

DIRECTIVE NO.	CEODIR-2016-005
DATE	MARCH 7, 2016
DATE REVISED	N/APP
SUBJECT	QUALIFICATIONS OF AND PRINCIPLES TO BE APPLIED BY AUDITOR
REFERENCE	SECTION 222 OF <i>THE ELECTION ACT, 1996</i> AND <i>THE ACCOUNTING PROFESSION ACT</i>
INTENT	TO PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION OF THE CEO'S INTERPRETATION ON SECTION 222 OF <i>THE ELECTION ACT, 1996</i> WITH CONSIDERATION FOR THE CHANGES IN THE ACCOUNTING PROFESSION AS A RESULT OF <i>THE ACCOUNTING PROFESSION ACT</i> .
AUDIENCE	CHIEF OFFICIAL AGENTS, BUSINESS MANAGERS

Background

Professional accountants in Saskatchewan are represented by a single, self-regulating body and hold the designation Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA). Legislation to create the Institute of Chartered Professional Accountants of Saskatchewan (CPA Saskatchewan) was proclaimed on November 10, 2014.

For the purposes of *The Election Act, 1996*, candidates and parties are required to appoint an auditor to review the Candidate Election Expense Return, Political Party Election Expense Return and Political Party Fiscal Period Return.

Relevant Legislation

Section 222(1) of *The Election Act, 1996* requires that an auditor appointed by a candidate or a registered political party must be a member in good standing of a recognized accounting profession that is regulated by an Act. If the auditor is a firm, the firm must have at least one partner who is a member in good standing of a recognized accounting profession that is regulated by an Act.

Section 222(2) requires that audits or reviews conducted pursuant to *The Election Act, 1996* must be conducted in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

In late 2014, the three professional accounting bodies (CA, CMA and CGA) in Saskatchewan merged and are now governed by one piece of legislation. This legislation, *The Accounting Profession Act* requires that any professional accountant who performs an audit or assurance engagement and issues an auditor's report in accordance with the standards of professional practice must be both a member in good standing and licensed by the CPA to perform such services.



CEO Directive

2016 General Election Implication

The changes to *The Accounting Profession Act* require that auditors appointed by candidates and parties are licensed members of the Saskatchewan CPA.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Michael D. Boda'.

DR. MICHAEL BODA
CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER
PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN
MARCH 7, 2016