



## **INFORMATION SHEET 14**

### **INTRODUCTION TO NOMINATION CONTESTS**

#### **DISCLAIMER**

These information sheets set out Elections Canada's current interpretation of the *Canada Elections Act* and are issued to assist the public in understanding the Act. The views expressed in information sheets are not law and are not intended to replace the official text of the Act. How the Act applies to any particular case will depend on the individual circumstances of that case. Elections Canada reserves the right to reconsider any interpretations expressed in information sheets, either generally or in light of the actual circumstances of any case, and in accordance with continuing legislative and judicial developments.

1. As of January 1, 2004, aspects of nomination contests are regulated under the *Canada Elections Act* (CEA).
2. See sections 478.01 to 478.42 CEA.
3. There are controls on who can contribute to nomination contestants and how much can be given.
4. There are limits on how much nomination contestants can spend on their nomination campaign expenses.
5. There are reporting obligations for both the entity holding the contest and the contestants themselves.
6. The regulation of nomination contests is designed to:
  - 6.1 regulate the entry of contributions through nomination contests into the political process;
  - 6.2 increase access to the nomination process;
  - 6.3 impose the minimum burden possible on participants; and
  - 6.4 mirror as much as possible the regulation of candidates.