Monday, November 14, 2011

Dear Municipal Election Candidate,

Occupy Vancouver's General Assembly condemns the influence of corporate money on Vancouver's elections and municipal decision-making. At the November 13th 2011 General Assembly, Occupiers agreed by consensus to the following two proposals:

1. The removal of the influence of corporate contributions from municipal elections so that citizens—not corporations—are put at the forefront in municipal decision-making.

   In order to achieve this, Occupiers suggest the following reforms:
   • Establish limits on the amount of money candidates can spend while campaigning;
   • Establish limits on the amount of money any one person can donate to a candidate or political party;
   • Prohibit corporations and other entities from donating money to election campaigns;
   • Prohibit donations from non-BC residents.

2. The establishment of real transparency in municipal campaign finance by requiring candidates and parties to reveal their donors and amounts before, not long after an election is over—as is current practice.

Occupy Vancouver challenges all municipal candidates to disclose the source of all contributions greater than $100, and make this information publicly available online by 11:59pm Thursday, November 17, or be held to account by voters on Election Day.

Sincerely,

Occupy Vancouver General Assembly

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_Occupy Vancouver is a non-violent political movement to transform the unequal, unfair, and growing disparity in the distribution of power and wealth in Vancouver and around the globe._