Local campaign finance regimes in Canada are varied, complex, and deserving of further research.

**Title: Local Campaign Finance Regimes In Canada**

**PRESENTER: Brittany Bouteiller**

**BACKGROUND:** There is little consistency across Canada's local campaign finance regimes. Understanding how regimes differ across the country can let us examine how they influence local, regional, and national phenomena like regional divides and inequality.

**METHODS**
1. Collected standardized data for each of the three most recent election cycles from 65 municipalities that meet the following criteria:
   - 10 largest municipalities in each province with population greater than 15,000 in the 2016 Census
   - If this yields fewer than 4 municipalities in a province, the top 4 are included regardless of population size.
   - Every provincial capital.
2. Used to determine local rules in effect, candidate disclosure data, contact information, offices available, and number of candidates that ran for office.
3. Created summary tables to interpret and analyze the data to typologize municipalities based on rules in effect and disclosure availability.

**RESULTS**
- Variation in campaign finance regimes is standard across Canada.
- Most capital cities have stringent regimes.
- Nova Scotia has no campaign finance rules in effect.
- There was a 16.7% increase in candidates running from the third to second most recent election cycle despite a negligible change in offices available.

**Disclosure Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Donation Limit</th>
<th>Expenditure Limit</th>
<th>Disclosure Publicly Available</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victoria, BC</td>
<td>85,792</td>
<td>$1,200 per year to mayor, council candidates</td>
<td>$54,121 mayor candidate, $27,416 council candidate</td>
<td>Total amount of donations &lt;$100, names and amounts for those over $100, itemized expense report Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edmonton, AB</td>
<td>932,546</td>
<td>$5,000 to mayor, council candidates</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Total amount of donations &lt;$50, names and amounts for those over $50, itemized expense report Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regina, SK</td>
<td>215,106</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>CPI based formula: PC = (CPI1 + CPI2 x 100) = 100</td>
<td>Names and amounts ($500 Mayor, $200 Councillor); itemized expense report Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winnipeg, MB</td>
<td>705,244</td>
<td>$1,500 to mayor, $750 to council candidates</td>
<td>CPI based formula for mayor candidate: ( M = N \times \frac{0.35 \times \text{IE/IB}}{100} ); CPI based formula for council candidate: ( M = N \times \frac{0.90 \times \text{IE/IB}}{100} )</td>
<td>Total amount of donations &lt;$250, names and amounts for those over $250, itemized expense report Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toronto, ON</td>
<td>2,731,571</td>
<td>$2,500 to mayor, $1,200 to council candidates</td>
<td>Population-based formula</td>
<td>Total amount of donations &lt;$100, names and amounts for those over $100, itemized expense report Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec, QC</td>
<td>531,902</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Population-based formula</td>
<td>Total amount of donations &lt;$50, names and amounts for those over $50, itemized expense report Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fredericton, NB</td>
<td>58,220</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Contributions itemized only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halifax, NS</td>
<td>403,131</td>
<td>$2,500 to mayor, $1,000 to council candidates</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>Names, $amount for those &gt;$50, itemized expense report Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlottetown, PE</td>
<td>36,094</td>
<td>$1,575 to mayor, council candidates</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>Total amount of donations &lt;$250, names and amounts for those over $250, itemized expense report Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. John’s, NL</td>
<td>108,860</td>
<td>$1,000 to mayor, council candidates</td>
<td>Population-based formula</td>
<td>Names and amounts; itemized expense report for items &gt;$100 Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Requirements**
- **Disclosure Available:**
  - **Footnotes:**
    - Competition to Offices Available in the Most Recent Local Election Cycle (2017-2021)

**Where could this research go?**
- **General:**
  - Comparative study; provincial or local
  - Case studies
  - (In)equality studies
- **Specific:**
  - Corruption in local campaign finance regimes
  - Regime stringency and its impact on perceived political/social structure
  - Influence of local campaign finance regimes on city culture
  - Local campaign finance regimes and regional disparity

**Acknowledgements**
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**References**