



COUNCIL REPORT

To: Mayor and Council

Date: August 23, 2022

From: Paul Gipps, CAO

Subject: **Appointment of Chief Election Officer and Local Government Election Update**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council rescind the appointment of Shelley Schnitzler as Chief Election Officer; and

THAT Council appoint Corinne Boback as Chief Election Officer for the 2022 City of West Kelowna Local Government Election.

BACKGROUND

With the recent retirement of Chief Election Officer Shelley Schnitzler, Council must, in accordance with Section 58(1) of the *Local Government Act*, appoint a new Chief Election Officer for the 2022 Local Government Election.

The Local Government election will be held Saturday, October 15, 2022. The City will once again be conducting the School District Trustee election in conjunction with the Local Government election. This report provides additional information on where and when to vote, qualifications, requirements to vote, and communications for providing resident election information.

Voting Locations and Times:

Advance Voting Opportunities - available to any qualified voter at:

City Hall Council Chambers, 2760 Cameron Road, West Kelowna, BC, on:

- Wednesday, October 5, 2022, 8:00 am – 8:00 pm
- Friday, October 7, 2022, 8:00 am – 8:00 pm
- Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 8:00 am – 8:00 pm
- Thursday, October 13, 2022, 8:00 am – 8:00 pm

General Voting Day – Saturday, October 15, 2022, 8:00 am – 8:00 pm at:

- Westbank Lions Community Centre, 2466 Main Street, West Kelowna
- Constable Neil Bruce Middle School, 2010 Daimler Drive, West Kelowna
- Mar Jok Elementary School, 2101 McDougall Road, West Kelowna

Other Voting Opportunities:

Mail Ballot Voting

Mail ballot voting is now available to anyone who wishes to vote by mail.

Applications to vote by mail will be available 30 days prior to October 5th. Once the ballots are ready (printed and tested), and up to 4:00 pm, Thursday, October 13th, the mail ballot package will be made available to the applicant. The method of providing the mail ballot package will be determined on timelines and Voter preference (mail, courier, pick-up). Completed ballot packages must be returned to City Hall or a designated voting location by 8:00 pm, Saturday, October 15th. Any ballots received after this time will not be counted in the final results.

Curbside Voting

The City of West Kelowna makes every effort to ensure polling stations are accessible. If a Voter has mobility issues or difficulty accessing a polling station, election staff will bring the registration and ballot out to the parking lot of the voting location to process at the Voter's vehicle.

Special Voting Opportunities

Special voting opportunities will be held for residents and staff of the following care facilities:

- Village at Smith Creek, 2425 Orlin Road, West Kelowna, on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
- Brookhaven Care Centre, 1775 Shannon Lake Road, West Kelowna, on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 10:00 am - noon

Qualifications to Vote:

To be eligible to vote as a resident elector:

- Must be a Canadian citizen;
- Must be 18 years of age or older on general voting day;
- Must be a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration (at time of voting);
- Must be a resident of the City on the day of registration;

- Must not be disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or any other enactment from voting in an election or assent voting and not otherwise disqualified by law.

Registration to vote will be done at the Polling Station at the time of Voting. A resident must provide two pieces of identification (one with a signature) that identifies the Voter and where they live.

Recruitment - Working at a Polling Stations

The City will hire approximately 90 individuals to work at the various polling stations. Applications to work at the election will received from August 17 – September 9. Selected applicants will be required to attend an evening training session for an overview on election procedures.

Communications

- The Election page on the City’s website has been updated and improved for easy reference. This page will continue to be updated as the election process advances;
- The Notice of Nomination (a statutory required notice) has been placed in three editions of the WestK newspaper: August 3, 10 and 17, 2022;
- 2022 Local Government Election information pamphlet prepared for distribution to residents (attached).

REVIEWED BY

Shelley Schnitzler, Legislative Services Manager/Corporate Officer

APPROVED FOR THE AGENDA BY

Paul Gipps, CAO

Powerpoint: Yes No

Attachments: 2022 Local Government Election Pamphlet
Key Dates