

# Amendment to Election Bylaw 19457

## Debit/Credit Card Deposits for Nominations

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### Purpose

Municipal Affairs issued Ministerial Order No. MSD:130/20 on December 14, 2020. The Ministerial Order modifies section 30(1) of the *Local Authorities Election Act* to enable nomination deposits to be accepted by debit or credit card. An amendment is required to the Election Bylaw 19457 in order to ensure legislative alignment.

### Readings

Bylaw 19567 is ready for three readings.

A majority vote of City Council on all three readings is required for passage.

If Council wishes to give three readings during a single meeting, then prior to moving third reading, Council must unanimously agree “That Bylaw 19567 be considered for third reading.”

### Position of Administration

Administration supports this Bylaw.

### Report Summary

Section 5 of the Election Bylaw indicates that Candidate nominations must be accompanied by a deposit payable in cash, certified cheque or money order. The recent Ministerial Order permits credit and debit payments for the 2021 Edmonton General Election. This bylaw amendment, if passed, will delete the references to the types of payment options in order to ensure ongoing alignment between the *Local Authorities Election Act* and the City of Edmonton Election Bylaw.

### Report

At the October 19, 2020 City Council meeting Bylaw 19457, Election Bylaw, received three readings. It was updated to reflect changes to the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

Nomination Period for the 2021 Edmonton General Election officially commenced on January 4, 2021, and aspiring candidates have begun to submit their nomination forms. The purpose of this rush report to Council is to seek an amendment to the

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Election Bylaw removing the requirement to make the nomination deposit by cash, certified cheque or money order.

If this bylaw is passed Edmonton Elections will communicate that the additional form of payment for nomination deposits is now available.

### Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management

<b>Corporate Outcome(s):</b> Edmontonians are connected to the city in which they live, work and play			
Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s)	Target(s)
Edmontonians are connected to the city in which they live, work and play	Election Bylaw meets all requirement of the <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i>	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 <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i> .

### 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.	Electrons are audited by the City Auditor.

### Legal Implications

By deleting references to the types of payment options available, the Election Bylaw will allow the expanded electronic payment options made possible through the recent Ministerial Order for the 2021 general election, and accommodate any future changes to payment options that may come forward through future legislative amendments.

### Attachment

1. Bylaw 19567

### Others Reviewing this Report

- B. Andriachuk, City Solicitor

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