

**TOWN OF MORINVILLE  
PROVINCE OF ALBERTA  
ELECTION BYLAW  
BYLAW 20/2024  
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A BYLAW OF THE TOWN OF MORINVILLE, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, TO PROVIDE FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN THE TOWN OF MORINVILLE.

**WHEREAS**, the *Local Authorities Elections Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c L-21, and amendments thereto, provides for the conduct of elections by local authorities; and

**AND WHEREAS**, the *Local Authorities Elections Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c L-21, and amendments thereto, permits the local authority to pass bylaws for the conduct of such elections;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Municipal Council of Morinville, Alberta duly assembled hereby enacts as follows:

**1.0 BYLAW TITLE**

1.1 This Bylaw shall be cited as the “Election Bylaw”.

**2.0 DEFINITIONS**

2.1 Except as otherwise provided for in this Bylaw, the terms used in the *Act*, where used or referred to in this Bylaw, shall have the same meaning as defined or provided in the *Act*.

2.2 “*Act*” means the *Local Authorities Election Act*, R.S.A 2000 cL-21, and any amendments or successor legislation thereto.

2.3 “Ballot” means the paper card indicating the office to be voted on, the name(s) of the candidate(s), the bylaw name and number or the question(s), if any, and containing the space(s) in which the elector is to mark their vote.

2.4 “Ballot Box” means a container, in a form approved by the Returning Officer, intended to contain the voted Ballots.

2.5 “Counting Centre” means an area designated by the Returning Officer in a controlled access building and equipped for the counting of votes and the totalling of election results.

2.6 “Local Jurisdiction” means and includes the Municipality, Greater St. Albert Catholic School Division and Sturgeon Public School Division.

2.7 “Morinville” or “Municipality” means the Municipal Corporation of Morinville.

**3.0 JOINT ELECTION**

3.1 The Returning Officer is authorized to enter into agreements, on behalf of Morinville, to conduct elections on behalf of other local jurisdictions in Morinville whose boundaries may or may not be contiguous with Morinville but do have common areas.

**4.0 RETURNING OFFICER**

4.1 The Legislative and Corporate Initiatives Coordinator, or any future position that assumes the same responsibilities and duties, regardless of title, is appointed as the Returning Officer for Morinville for the purpose of conducting elections under the *Act*.

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- 4.2 The Manager of Communications & Legislative Services, or any future position that assumes the same responsibilities and duties, regardless of title, is appointed as the substitute Returning Officer for Morinville for the purpose of conducting elections under the *Act*.

**5.0 NOMINATIONS**

- 5.1 The Returning Officer may establish locations, in addition to the local jurisdiction office, where nominations may be received.
- 5.2 Each Nomination Form of a candidate shall be accompanied with:
- 5.2.1 a deposit of \$100.00;
  - 5.2.2 all requirements determined by the *Act*; and
- 5.3 The person nominated as a candidate is responsible for ensuring that the nomination filed meets the requirements of the *Act* and this Bylaw.

**6.0 VOTING HOURS ON ELECTION DAY**

- 6.1 Voting stations shall be open continuously from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

**7.0 ADVANCE AND INSTITUTIONAL VOTING**

- 7.1 Any Ballot Box used for advance and institutional vote shall be sealed and stored securely upon closing of the voting station.
- 7.2 The Ballot Box(s) shall be returned to the Counting Centre or other location specified by the Returning Officer.
- 7.3 The Returning Officer shall determine the dates, locations, voting hours, and number of advance voting stations pursuant to the *Act*.
- 7.4 The Returning Officer is authorized to designate the dates, locations, and voting hours of one or more institutional voting stations for an election.

**8.0 SPECIAL BALLOTS**

- 8.1 Electors may apply to vote by Special Ballot in accordance with the requirements set in the *Act*.
- 8.2 The Returning Officer is authorized to provide for Special Ballots under the *Act*.
- 8.3 An application for a Special Ballot may be made to the Returning Officer:
- 8.3.1 in writing;
  - 8.3.2 by telephone;
  - 8.3.3 in person; or
  - 8.3.4 by email;
- 8.4 Applications for Special Ballots shall be submitted to the Returning Officer:

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8.4.1 Between August 1 in the year of the election until 4:30 p.m. on the Friday preceding Election Day; or

8.4.2 During the period outlined in the resolution fixing the date for the election or vote, for a by-election or vote on a bylaw or question.

8.5 A complete Special Ballot package must be received by the Returning Officer at Morinville Civic Hall before 4:30 p.m. on the Friday preceding Election Day or at the Morinville Community Cultural Centre before 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

**9.0 ELECTOR ASSISTANCE**

9.1 At the request of an elector, the Returning Officer must provide elector assistance pursuant to the *Act*.

9.2 An elector who is unable to attend a voting station during advance voting, institutional voting, or Election Day due to physical disability may request elector assistance at home.

9.3 The Returning Officer or designate will provide elector assistance at home during the hours an advance voting station is open or other times determined by the Returning Officers pursuant to the *Act*.

**10.0 COUNTING CENTRE**

10.1 The Returning Officer shall ensure the Counting Centre is secure from unauthorized access by persons not entitled to be present during the processing and finalization of results.

10.2 The Returning Officer may count the special ballots, advance vote ballot box, and institutional ballot box no earlier than 7:30 p.m. on Election Day.

10.3 The Returning Officer shall preside at the Counting Centre and shall:

10.3.1 receive all sealed Ballot Boxes;

10.3.2 record receipt of Ballot Boxes;

10.3.3 verify the seal of each Ballot Box;

10.3.4 review and verify Ballot accounts from each voting station, the advance vote, the institutional vote and Special Ballot vote; and

10.3.5 produce a cumulative tally from all the voting stations.

10.4 The Returning Officer may delegate any of the duties under this Section to any in accordance with the *Act*.

**11.0 APPLICATION TO OTHER ELECTIONS**

11.1 The provisions of this Bylaw shall apply in generally the same fashion, but with all necessary modifications by resolution, to:

11.1.1 a by-election;

11.1.2 a ballot on a bylaw or question that is put to the electors at a time other than a general election, and

11.1.3 an election for school board trustees or any other election conducted in conjunction with an election for Council.

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**12.0 SEVERABILITY**

- 12.1 If any Section or parts of this Bylaw are found in any court of law to be illegal or beyond the power of Council to enact, such Section or parts shall be deemed to be severable, and all other Sections or parts of this Bylaw shall be deemed to be separate and independent therefrom and to be enacted as such.

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**COMING INTO FORCE**

That Bylaw 4/2017 and 26/2020 is hereby repealed.

This Bylaw shall come into full force and effect when it receives third reading and is duly signed.

READ a first time this 26<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2024.

READ a second time this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024.

READ a third and finally passed the 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2024.

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

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Simon Boersma  
Mayor

**ORIGINAL SIGNED**

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Michelle Hay  
Interim Chief Administrative Officer