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To Whom It May Concern:

Section 177 of the *Election Act* requires the financial agent of a candidate running in a provincial election to establish a separate account in a savings institution in order to ensure that all money received by or on behalf of the candidate is deposited into the account and that all expenditures are paid from the account.

For the purpose of this section, the definition of a candidate includes an individual who intends to become a candidate at a later date. This means a candidate must open a campaign account to deposit and pay for all election related transactions, even before they file nomination documents with Elections BC.

Elections BC encourages potential candidates to open election accounts as early as possible in their campaign to ensure that all financial transactions go through the account as required by the *Election Act*. This could be several months before General Voting Day for the election, or even before an election is officially called.

If you have questions regarding the financing requirements in the *Election Act* for candidates participating in provincial elections, please contact Provincial Electoral Finance at 1-800-661-8683 or by email at electoral.finance@elections.bc.ca.