

CITY OF FORT ST. JOHN
BYLAW NO. 2413, 2018

A bylaw to provide for the determination of various procedures for the conduct of elections and assent voting.

WHEREAS under the *Local Government Act* Council may, by bylaw, determine various procedures and requirements to be applied to the conduct of elections and assent voting;

AND WHEREAS Council wishes to establish voting procedures and requirements under that authority;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the City of Fort St. John, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. CITATION

This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as “Election and Assent Voting Bylaw No. 2413, 2018.”

2. NOMINATION DEPOSITS

- (a) As authorized under section 88 of the *Local Government Act*, nominations for mayor and councillor must be accompanied by a nomination deposit.
- (b) The amount of the nomination deposit required under section 2(a) of this Bylaw shall be Fifty Dollars (\$50.00)

3. ACCESS TO NOMINATION AND ENDORSEMENT DOCUMENTS

- (a) As authorized under section 89(7) of the *Local Government Act*, public access to nomination documents will be provided on the City’s website from the time of delivery until 30 days after the declaration of the election results.
- (b) As authorized under section 89 and 93 of the *Local Government Act*, public access to elector organization endorsement documents will be provided on the City’s website from the time of delivery until 30 days after the declaration of the election results.

4. ELECTOR REGISTRATION

As authorized under section 69 of the *Local Government Act*, a person may register as an elector only at the time of voting for all elections and assent voting.

5. ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITIES

As required under section 107 of the *Local Government Act*, advance voting opportunities will be held:

- on the 10th day before general voting day, and
- on the 3rd day before general voting day unless that day is a holiday, in which case the required advance voting opportunity will be held on the 4th day before general voting day.

6. SPECIAL VOTING OPPORTUNITIES

- (a) As authorized under section 109 of the *Local Government Act*, special voting opportunities will be provided, and the chief election officer is hereby authorized to establish the dates, locations, and voting hours within the limits set out in section 99 of the *Local Government Act*, for the special voting opportunities.
- (b) The number of candidate representatives who may be present at a special voting opportunity is limited to one.

7. ADDITIONAL GENERAL VOTING OPPORTUNITIES

As authorized under section 106 of the *Local Government Act*, additional voting opportunities for general voting day will be provided and the chief election officer is hereby authorized to designate the voting places and set the voting hours within the limits set out in section 106 of the *Local Government Act*, for the additional general voting opportunities.

8. CURBSIDE VOTING

- 8.1 Pursuant to Section 132 of the *Local Government Act*, curbside voting is hereby authorized.
- 8.2 Pursuant to Section 132 of the *Local Government Act*, only those persons who come to a voting place to vote but who are unable to enter the voting place because of physical disability or impaired mobility may request to vote at the nearest location to the voting place (within the grounds of the voting place) to which the elector has access.

9. CURBSIDE APPLICATION PROCEDURE

If a request is made, the presiding election official or other election official must attend the elector at the nearest location to the voting place (within the grounds of the voting place) for the purpose of allowing the elector to meet the requirements under section 125 of the *Local Government Act* to obtain a ballot.

- 10.1 The elector must sign the voting book and in private, mark the ballot and place it in an envelope and seal the envelope.
- 10.2 The presiding election official must immediately take the envelope back into the voting place, announce that a curbside ballot has been received, re-open the envelope and insert the ballot into the vote counting unit.
- 10.3 The elector can request the person who accompanied the elector to go with the presiding election official to the voting place to observe that the presiding election official places the ballot into the vote counting unit.

11. ORDER OF NAMES ON BALLOT

The order of names of candidates on the ballot will be determined by lot in accordance with section 117 of the *Local Government Act*.

12. RESOLUTION OF TIE VOTE AFTER JUDICIAL RECOUNT

In the event of a tie vote after a judicial recount, the tie vote will be resolved by conducting a lot in accordance with section 151 of the *Local Government Act*.

13. GENERAL

13.1 Any enactment referred to herein is a reference to an enactment of British Columbia and regulations thereto, as amended, revised, consolidated or replaced from time to time.

13.2 If any part, section, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this Bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalid portion shall be severed and the decision that it is invalid shall not affect the validity of the remainder which shall continue in full force and effect and be construed as if the Bylaw had been adopted without the invalid portion.

14. REPEAL

Local Government Election Bylaw No. 2068, 2011 is hereby repealed.

READ FOR A FIRST TIME THIS	12 th	DAY OF	MARCH,	2018
READ FOR A SECOND TIME THIS	12 th	DAY OF	MARCH,	2018
READ FOR A THIRD TIME THIS	12 th	DAY OF	MARCH,	2018
ADOPTED THIS	26 th	DAY OF	MARCH,	2018

LORI ACKERMAN
MAYOR

LAURA HOWES
DEPUTY CITY CLERK