1. List attached? Yes _____ No ✓

Schedule 5 – Reconciliation of Income Tax Receipts

Complete only if the candidate was registered to issue income tax receipts.

Total number of income tax receipts received from Elections Manitoba: line 780 2

Total number of income tax receipts returned to Elections Manitoba:

• Issued to contributors	line 790 <u>2</u>	← Return Elections Manitoba copies only.
• Voided or cancelled	line 800 <u>Nil</u>	← Return all three copies.
• Unused	line 810 <u>Nil</u>	← Return all three copies.

Total number of income tax receipts returned to Elections Manitoba
(total of line 790 to 810) line 820 2

Total unreturned income tax receipts (line 780 minus line 820) line 830 Nil

Please provide receipt numbers and an explanation for unreturned income tax receipts.

Schedule 9 – Pre-Election Period Advertising Expenses

(90-DAY PERIOD BEFORE THE START OF THE ELECTION PERIOD IN THE YEAR OF A FIXED DATE ELECTION)

Complete the following schedule to calculate the amount of advertising expenses subject to the pre-election period advertising limits. [s.58(2)]

Record your expenses if your candidacy period start date commenced before or during this 90-day pre-election period.

Advertising means advertising that promotes or opposes (directly or indirectly) a registered party, candidate, or leadership contestant. [s.115]

Endorsed candidate (from line 940)	line 910	\$ Nil
Individuals (from line 950)	line 920	\$ Nil

930 Total pre-election period advertising expenses

(total line 910 and 920)	line 930	\$ Nil
--------------------------	-----------------	--------

A. Advertising expenses incurred by the candidate in the pre-election period.*

Details of expense	\$ Amount
Total	line 940 \$ Nil

B. Advertising expenses incurred by an individual on the candidate's behalf with the candidate's knowledge and consent in the pre-election period.*

Name of individual	\$ Amount
	0
Total	line 950 \$ Nil

* Attach separate list if necessary.