

**COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM AND
ADVERTISING ACTIVITIES**

**APPLICATION RECORD
OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY OF CANADA
(returnable April 6, 2005)**

April 6, 2005

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COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM AND ADVERTISING ACTIVITIES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

The Conservative Party of Canada (the "Conservative Party") will make an application to the Commission of Inquiry into the Sponsorship Program and Advertising Activities (the "Commission"), on April 6, 2005.

This application requests that the Conservative Party be granted additional funding to enable its counsel to be present in the hearing room for the duration of the proceedings before the Commission.

This application also requests that the requirements in the Commission's *Rules of Procedure and Practice*, that an application be supported by an affidavit and be served and filed five clear days in advance of being heard, be dispensed with in this circumstance.

THE GROUNDS FOR THE APPLICATION ARE:

1. By ruling dated July 19, 2004, the Commissioner recommended "limited funding" for the Conservative Party.
2. The July 19, 2004 ruling on funding presumed that it would not be necessary for counsel for the Conservative Party to attend in person at the hearings on a daily basis.
3. The July 19, 2004 ruling on funding allows for the possibility of subsequent amendment, on application, where circumstances dictate.

4. Recent events, including the issuance of a publication ban, have made it significantly more difficult for the Conservative Party's counsel to follow the Commission's proceedings and to respond to happenings in a timely manner.

5. Receiving a transcript of proceedings the day after testimony has been heard does not allow counsel for the Conservative Party to be made aware of, or to respond to, happenings in a timely manner. This is particularly so where the Commission's *Rules of Procedure and Practice*, including the requirement that motions and applications be served and filed five clear days in advance of being heard, are regularly being dispensed with.

6. On April 6, 2005, the Bloc Québécois, whose status and funding have paralleled that of the Conservative Party, were granted additional funding to allow its counsel to be present in the hearing room for the duration of the proceedings.

7. The Conservative Party further repeats and relies upon the grounds contained in its funding application dated July 12, 2004.

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**COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE
SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM AND
ADVERTISING ACTIVITIES**

In the Matter of Funding for Participation
Before the Commission Inquiry into the
Sponsorship Program and Advertising
Activities

**APPLICATION RECORD
OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY OF CANADA**

(Filed this 6th day of April, 2005)

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