

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF SAANICH

BYLAW NO. 9771

**TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES FOR THE
CONDUCT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS AND OTHER VOTING**

WHEREAS the Council may pursuant to the *Local Government Act* enact a bylaw to determine and set out procedures and requirements to be applied in the conduct of local government elections and other voting;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the District of Saanich in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

1. Definitions

In this bylaw,

“Council” means the Council of the Municipality;

“Elector” means a qualified resident elector or non-resident property elector of the Municipality;

“Election” means an election for the number of persons required to fill a local government office;

“General local election” means an election held in 2014 and in every 4th year after 2014 for the mayor and all councillors of the Municipality;

“General voting day” means:

- a) For a general local election, the 3rd Saturday of October in the year of the election,
- b) For other elections, the date set under sections 54, 55, or 152 of the *Local Government Act*, and
- c) For assent voting, the date set under section 174 of the *Local Government Act*;

“Municipality” means The Corporation of the District of Saanich;

“Nominator” means an elector of the Municipality;

“Other voting” means voting on a matter referred to in section 170 of the *Local Government Act*.

2. Nomination of Candidates – Required Number of Qualified Nominators

- a) In accordance with section 86 (2) (a) of the *Local Government Act*, the Council sets the required minimum number of qualified nominators for a member of council at 10.

- b) Notwithstanding section 2 a) of this Bylaw, the minimum number of qualified nominators for the office of School Trustee in the District of Saanich and Juan De Fuca (Willis Point) and District of Highlands (Durrance Lake Road) Trustee Electoral Area for School District No. 63 (Saanich) remains set at 2 in accordance with section 86 (1) (a) of the *Local Government Act*.

3. Electronic Access to Nomination Documents and Disclosure Statements

- a) In accordance with section 89 (8) of the *Local Government Act*, the Council provides for public access to nomination documents via the Saanich website from the time of filing until 30 days after the declaration of the election results.
- b) In accordance with section 59 (1) of the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, the Council provides for public access to the campaign financing disclosure statements, the signed declarations, and the supplementary reports via the Saanich website from the time of filing until five (5) years after general voting day for the election to which they relate.

4. Additional General Voting Opportunities

In accordance with section 106 of the *Local Government Act*, the Council authorizes the chief election officer to:

- a) Establish additional general voting opportunities for general voting day for each election or other voting; and, if established
- b) Designate the voting places and voting hours, within the limits set out in section 106 (2) of the *Local Government Act*, for the additional general voting opportunities.

5. Required Advance Voting Opportunities

In addition to the required advance voting opportunity on the 10th day before general voting day, in accordance with section 107 (1) (b) of the *Local Government Act*, the 2nd advance voting opportunity for each election shall be held on the 4th day before general voting day.

6. Additional Advance Voting Opportunities

In accordance with section 108 of the *Local Government Act*, the Council authorizes the chief election officer to:

- a) Establish dates for additional advance voting opportunities for each election or other voting to be held in advance of general voting day; and, if established
- b) Designate the voting places and set the voting hours for additional advance voting opportunities.

7. Special Voting Opportunities

In accordance with section 109 of the *Local Government Act*, the Council:

- a) Establishes special voting opportunities for each election or other voting;
- b) Authorizes the chief election officer to establish the date and voting hours when and the place where the special voting opportunities are to be conducted;
- c) Restricts the persons who may vote at the special voting opportunities to electors who, on the date on which the special voting opportunities are held, are residents or patients or family members thereof, or are employees of the facilities at which special voting opportunities are conducted;
- d) Authorizes the chief election officer to limit the number of candidate representatives who may be present at the special voting opportunities.
- e) Notwithstanding section 7 (a), where a by-election must be held pursuant to section 54 of the *Local Government Act* special voting opportunities may be provided at the discretion of the chief election officer appointed by Council.

8. Mail Ballot Voting

- a) In accordance with section 110 of the *Local Government Act*, all electors may vote using a mail ballot option, and are permitted elector registration in conjunction with this voting method.
- b) The following procedures for voting and registration must apply:
 - (i) sufficient records will be kept by the chief election officer so that challenges of the electors' right to vote may be made in accordance with the intent of section 126 of the *Local Government Act*,
 - (ii) a person exercising the right to vote by mail ballot may be challenged in accordance with, and on the grounds specified in section 126 of the *Local Government Act* until 4:30 pm two days before general voting day.
- c) The Council authorizes the chief election officer to determine and set time limits in relation to voting by mail.
- d) As provided in section 110 (9) of the *Local Government Act*, a mail ballot must be received by the chief election officer before the close of voting on general voting day in order to be counted for an election.
- e) Notwithstanding section 8 (a), where a by-election must be held pursuant to section 54 of the *Local Government Act* mail ballot voting may be provided at the discretion of the chief election officer appointed by Council.

9. Register of Resident Elector

- a) In accordance with section 76 of the *Local Government Act* the register of resident electors for the municipality will be the most current available provincial list of voters prepared under the *Election Act* of British Columbia, existing, in the case of a

general local election, any other election, or voting, no later than 52 days prior to the date of holding the general local election, other election, or other voting.

- b) Where a by-election must be held pursuant to section 54 of the *Local Government Act* the chief election officer may determine the register of resident electors to be as provided in 9 (a) or provide for voting day registration under section 69 of the *Local Government Act*.

10. Resolution of Tie Votes After Judicial Recount

In the event of a tie vote after a judicial recount, the tie vote will be resolved by conducting a lot in accordance with section 151 of the *Local Government Act*.

11. Repeal

Elections Procedures Bylaw, 2017, No. 9425 and all amendments thereto are hereby repealed except insofar as they may repeal any other bylaw.

12. Title

This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the "**ELECTIONS PROCEDURES BYLAW, 2022, NO. 9771**".

Read a first time this 30th day of May, 2022.

Read a second time this 30th day of May, 2022.

Read a third time this 30th day of May, 2022.

Adopted by Council, signed by the Mayor and Clerk and sealed with the Seal of the Corporation on the 13th day of June, 2022.

Municipal Clerk

Mayor