

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS



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Press Release

POST – ELECTION 2016 REPORT - PART 1

The Integrity Commission wishes to inform the general public that Part 1 of its Post-Election 2016 Report is now published. The Report focuses on the registration process and donations received by the political parties and independent candidates. It also gives an overview of the regulatory controls under the Political Activities Ordinance and how these were managed and administered by the Commission. In addition, the Report briefly covers the Commission's role in relation to constitutional notice requirements. Part 2 of the Report will be published in July, 2017 and will focus on the actual campaign expenditure incurred by the respective political parties and the independent candidates.

Under the Political Activities Ordinance, the Commission, among other things, has the responsibility to monitor campaign donations and spending during elections by the political parties and candidates and to ensure they comply with the provisions of the law in this regard. These requirements include, keeping to statutory limits of donations from individual donors and ensuring that only permissible donations are accepted. They are required also to adhere to expenditure limits, permissible expenditure items and submitting returns of their campaign donations and expenditure to the Commission during and after the elections.

This Report is based on the campaign donations Returns submitted by the political parties and independent candidates to the Commission and contains information such as total donations reported by each political party and independent candidates in comparison to each other, and the

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Page 1 of 2

Commissioners: Sir David Simmons (Chairman); Rev. Mrs. Julia Adams-Williams; Mr. Martin Green; Rev. Pedro Williams; Canon Mark Kendall

sources of their donations, whether from companies, individuals or self – financed. The Report shows, for example, that the three political parties together reported a total campaign donations of \$576,708. Of this total, Progressive National Party (PNP) reported \$268,798 or 47%; Peoples Democratic Movement (PDM) reported \$297,142 or 52% and Progressive Democratic Alliance (PDA) reported \$10,769 or 2%. The Report further shows that the ten independent candidates together reported a total donation of \$129,353. Details of the donations reported by each of the independent candidates are set out in the Report. The Report is now available on the Commission’s website at www.integritycommission.tc and can be inspected at the offices of the Commission in Grand Turk and Providenciales.

According to Eugene Otuonye QC, Director of the Integrity Commission: *“The preparation and publishing of this report continues to be an important statutory responsibility of the Commission aimed at promoting transparency, openness and accountability, and to strengthen public trust and confidence in the parliamentary and democratic process”*

He further stated that: *“The Commission notes that the monitoring of political financing in TCI remains the first of its kind in the Caribbean even after two general elections. The Commission wishes therefore to commend the political parties and candidates for their high compliance rate and cooperation with the Commission in the successful implementation of the Ordinance during the last general elections.”*



Eugene Otuonye, QC
Director

Editor’s Note:

The Report (and its Appendix 1) is attached to this press release