

Ottawa votes: Who spent what to get elected in 2014



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A trio of east-end city councillors outspent all of their colleagues to get elected last year, according to campaign financial statements released Friday.

Orléans Coun. Bob Monette spent more than \$31,000 to secure his third term on council, while Cumberland Coun. Stephen Blais spent about a thousand dollars less than that to win a second term.

Rookie Innes Coun. Jody Mitic spent just over \$30,000 to win his seat.

Meanwhile, Jim Watson spent more than 14 times what his nearest rival, Mike Maguire, did in the mayor's race. Watson's campaign spent \$321,781 compared to Maguire's \$22,505.

Candidates had until Friday at 2 p.m. to file their financial statements.

Those who spent or received more than \$10,000 during the campaign were also required under the Municipal Elections Act to file audited financial statements at the time of filing. Otherwise, they would be in default and cannot run in the next municipal election.

Catherine Bergeron, head of Elections Ottawa, said she did not have a complete list yet, but said former Rideau-Rockcliffe Coun. Peter Clark and River ward candidate Mike Patton did not provide audited statements.

"Even though we have some paperwork from them, they are in default because their paperwork was not complete," she said.

Failing to get statements audited also means contributors to those candidates are ineligible for the city's rebate program, Bergeron said.

All current members of council had their financial statements audited and all are part of the rebate program.

Councillors who spent the most to get elected

1. Bob Monette, Orléans: \$31,599.34
2. Stephen Blais, Cumberland: \$30,651.36
3. Jody Mitic, Innes: \$30,042.68
4. Jean Cloutier, Alta Vista: \$29,618.25
5. Diane Deans, Gloucester-Southgate: \$29,199.18

Councillors who spent the least to get elected

1. David Chernushenko, Capital: \$3,226.64
2. Keith Egli, Knoxdale-Merivale: \$7,676.30

3. Shad Qadri, Stittsville: \$11,228.95
4. Allan Hubley, Kanata South: \$11,744.22
5. Jan Harder, Barrhaven: \$14,887.98

Most money raised from individual donors (who can each give a maximum of \$750)

1. Tobi Nussbaum, Rideau-Rockcliffe: \$29,700
2. Eli El-Chantiry, West Carleton-March: \$26,450
3. Mathieu Fleury, Rideau-Vanier: \$22,390
4. Jeff Leiper, Kitchissippi: \$20,405
5. Michael Qaqish, Gloucester-South Nepean: \$19,745

Most money raised from corporate and union donors (maximum of \$750 each)

1. Stephen Blais, Cumberland: \$20,550
2. Tim Tierney, Beacon Hill-Cyrville: \$16,138
3. George Darouze, Osgoode: \$15,300
4. Bob Monette, Orléans: \$14,800
5. Diane Deans, Gloucester-Southgate: \$14,138

The mayor's race

Jim Watson

Total spent: \$321,781.85

How much contributed to own campaign: \$1,000

Raised from individual donors: \$243,976

Raised from corporate and union donors: \$97,075.

Biggest single expense: \$167,587.25 for advertising

Biggest single fundraiser: \$52,600 (Sept. 16 fundraiser, hosted by Neil Malhotra of Claridge and Ted Phillips of Taggart)

Interesting donations: Former premier Dalton McGuinty gave Watson \$250, while his brother Brendan McGuinty gave \$750. A number of companies who do business with the city — including Windmill Development, Waste Management, Plasco Energy Group, to name a few — donated the \$750 maximum. Sandy Smallwood, who is on both the built-heritage subcommittee and the police services board, donated \$400.

Mike Maguire

Total spent: \$22,505.34

How much contributed to own campaign: \$15,175.58

Raised from individual donors: \$7,850

Raised from corporate and union donors: \$700

Biggest single expense: \$10,419.90 for signs

Biggest single fundraiser: None

Interesting donations: Three members of the Lauzon family — who have been targeted by Watson as the owners of several derelict buildings — each gave Maguire the \$750 maximum contribution.

Interesting donations to council candidates

Ottawa-Orléans Liberal candidate and former Canadian Forces general Andrew Leslie gave Mitic a total of \$270 — \$150 as an individual and \$120 from a corporation under his name (Leslie's company also gave \$75 to Laura Dudas, who placed second in Innes ward).

Former mayor Larry O'Brien gave \$500 to Kanata North challenger Matt Muirhead, who lost to Marianne Wilkinson.

Energy Minister Bob Chiarelli gave Bay ward Coun. Mark Taylor \$200. He also gave \$500 to Susan Sherring, an Ottawa Sun columnist who ran in Gloucester-South Nepean and placed third.

Ottawa-Vanier MP Mauril Belanger gave Tierney \$300.

Outgoing Somerset Coun. Diane Holmes gave \$100 to Marc Aubin, who tried to upset her council colleague Mathieu Fleury, who ultimately prevailed. Georges Bédard — the ward's former councillor, who Fleury beat in 2010 — gave Aubin \$500.

David Dodge, the former governor of the Bank of Canada, gave Nussbaum \$500.

Somerset Coun. Catherine McKenney collected donations from a number of leading New Democrats, including former party leader Ed Broadbent (\$300) and Ottawa Centre MP Paul Dewar (\$750). Julia Sneyd, who is married to Dewar, also donated to McKenney's campaign (\$500), as did Alex Munter, the CEO of the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario (and a former city councillor).

Munter also gave \$100 to Sherring.

Watson gave \$500 to River ward candidate Riley Brockington, who ultimately won.

Need more time

The formal campaign period ended on Dec. 31, but candidates who finished with deficits and notified the clerk in writing on or before that date could get an extension.

That means that they must file a financial statement by Friday and also file a supplementary statement no later than 2 p.m. on Sept. 25.

Extensions were granted to the following candidates: Chris Fraser, Fred Sherwin (Innes); Matt Muirhead (Kanata North); Alex Cullen, Trevor Robinson (Bay); Lily Obina (Gloucester-Southgate); Jevone Nicholas, Sheila Perry (Rideau-Rockcliffe); Martin Canning (Somerset); and Riley Brockington (River).

Nussbaum also applied for an extension but has already filed his supplementary statement for election-related activity in 2015.