



## Candidate Information

for

## 2020 Local By-Election for the Village of Zeballos

November 5, 2020

Dear Candidate:

As Chief Election Officer for the By-Local Election to be held on Saturday, January 9, 2021, I am available, along with the Election Office staff, to assist you in any way we can regarding the election process.

The period during which nomination forms can be filed is from **9:00 a.m. Tuesday, November 24, 2020, to 4:00 p.m. Friday, December 4, 2020.** Nominations cannot be accepted before or after these dates and times as per the *Local Government Act*. No exceptions will be made.

### Important Eligibility Dates for Candidates, Nominators and Voters:

#### ***Candidate Eligibility:***

- ***Be 18 years of age or older on general voting day***
- ***Be a Canadian citizen***
- ***Must have been a resident of B.C. at least six months by filing date;***
- ***Nominators must be eligible to vote in the Town as a resident elector or as a non-resident property elector; and***
- ***Not be disqualified under the Local Government Act or any other enactment from being nominated for, being elected to, or holding office, or be otherwise disqualified by law.***

#### ***Voter Eligibility:***

- ***Be 18 years of age or older when they register to vote, or 18 years or older on general voting day;***
- ***Be a Canadian citizen;***
- ***Have been a resident of B. C. for at least six months before they register to vote;***
- ***Have either lived or owned property in the Village of Zeballos for at least 30 days before they register to vote;***
- ***If there is more than one registered owner of the property, only one of those individuals may, with the written consent of the majority of the owners, register as a non-resident property elector; and***
- ***Not be disqualified under the Local Government Act, or any other enactment, or by law from voting in a local election.***

There is no corporate or business vote in local elections

## **Standardized Nomination Forms**

Due to recent legislative changes, local governments now use standard nomination forms which require detailed contact information for candidates and their representatives. A solemn declaration (included in the nomination package) stating that the candidate is aware of, understands, and intends to comply with the Local Elections Campaign Financing Act is also required at the time of filing.

The following forms are included in your package:

**Form C2 – Nomination Documents:** All three pages of this form must be returned. No nomination deposit is required. This form must be submitted at the time of filing.

**Form C3 – Other Information Provided by Candidate:** Following submission to the Village of Zeballos, this form will be provided to Elections BC. This form must be submitted at the time of filing.

**Form C4 – Appointment of Candidate Financial Agent:** Following submission to the Village of Zeballos, this form will be provided to Elections BC. This form must be submitted at the time of filing.

**Form C5 – Appointment of Candidate Official Agent:** This form is optional and is only required if you are going to appoint an Official Agent. If you choose to appoint an Official Agent later during the election process, you need to submit this form as soon as practicable after the appointment has been made.

**Form C6 – Appointment of Candidate Scrutineer:** This form is optional and is only required if you are going to appoint a scrutineer. Under the Local Government Act, each candidate is permitted to appoint one (1) scrutineer for each ballot box used at a voting place. While you can only have one scrutineer per ballot box per voting place at any one time, you may appoint multiple scrutineers to rotate through the voting place throughout voting day. The Village of Zeballos will have one ballot box at each voting place. If you choose to appoint a scrutineer later during the election process, you must submit this form as soon as practicable after the appointment has been made.

Once you have filed your nomination papers and become a candidate, you should be aware of the following important election information:

## **Online Information**

The Local Government Division of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has the following documents available on their webpage located at:

- Local Government By-Elections:  
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/local-governments/governancepowers/general-local-elections/by-elections>
- Thinking of Running for Local Office?: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/local-governments/governancepowers/general-local-elections/thinking-of-running>
- Conduct of Locally Elected Officials:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/local-governments/governance-powers/conduct-of-locally-elected-officials>

- Candidate's Guide to Local Government Elections in BC: [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/local-governments/governance-powers/candidates\\_guide\\_to\\_local\\_elections.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/local-governments/governance-powers/candidates_guide_to_local_elections.pdf)
- Elector Organization Guide to Local Government Elections in BC: [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/local-governments/governance-powers/elector\\_organization\\_guide.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/local-governments/governance-powers/elector_organization_guide.pdf)
- Guide for Local Elections: [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/local-governments/governance-powers/what\\_every\\_candidate\\_needs\\_know.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/british-columbians-our-governments/local-governments/governance-powers/what_every_candidate_needs_know.pdf)

## 1. **VOTING PLACES, DAYS, HOURS**

**General Voting Day** will be open to qualified electors for the Councillor of the Village of Zeballos on Saturday, January 9, 2021 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the following location:

- ◆ Community Hall, 161 Maquinna Avenue, Zeballos, BC

**Advance Voting Opportunity** will be open to qualified electors for the Councillor of the Village of Zeballos on Wednesday, December 30, 2020 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the following location:

- ◆ Community Hall, 161 Maquinna Avenue, Zeballos, BC
- ◆ No special circumstances apply for advance voting.

**Mail In Ballot Voting Opportunity** will be available in accordance with the Ministerial Order and subsequent Motion of Council. Mail in Ballots will be available to any eligible voter who accurately completes an application for a ballot. To ensure sufficient mailing times the deadline for Mail Ballots Applications is set at December 14, 2020

## 2. **CAMPAIGN FINANCING**

**Disclosure of campaign financing** – In accordance with the newly-enacted *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, responsibility for campaign financing oversight is now under the jurisdiction of Elections BC. If you have any questions or concerns regarding campaign financing, please consult the Elections BC website at [www.elections.bc.ca](http://www.elections.bc.ca), email [lcf@elections.bc.ca](mailto:lcf@elections.bc.ca) or call toll free 1-855-952-0280.

Once you have filed your nomination papers, Elections BC will mail the required campaign financing disclosure forms directly to you. Your completed campaign financing disclosures are due no later than February 19, 2021 and must be filed directly with Elections BC.

In accordance with the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, for the 2020 local by-election, the following expense limits for candidates during the campaign period apply:

- ◆ Councillor \$5,000, and Third-Party Advertising \$750.

For more information, please see the Elections BC Guide to Local Elections Campaign Financing in B.C. for Candidates and their Financial Agents available online here: <https://elections.bc.ca/docs/lecfa/guide-to-local-elections-campaign-financing-in-bc-for-candidatesand-their-financial-agents.pdf>

**3. ELECTION ADVERTISING SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION**

As part of the newly enacted campaign financing legislation, election advertising must now include sponsorship information during the election proceeding period (December 12, 2020 – January 9, 2021) (the definition of election advertising is very broad and includes signage, newspaper ads and electronic communications. Please consult the Guide or the legislation for a full definition). The sponsorship information must include: (1) the name and title of the financial agent, (2) the words “authorized by” preceding the name and title of the financial agent, and (3) a BC phone number or mailing address or email address at which the financial agent can be contacted. Sponsorship information must be in English. If the advertising is in another language, then the sponsorship information must also be in that language and in English.

**Campaign financing rules apply during the campaign period for candidates, elector organizations and third-party sponsors.**

**4. UNLAWFUL ELECTION ACTIVITIES**

Part 3, Division 18 – of the *Local Government Act* deals with election offences. These sections should be self-explanatory. Please review this information. Please also note Section 163(4) which states that election campaigning cannot take place within 100 metres of a voting place. This includes canvassing or soliciting votes, placement of signs, distribution of documents/material, and carrying, wearing or supplying flags, badges or other things showing support for a particular candidate.

If you wish clarification on any facet of the election proceedings or require additional information, please call me at 250-761-4888 or email me at [elovestrom@gmail.com](mailto:elovestrom@gmail.com).

Yours Truly,



Eileen Lovestrom  
Chief Election Officer