4.1.1 - Applicant Additional Written Submission

July 24, 2023

Attn: Municipal Elections Compliance Audit Committee

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to provide additional information in support of my request for a compliance audit, as an extension to my previous submission dated June 29th, 2023.

EXPENSES (Note: Include the value of contributions of goods and services)

Expenses subject to general spending limit			
Inventory from previous campaign used in this campaign (list details in Table 2 of Schedule 1)	+	\$	
Advertising	+	\$ 864.54	_
Brochures/flyers	+	\$ 5,387.34	
Signs (including sign deposit)	÷	\$ 6,816.36	
Meetings hosted	+	\$	
Office expenses incurred until voting day	+	\$ 69.50	-
Phone and/or internet expenses incurred until voting day	+	\$	-
Salaries, benefits, honoraria, professional fees incurred until voting day	÷	\$	-
Bank charges incurred until voting day	+.	\$ 15.80	
Interest charged on loan until voting day	÷	\$ 	
Other (provide full details)			-
1.	÷	\$	
2.	+	\$	-
3.	_+	\$	-
4.	+	\$	1
5.	+	\$	-
6.	+	\$ 	••
Total Expenses subject to general spending limit		\$ 13,153.54	-ر

Expenses Submitted:

Upon reviewing Ms. Nanda's audited financial statements submitted on March 24, 2023, it is evident that she did not claim any expenses for **phone and internet charges** or for **meetings hosted**. However, it appears that most of her campaign expenses are recorded under **brochures/flyers and signs**, with minimal allocation to **advertising**. In light of this, I would like to present the following information, which sheds light on Ms. Nanda's campaign expenditures and raises concerns regarding their accuracy and completeness.

1. Campaign Kick Off Event - September 18, 2022, Boston Pizza North Oakville

In my earlier submission, I mentioned an approximate attendance of 60 people at this event. However, I stand corrected, as information in the above picture suggests that over 100 people attended the campaign kick-off event at Boston Pizza North Oakville. To verify this claim, I personally contacted Boston Pizza, and they confirmed that large groups like this are expected to make reasonable purchases. For groups of this size, only one bill is allowed, which further emphasizes the scale of the event. Furthermore, I have included an additional image that clearly shows beverages being consumed.



2. Meeting #2 - "Join us for a Breakfast & Vote" - Sat October 8 2022

I would like to submit that the invitation to the breakfast meeting highlights the phrase 'Bring your appetite,' and also mentions that refreshments and snacks will be served. Ms. Nanda subsequently posted that over 100 people attended, and furthermore, the picture shows an individual holding a plate. The issue that raises concern is the fact that **Ms. Nanda deleted the posts from her social media pages after they were initially shared.** This makes it appear as

though there is a concerted effort to hide these posts, possibly because she had not reported the expenses mentioned in the posts.



3. Campaign Manager Expenses

Ms. Nanda had a campaign manager, Shayan D. Hayder, working on her campaign. Surprisingly, no **salaries/benefits/professional fees/honorariums** were reported in Ms. Nanda's financial statements. This raises questions about the accuracy of the financial reporting.

Moreover, during the period from May 2022 to October 2022, when Mr. Hayder served as the designated campaign manager - it is reasonable to assume that as a campaign manager, he would have required access to phone and internet services at the very least to carry out his important role. Strangely, no expenses related to **Phone & Internet** were reported, further casting doubt on the completeness of the financial disclosures.

In addition, I have attached relevant posts from the Oakville Beaver and Facebook that highlight the role of the campaign manager in Ms. Nanda's team.



The Grade 12 student at White Oaks Secondary School has been involved in election campaigns at all levels for years. With many of his peers finding politics boring, he said, having more young candidates and volunteers would motivate them to be more involved in politics and local issues.

"You have to create a chain," he said. "That's how it starts."

Those who could pave the way include two councillors-elect from Milton and Halton Hills, Adil Khalqi, 22, and Joseph Racinsky, 20.

Khalqi said that he's committed to "ensuring that young people have the ability to be part of institutions and organizations that shape long-term decision-making, and are in charge of serving the community.

"Being a young person would add value to council and fill in a perspective that is not too common in council. Diverse representation matters," he said.

While admitting that his age came up on occasion during the election campaign, Racinsky felt his passion likely struck a chord with some voters.

"If they wanted someone with energy and enthusiasm, that's why people voted for me. If age was a concern, they probably didn't," he said.



Ibrahim Daniyal October 31, 2022 · 😁

•••

My son Shyan D. Hayder ,17, managed a very successful campaign as Campaign Manager Nav Nanda Regional Councillor Oakville. He has been recognized by insidehalton.com an online version of Oakville Beaver. Bravo!!

"This sentiment was echoed by Shyan Hayder, who, at just 17, managed the campaign of Nav Nanda for Ward 7 town and regional councillor in Oakville — and helped her defeat the incumbent by more than 500 votes.

The Grade 12 student at White Oaks Secondary School has been involved in election campaigns at all levels for years. With many of his peers finding politics boring, he said, having more young candidates and volunteers would motivate them to be more involved in politics and local issues.

"You have to create a chain," he said. "That's how it starts.""

https://www.insidehalton.com/.../10750669-youth-hopeful.../

Link to article: <u>https://www.insidehalton.com/news/youth-hopeful-as-voter-turnout-drops-in-oakville-and-burlington-as-well-as-milton-and/article_c25351ed-9bf2-58fe-b2cd-f088bd35824a.html</u>

The article and the statement from Ibrahmin Daniyal, makes no mention of this being a volunteer position, furthermore a campaign manager position is a full-time role.

4. Internet and Phone Expenses

Ms. Nanda's campaign adopted a robust social media strategy, which is common and effective in engaging with the community, especially one with a younger population. Evidence from various online community groups, such as "North Oakville Ward 7 Residents Association" and "The Preserve North & East Oakville", demonstrates that Ms. Nanda actively ran her campaign on social media platforms like Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, However, despite the clear usage of phone and internet for campaigning purposes, no corresponding expenses were reported.

I have attached screenshots of some of these social media posts as evidence:

NOW 7 Facebook Group Post, North Oakville Ward & residents association, is a community resident association and also has an active facebook group. At the time, Ms. Nanda was the president of this group and actively posted her campaign material as depicted below. a)



means saying no, and asking developers and town officials to make plans that better reflect our

This is my commitment to you: I will be a Regional Councillor who will actually be our voice to Town Hall and not the voice of developers and the Town of Oakville

Regional Councillor Candidate Ward 7

Our councillors have never voted against any development project in Ward 7. ey even supported the projects on Carding M Trail and North Park that have restricted arking access and caused major congestion i our neighborhood.

> need change. I promise to represent you, r developers, as your Regional Councillor.

> > ON OCTOBER 24 ELECT NAV NANDA AS YOUR **REGIONAL & TOWN COUNCILLO** FOR OAKVILLE WARD 7



Ward 7 needs a partner at Town Hall who inderstands the needs of our families, how address critical educational infrastructur nd service gaps, and what we can do ensu our children reach their highest potential.

...



🖒 Like

Send

Ms. Nanda also recorded and posted several videos from a phone, which would require mobile connectivity



Considering the extent of social media engagement, even if Ms. Nanda utilized her home internet and personal Wi-Fi, it would be reasonable to expect a fraction of those expenses to be allocated towards her campaign costs, which can be noted across several other candidate financial statements.

5. Discrepancy in "Advertising Costs"

Ms. Nanda's reported **advertising cost** of \$864.44 appears significantly low, especially considering the fact that she had the following expenses related to her website and promotional video:

- 1. A full website constructed, which would cost anywhere between \$800-\$1500. Usually, when using customer relationship management software like Nationbuilder, the cost tends to be on the higher end.
- Nationbuilder software pricing can cost up to \$160 USD/month or more with custom plans, depending on the number of contacts in your system. Ms. Nanda delivered her first literature piece the first week of June 2023, referring voters to her website. Therefore her website cost should be reflected for 5 months.

3. The creation of a professional election video, which involves costs for production, editing, and promotion.

Based on the information provided below, Ms. Nanda's advertising costs do not seem to reflect the extensive work and expenses that went into her website operations, nor do they account for the costs associated with creating, editing, and posting an election promotional video.

Please see below Ms. Nanda's landing page, the date has been screenshotted as 11/11/22. Furthermore, the complexity of the customer relationship management software is indicated on the contact page, where it states "Sign in with Facebook/Twitter/Email - created with Nationbuilder."

Nationbuilder software utilizes voter data, such as names, addresses, and other information, including previous voting records for political campaigns, to allow users to centralize, build, and manage campaigns by integrating various communication tools like websites, newsletters, text messaging, and social media channels under one platform.

It is widely understood that utilizing a Nationbuilder website requires the assistance of a website developer. In fact, Nationbuilder provides a link on their website referring users to Nationbuilder developers who can assist with their projects due to the complex nature of the CRM and software

For further reference, you can find Nationbuilder developers to help with your project at: <u>https://www.nationbuilder.partners/directory.</u>



<u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8cjkRczEkvI&t=19s</u> link to video, which was posted across all social media pages

Nev Nanda

Contact

Contactus		
First Name*	Last Name*	
Email*	Mobile phone	
Send me email updates	Send me text messages	
Address (Street, City, State, Zip)		

Send message

Nav Nanda

Q Canada

Sign in with <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> or <u>email</u>. Created with <u>NationBuilder</u> Platform pages, showing use of CRM software below as indicated through "Sign in" feature



At present day the website has been taken down, but if you visit <u>www.navnanda.ca</u> you will receive a confirmation that it was indeed a nationbuilder account



Nation Builder Pricing:



Nationbuilder pricing plan:

https://nationbuilder.com/pricing?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=sitelin ks&utm_content=pricing&recruiter_id=852962&gad=1&gclid=Cj0KCQjw2eilBhCCARIsAG0Pf8s V51wnal8pQN_Ry8t5MZiF4iW0Jyb7FMAOTcQyBVoWlivvh-sci3MaAtNVEALw_wcB

6. First Literature piece

The following literature piece is date stamped for June 4 2022, and proves the following:

- 1. Ms. Nanda's robust social media strategy which would require the use of internet, all of her handles are displayed, but she did not report any internet expenses
- 2. Ms. Nanda's website was live as of June 2022 and maintained active up to and after the election
- 3. Ms. Nanda used a phone during her campaign, offering her number for voters to reach her on, but not reporting any phone expenses



Conclusion:

In light of the above information, I respectfully request a compliance audit to ensure the integrity of municipal campaigns and to ensure that Ms. Nanda accurately reported her expenses. It is imperative that shortcuts are not taken in the reporting process, and that transparency is upheld throughout.

I kindly request a compliance audit to understand where Ms. Nanda reported costs related to the following line items:

- meetings hosted
 i) campaign kick off event September 18 2022- Boston Pizza 100 + people
 ii) "Join us for a breakfast & vote" October 8 2022 Nanda Campaign office 100+ people
- salaires/benefits/honoria/professional fees incurred until voting day

i) campaign manager salary

- phone and internet expenses

 i) campaign related social media posts internet usage
 ii) campaign phone costs 905-617-NAV7 as listed on campaign material
 ii) campaign manager access to phone and internet
- advertising expenses
 i) website creating
 - ii) nation builder
 - iii) video creation

As someone who has cherished Oakville as my home for a lifetime, it deeply saddened me to witness the lack of transparency and disregard for democracy shown in Ms. Nanda's financial report. Our town is a nurturing community, where honesty and integrity have always been paramount values.

The very foundation of a thriving town lies in the trust between its residents and elected representatives. We must hold our leaders to the highest standards of accountability, ensuring that they serve with honesty and openness. I wholeheartedly believe that the Compliance Audit Committee will carry out a diligent and impartial review of the information provided, upholding the principles that make our town a cherished place for us all. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Gobinder Randhawa