



Office of the Ethics Commissioner

Guidelines for Constituency Office Functions

2017

This bulletin provides information concerning a Member organizing and hosting constituency events in light of the gift restrictions under the Conflicts of Interest Act. Members are allowed to hold constituency BBQs and breakfast type events.

Advertising

Such events should be advertised by the name of the Member and constituency name. No mention should be made of the Member's political party in advertising materials.

Sponsorships and donations

Sponsorship of food and cash for the event may be accepted. Any leftover food should be donated to a food bank, shelter or local charity. Monetary donations must be reasonable and no more than \$200 may be left after the event. Any funds left over cannot be used for political purposes but may be used for subsequent events. Excess funds must be donated to a food bank or other charity.

Donations must be kept separate from any political party or constituency association funds.

Sponsors are not to receive anything in return for the sponsorship except for signage at the event acknowledging the sponsorship and a photograph with the Member.

Some events may be funded through the Members' Service Allowance. Members should consult with the Legislative Assembly Office with respect to available funding, and to understand any other restrictions with respect to constituency functions.

For events by leaders of a political party that are regional rather than a constituency event (such as a stampede or exhibition breakfast) the same rules apply except that the leader may be mentioned (eg. Premier, Leader of the Opposition). The events are to be non-political. The amount retained after the event cannot exceed \$500.

This bulletin does not cover constituency association or political fundraising events.

Members should be aware of section 162 of the Election Act and also what constitutes a contribution under the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act.

This bulletin does not cover events during an election period.