

# 2025 Edmonton Election Bill 20 Update & Budget Adjustment

City Council  
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Aileen Giesbrecht, Returning Officer  
Tara Ward, Substitute Returning Officer



**Edmonton  
Elections**

# Presentation Outline

1. Election Framework & Authorities
2. 2024 Amendments to LAEA
3. Projected Cost Impacts
4. Next Steps & Timelines

# Election Framework & Authorities

Legislation

***Municipal Government Act,  
Local Authorities Election Act  
& Education Act***

**Elections Bylaw**

Edmonton Elections

**Returning Officer**

**Guiding Principles**

Accessible  
Inclusive  
Equitable  
Ethical  
Safe

# Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024 Update



**May 30  
2024**

**Royal Assent**

**Summer  
2024**

**Municipal Affairs  
Engagement  
Sessions**

July 9 to August 8

**Fall  
2024**

**Proclamation &  
Release of  
Regulations**



# 2024 Amendments to the LAEA

- Prohibition of automated voting equipment (voting tabulators)
- Required recounts if the margin is within a 0.5 per cent threshold
- Mandatory implementation of a permanent electors register



# 2024 Amendments to the LAEA continued

- More complex requirements for electors to prove their eligibility
- Special ballot eligibility and new registration and verification processes
- Notice of intent to run before candidates can raise or spend funds
- New option for local jurisdictions to require, by bylaw, candidate nominations to be accompanied by a criminal record check



# 2024 Amendments to the LAEA continued

- Political parties and slates of candidates to be piloted in Edmonton and Calgary
- Third party advertising definition includes a position on a vote on a bylaw or question
- New ministerial powers to extend or adjourn voting times in the event of an emergency

# Analysis of Impacts



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# Automated Voting Equipment Prohibition

Estimated Costs: \$2.56 Million (2025)

- Developing hand counting processes for election night ballot counts, recount and judicial recounts
- Recruiting, hiring and training more election workers to count ballots
  - Voting station
  - Count centre
  - Recounts (Returning Officer & Judicial)
- More ballots & ballot boxes
- Rental costs for larger count centre



# Permanent Electors Register

Estimated Costs: \$1.762 (2025); \$598K (2026)

- Election Logistics Management System upgrade
- Integration with voting processes
- Equipment for real time strike-off at voting stations (advance & election day)
- Additional voter outreach
- Voter registration campaign and processes
- Increased number of voter information cards
- Post-election data management and reporting to the Chief Electoral Officer

# Special Ballot Expansion and Changes

Estimated Costs: \$371K (2025)

- Printing and postage for additional special ballots
- Hiring additional staff to process special ballots requests and returned special ballots.



# Campaign Finance Changes & Political Parties & Slates

Estimated Costs: \$630K (2025); \$233K (2026)

- Managing notice of intent process and candidate registry
- Reviewing candidate campaign finance disclosures annually
- Developing and managing registration for political parties & slates of candidates
- Reviewing financial disclosures from political parties & slates of candidates
- Post-election reporting to Municipal Affairs

# Enhanced Election Support Structure

Estimated Costs: \$676K (2025); \$153K (2026)

- Additional core project team members to support increasingly complex project planning, coordination, and communications
- Increased staffing and equipment for the Election Central call centre to support voting station operations & results reporting
- Increased costs for destruction of additional election materials (ballots, permanent electors register, count forms, etc.)

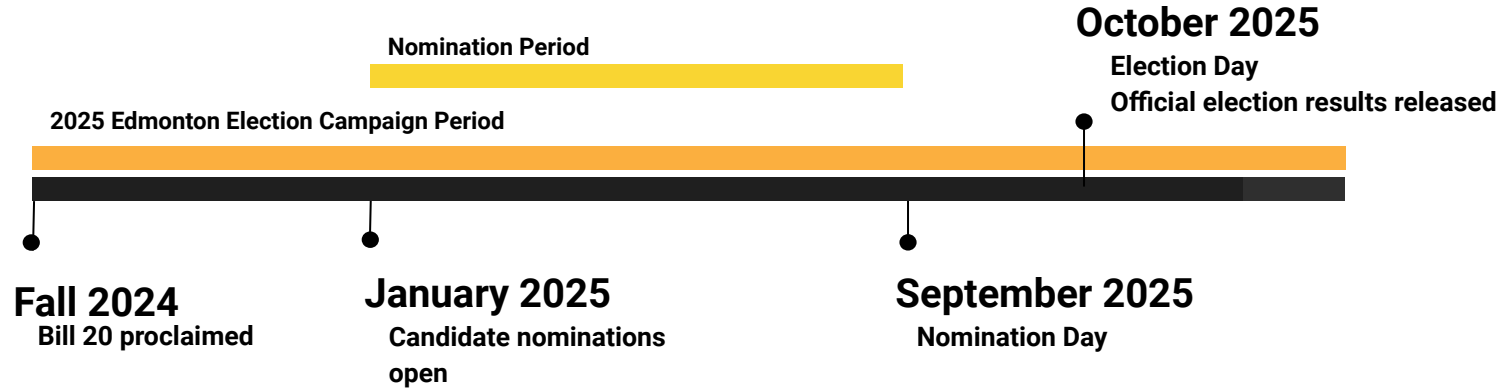
# Total Costs by Impact

Impact Area	2025 One-time & Ongoing Costs (\$000)	2026 Ongoing Costs (\$000)
Automated Voting Equipment Prohibition	\$ 2,562	\$0
Permanent Electors Register	\$ 1,762	\$ 598
Special Ballot Expansion	\$ 371	\$0
Election Finance, Candidates, Parties & Slates	\$ 630	\$ 233
Enhanced Election Support Structure	\$ 676	\$ 153
<b>Subtotal</b>	\$ 6,001	\$ 984
<b>Cost Savings</b>	\$(1,159)	\$0
<b>Total Costs</b>	\$4,842	\$984

# Financial Summary

	2025			2026			Report Reference
	Expense	Revenue	Net	Expense	Revenue	Net	
<b>APPROVED BUDGET</b>							
Program Expenses (Ongoing)	985	394	591	985	394	591	<i>Attachment 2 Part C</i>
2025 Election	7,015	2,806	4,209	-	-	-	<i>Attachment 2 Part B</i>
Subtotal	8,000	3,200	4,800	985	394	591	
<b>PROPOSED AMENDMENTS</b>							
Program Expenses (Ongoing)	-	-	-	984	393	591	<i>Attachment 1, 2 Part A</i>
2025 Election	4,842	1,937	2,905	-	-	-	<i>Attachment 1, 2 Part A</i>
Subtotal	4,842	1,937	2,905	984	393	591	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,842</b>	<b>5,137</b>	<b>7,705</b>	<b>1,969</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>1,182</b>	<i>Attachment 2 Part D</i>

# Next Steps & Timelines







**Thank you**



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