

Candidate Information

Nomination Period

Candidates must submit a Candidate Nomination Package to the Chief Election Officer or Deputy Chief Election Officer **between March 9, 2021, and 4:00 pm on March 19, 2021** in order to be included as a candidate for the Castlegar 2021 By-election.

Number of Nominators

- In the Candidate Nomination Package, Form C2, the minimum number of qualified nominators required is **two (2)**.

Public Access to Nomination Documents

- Nomination documents will be available for supervised public inspection at Castlegar City Hall, 460 Columbia Avenue, during regular business hours, 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (closed 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.) Monday–Friday excluding statutory holidays from when documents are received until 30 days after the official election results are declared.

Declaration of Candidates

- The declaration of candidates for the 2021 By-election takes place Friday, March 19, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. at Castlegar City Hall, 460 Columbia Avenue.

Challenge of Nomination

- An eligible elector, another nominee for office, or the local Chief Election Officer can challenge a prospective candidate's nomination when they believe the nomination documents are incorrect or the person is not otherwise eligible to be nominated for office. Nomination challenges must be made through an application to the Provincial Court. The period to challenge a candidate nomination through Provincial Court ends at 4:00 p.m. on March 23, 2021.

Withdrawal of Nominations

- Prospective candidates may reconsider and withdraw their candidacy during the nomination period and for seven days following the close of nomination period.
- Deadline for withdrawal of candidates is 4:00 p.m., Friday, March 26, 2021.

List of Electors

- Each candidate is entitled to one free copy of a list of registered electors (voter's list).
- A candidate must agree, in writing, that the information provided on the list of registered electors will only be used for election purposes before receiving a copy of the list.
- A candidate must treat the personal information on the list of electors contains carefully to ensure confidentiality.
- The list must be returned to the local government following the election.

Candidate Representatives

- Candidate representatives assigned to observe the count must be in the voting place before it closes at 8:00 p.m. Those in the voting place after 8:00 p.m. cannot leave until the count is complete, unless permitted by the presiding election official.
- Candidate representatives can only observe the count. They are not allowed to handle any ballots or to in any way assist with or interfere with the counting proceedings.

- Each candidate representative who attends a voting place must have made a **solemn declaration** to preserve the secrecy of the ballot and not interfere with an elector marking a ballot. Official agents and scrutineers may attend a voting place once they have made their solemn declaration – financial agents must have permission from the Chief Election Officer to be present at a voting place.
- Candidate representatives must carry copies of their appointment papers whenever they represent the candidate at an election proceeding.

Scrutineers

- A candidate may appoint scrutineers to represent the candidate at each voting place.
- This appointment must be in writing and all scrutineers must carry their appointment forms with them.
- Only one scrutineer per candidate may be present in a voting place for each ballot box in use at any one time. For the 2021 Local By-election there will be only one ballot box at a time in use during voting at each voting place.

Voting Opportunities

General Voting Day Saturday, April 24, 2021 at the Castlegar & District Recreation Complex (located at 2101 6th Avenue) from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Advance Voting Days Wednesday, April 14, 2021 and Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at the Castlegar & District Recreation Complex (located at 2101 6th Avenue) from 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Mail-In Voting Opportunities

The City has requested an Order from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to allow the City to offer a mail-in ballot option for the 2021 By-election due to COVID-19. If approved, all forms and instructions regarding the process to apply for a ballot and receive a ballot package will be available on the City of Castlegar website or by contacting City Hall 250-365-7227.

