Elections Bylaw Policy Decisions

Presented to: City Council

Date: October 22, 2024







Agenda

- 1. Legislative Framework
- 2. Council Decision Points
 - a. Special (Mail In) Ballots
 - b. Form of Nominations
 - c. Blind Voter Template
 - d. Additional Authorities
- 3. Timelines & Next Steps



Legislative Framework



Edmonton Elections

Municipal Government Act, Local Authorities Election Act & Education Act

Elections Bylaw

Returning Officer

Guiding Principles

Accessible Inclusive Equitable Ethical Safe





Special (Mail In) Ballots

Recommendation 1:

Remove fax as an accepted application method.

Recommendation 2:

- Application deadlines:
 - Mail delivery: 4:30 p.m. on the Monday before Election Day
 - In-person pick up: 7:00 p.m. on Election Day
- Return deadline: 7:00 p.m. on Election Day





Form of Nominations

Deposits & Signatures

Recommendation 3:

That the deposit amounts remain <u>unchanged</u> as \$500 for mayoral candidates and \$100 for councillor candidates.

Recommendation 4:

That the nomination signature requirements remain unchanged at 100 signatures for mayoral candidates and 25 signatures for councillor candidates.





Blind Elector Template

Recommendation 5:

 Replace the current requirement with a more enabling option to provide a voter template for electors with low or no vision at all in-person voting opportunities.





Form of Nominations

Criminal Record Check

Option 1:

 Maintain current approach and not require a criminal record check.

Option 2:

 Implement a requirement for a criminal record check to be provided by a person seeking to be nominated as a candidate.





Additional Authorities

Recommendation to maintain current approach:

- Opening voting stations at 9 a.m. on Election Day
- Begin counting process at the count centre at 7:30 p.m.
- City Manager appoints the Returning Officer
- Returning Officer's delegated authorities
- Order of candidates on ballot (alphabetical last name)
- Procedure upon the death of a candidate
- No home voting
- Election Day third Monday of October

Potential future consideration:

Campaign expense limits





Timelines & Next Steps



