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March 11, 2013

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

Dear Commissioner,

I write today to bring to your attention what we at Democracy Watch feel is a violation of the contribution limits set out under the *Canada Elections Act*.

The following Liberal Party of Canada leadership contestants all “loaned” themselves more than the current donation limit of \$1,200 to pay the cost of entering the ongoing leadership race: David Bertschi (\$75,000), Deborah Coyne (\$25,000), Martha Hall Findlay (\$25,000) and Karen McCrimmon (\$32,000).

We believe that through loaning themselves money as a political candidate, these individuals are actually giving money to themselves which is illegal if it is more than the current contribution limit of \$1,200. We are asking for Elections Canada to enforce the contribution limits as set out in the *Act* and clarify that these 'loans' are contributions as defined by the *Act*.

For more details please see our related news release at: <http://democracywatch.ca/20130311-group-files-complaint-over-liberal-leadership-loans/>

Kindest regards,

Tyler Sommers  
Coordinator, Democracy Watch  
613-241-5179