

Bylaw 19457

Election Bylaw

Purpose

To replace the City of Edmonton Election Bylaw.

Readings

Bylaw 19457 is ready for three readings.

If Council wishes to give three readings during a single meeting, then prior to moving third reading, Council must unanimously agree “That Bylaw 19457 be considered for third reading.”

Position of Administration

Administration supports this Bylaw.

Report Summary

Since the 2017 Edmonton General Election the *Local Authorities Election Act* has been revised twice by the Government of Alberta.

As a result, changes to the City’s Election Bylaw must be made to ensure legislative compliance and to provide clarity prior to the 2021 Edmonton General Election.

Report

The current Election Bylaw has been in place since 2013. In this time the *Local Authorities Election Act* (The Act) has undergone significant changes including two substantial updates since the 2017 General Election. The Election Bylaw 19457 (Attachment 1) removes clauses from the bylaw that are already contained in The Act and has removed procedural items that do not need to be included within an election bylaw.

Summary of Bylaw Changes.

Section 4 Returning Officer - addition of requirement for the City Manager to appoint a substitute returning officer due to a new legislative requirement

Section 6 Death of a candidate - changed to allow election to continue if a candidate dies before any votes are cast. If a candidate dies after ballots have been distributed, the race will be discontinued and a new election held.

The clauses that have been retained in the Edmonton Election Bylaw are clauses that must be passed through bylaw in order to administer local elections in accordance with *The Act*.

Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management

Corporate Outcome(s):			
Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s)	Target(s)
Edmontonians are able to Vote or Run in General Elections through clear and equitable processes and procedures in local elections.	Election Bylaw meets all requirements of the LAEA	The Election Bylaw allows the City of Edmonton Returning Officer to administer general elections in an equitable manner for Edmontonians.	Election Bylaw meets all requirements of the LAEA

Risk Assessment

Risk Element	Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Score (with current mitigations)	Current Mitigations	Potential Future Mitigations
Public Perception	Residents are confident that elections are administered in an equitable and fair manner for all voters and candidates.	1 - rare	1 - minor	1 - low	Election processes are developed to meet all legislated requirements while being accessible for Edmontonians to Work, Vote or Run in General Elections - as eligible.	City of Edmonton Elections are audited by the City of Edmonton Auditor's office. Reports must also be provided to Alberta Municipal Affairs throughout the Election project.

Attachments

1. Bylaw 19457

Others Reviewing this Report

- B. Andriachuk, City Solicitor