



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Craig Scott

Member of Parliament/Député
Toronto-Danforth

Friday, May 17, 2013

Commissioner of Canada Elections
C/o Elections Canada
257 Slater Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0M6

Dear Commissioner,

I am writing to you with concerns I have regarding the activities of Senator Mike Duffy and other Senators during the writ period of the 2011 general election campaign.

Specifically, I am concerned about Senators claiming to be working on Senate business during the last federal election while they were instead engaged in Party business.

In terms of Mike Duffy, audits performed by Deloitte indicate that Senator Duffy was listed as being on Senate business at an "other location" during six days of the month of April, wholly during the writ period. There is also evidence of Senator Duffy campaigning for the Conservative Party of Canada and for various local Conservative candidates throughout the writ period. Some of these local campaigns have stated in their financial reports that they reimbursed the Senator directly for his trip expenses. Given that the Senator claimed taxpayer-funded Senate per diems on several occasions during the month of April, it raises the question of whether Mr. Duffy claimed both expenses on the same days.

This also raises concerns over whether Senator Duffy charged Conservative campaigns for the full cost of his travel, or whether part of these costs were unfairly born by the taxpayer and possibly constitute an unclaimed campaign expense. I note that the *Elections Canada Act* specifically prohibits the concealment of donations under the "Contributions" section of the act:

405.2 (2) No person or entity shall

- (a) conceal, or attempt to conceal, the identity of the source of a contribution governed by this Act; or
- (b) act in collusion with another person or entity for that purpose.

Toronto-Danforth
741 Broadview Avenue
Suite 304
Toronto ON M4K 3Y3
Tel./Tél.: (416) 405 8914
Fax/Télé.: (416) 405 8918

craig.scott@parl.gc.ca
www.craigscott.ndp.ca

Ottawa
House of Commons/
Chambre des communes
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6
Tel./Tél.: (613) 992-9381
Fax/Télé.: (613) 992-9389

Given that Senator Duffy apparently refused to co-operate with the Deloitte auditors and reportedly failed to fully disclose details regarding his whereabouts and activities during the 2011 election campaign, we are asking that you initiate an investigation to determine whether any money was improperly used or concealed by Senator Duffy, the Conservative Party of Canada or any of the local campaigns involved.

Furthermore, we are concerned by evidence that these types of 'expense sharing' arrangements may not have been limited to Senator Duffy, as other Senators – including Senator Pamela Wallin, Senator Dennis Patterson, Senator Nancy Greene-Raine, Senator David Smith and Senator Grant Mitchell – were recorded campaigning during the writ period and have yet to give full details of their expenses during that period.

I trust that you will launch an investigation into these troubling allegations to determine whether the *Canada Elections Act* has been violated, and ensure that anyone who broke the rules faces the full consequences of the law.

I thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig Scott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.

Craig Scott, MP

Official Opposition Critic for Parliamentary and Democratic Reform