

Greg Essensa
Chief Electoral Officer
Elections Ontario
51 Rolark Drive
Toronto ON M1R 3B1

September 14, 2023

Dear Mr. Essensa,

A recent report by Ontario's Integrity Commissioner described how an unregistered lobbyist, referred to as "Mr. X," appears to have illegally lobbied provincial government officials to have lands removed from the Greenbelt. Multiple media reports have claimed that Mr. X is former Clarington Mayor, John Mutton.

Documents filed in the city of Pickering's gift registry show that Mutton's company, Municipal Solutions, gave mayor Kevin Ashe and councillor Lisa Robinson each a \$1,500 ticket to the PC Party of Ontario's Leader's Dinner fundraiser on March 2, 2023. These were unlawful gifts under Pickering's Code of Conduct, but they also appear to be contraventions of the *Election Finances Act*. Under the Act, it is illegal to make a donation using the funds of another person, or for a corporation to donate to a political party. It is also illegal for a political party to accept such donations.

PC Party staff were unable to answer questions from CTV News about who may have paid for these tickets, or how many other tickets may have been given in this way.¹ The PC Party's evident inability to confirm the source of funds used to purchase tickets to its fundraiser suggests there may be additional donations to the fundraiser that contravene the Act.

The PC Party's Leader's Dinner on March 2 was reportedly the largest political fundraiser in Canadian history.² The Integrity Commissioner's revelations about Mr. X's illegal lobbying, as well as evidence of apparent illegal campaign donations to the Leader's Dinner involving Municipal Solutions, and the evident inability of the PC Party to verify who paid for the 4,000 tickets purchased to this fundraiser, raise serious doubts about this event's compliance with campaign finance law.

I ask the Chief Electoral Officer to investigate the "gifts" from Municipal Solutions, as well as any other contraventions of the *Election Finances Act* that may have occurred in association with this event.

Thank you, and I look forward to your response.



Kevin Beaulieu
Provincial Director

¹ [Ontario watchdog calls for probe into Mr. X's purchase, donation of tickets to Premier Ford's gala](#)

² [Behind closed doors, Doug Ford's Progressive Conservatives raise a record \\$6M at private fundraiser \(thestar.com\)](#)

Council Member Disclosure Statements

As per Policy ADM 070

Mayor Kevin Ashe**2022 - 2023**

Date	Nature of Gifts/Benefit Received	Source	Circumstances under which the Gift/Benefit was given and received	Estimated Value	What does the recipient intend to do with the Gift/Benefit?	Will the Gift/Benefit at some point be given over to the Municipality?
November 19, 2022	Two Tickets to the Pickering Mayor's Gala	Dorsay Development	Invitation	\$1,200.00 (\$600 per ticket)	Fundraiser in support of various charities (Ajax Pickering Hospital Foundation, Luke's Place, Health Place Cancer Support Centre, and the Ontario Parasport Games)	No
March 2, 2023	Tickets to Premiers Dinner	Municipal Solutions	Invitation from Municipal Solutions to attend the Premiers Dinner	\$1,500.00 per ticket	Attend the event on March 2, 2023	No
March 4, 2023	Two tickets to the Abilities Centre Accessibility Awards	TACC	Invite was extended by TACC to attend the event	\$500.00 (\$250 per ticket)	Attend the event	No
March 17, 2023	One ticket to the Toronto Maple Leafs vs. Carolina Hurricanes	Decast Ltd	Invite was extended by Decast Ltd to attend the event	\$300.00 per ticket	Give the ticket to my daughter to attend the event	N/A

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Councillor Lisa Robinson**2022 - 2023**

Date	Nature of Gifts/Benefit Received	Source	Circumstances under which the Gift/Benefit was given and received	Estimated Value	What does the recipient intend to do with the Gift/Benefit?	Will the Gift/Benefit at some point be given over to the Municipality?
November 19, 2022	2 tickets to the 2022 Mayor's Gala	CentreCourt	Invitation to the Mayor's Gala	\$1,200.00 (\$600 for each ticket)	Attend the Gala	Funds raised at the Gala will support local charity organizations
March 2, 2023	Ticket to the Premiers Dinner	Municipal Solutions	Invitation from Municipal Solutions to attend the Premiers Dinner	\$1,500 per ticket	Attend the event on March 2, 2023	N/A
March 4, 2023	Ticket to the Abilities Centre Accessibility Awards	TACC	Invite was extended by TACC to attend the event	\$250.00 per ticket	Attend the event	N/A
March 17, 2023	Two tickets to the Toronto Maple Leafs vs. Carolina Hurricanes Game	Decast Ltd.	Invite was extended by Decast Ltd. To attend the event	\$600.00 (\$300.00 per ticket)	Attend the hockey game	N/A
March 18, 2023	Two tickets to the Toronto Raptors vs. Minnesota Timberwolves	TACC	Invite was extended by TACC to attend the event	\$400.00 (\$200.00 per ticket)	Attend the basketball game	N/A