

**CITY OF PRINCE GEORGE**  
**BYLAW NO. 8881**

**A Bylaw to amend "Election and Other Voting Procedures Bylaw No. 6067, 1993"**

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

**AND WHEREAS** Council deems it desirable to amend those voting procedures and requirements established by bylaw under that authority;

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the City of Prince George, in open meeting assembled, **ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes at "Election and Other Voting Procedures Bylaw No. 6067, 1993, Amendment Bylaw No. 8881, 2017".
2. That the "Election and Other Voting Procedures Bylaw No. 6067, 1993" be amended as follows:
  - (a) by deleting Sections 3.1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 in their entirety and replacing them with the following:

**"3.1 ACCESS TO ELECTION DOCUMENTS BY ELECTRONIC MEANS**

Pursuant to Sections 89 (7) and 89 (8) of the *Local Government Act*, nomination documents received from all candidates for election for mayor or councillor will be made available on the City of Prince George web site for a period of six months following the day of the general local election. This availability is in addition to and in no way affects other access to such documents provided by the Act.

**3.2 AVAILABILITY OF DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS**

From the time any information in a disclosure statement related to the City of Prince George is made available on the Elections BC authorized internet site pursuant to section 58 (1) (a) of the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, the Corporate Officer shall:

- (a) Make that information available for public inspection at City Hall during regular office hours on request; and
- (b) Ensure a link is created on the City of Prince George website to connect to the information related to the City of Prince George provided on the Elections BC authorized internet site.

#### **4. REQUIRED ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITIES**

As required under Section 107 of the *Local Government Act*, two advance voting opportunities are hereby established:

- (a) one on the 10th day before general voting day; and
- (b) one on the 4th day before general voting day.

#### **5. ADDITIONAL GENERAL VOTING OPPORTUNITIES**

- (a) The Council authorizes the Chief Election Officer to establish additional general voting opportunities for general voting day for each election or other voting and to designate the voting places and voting hours, within the limits set out in Section 106 (2) of the *Local Government Act*, for such voting opportunities.

#### **6. ADDITIONAL ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITIES**

- (a) As authorized under Section 108 of the *Local Government Act*, the Council authorizes the Chief Election Officer to establish additional advance voting opportunities for each election or other voting to be held in advance of general voting day and to designate the voting places, establish the date and the voting hours for these voting opportunities.

#### **7. SPECIAL VOTING OPPORTUNITIES**

- (a) To give electors who may otherwise be unable to vote an opportunity to do so, the Council will provide special voting opportunities as authorized under section 109 of the *Local Government Act* for each election and authorizes the Chief Election Officer to establish special voting opportunities for each election and other voting and to designate the locations, dates and the voting hours within the limits set out in section 109 of the *Local Government Act*, for these special voting opportunities.
- (b) Council authorizes the Chief Election Officer to limit the number of candidate representatives who may be present at the special voting opportunities.

#### **8. MAIL BALLOT VOTING**

- (a) As authorized under section 110 of the *Local Government Act*, voting may be done by mail for those electors who meet the criteria in paragraph (b) for each election or other voting.

- (b) As provided in the *Local Government Act*, the only electors who may vote by mail ballot are:
  - (i) those persons who have a physical disability, illness or injury that affects their ability to vote at another voting opportunity; and
  - (ii) those persons who expect to be absent from the municipality on general voting day and at the times of all advance voting opportunities.
- (c) The following procedures for voting by mail must apply:
  - (i) Sufficient record will be kept by the Chief Election Officer so that challenges of the elector's right to vote may be made in accordance with the intent of section 126 of the *Local Government Act*; and
  - (ii) a person exercising the right to vote by mail under the provisions of section 110 may be challenged in accordance with, and on the grounds specified in section 126 of the *Local Government Act*, until 4:30 p.m. two days before general voting day.
- (d) In accordance with section 110 (4) (b) of the *Local Government Act*, the time limits in relation to voting by mail ballot will be determined by the Chief Election Officer.
- (e) As provided in the *Local Government Act*, a mail ballot must be received by the Chief Election Officer before the close of voting on general voting day in order to be counted for an election or other voting.
- (f) Procedures for conduct of mail balloting shall be in accordance with those outlined in sections 110 (5), 110 (6), 110 (7), 110 (8) and 110 (9) of the *Local Government Act*.

## 9. RESOLUTION OF TIE VOTES 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*.”

- (b) by inserting the following definition in “Section 11.1 Definitions”:

**“Ballot Marking Device** means a device which physically marks a ballot as intended by an elector through various computer assisted user-interfaces controlled by the elector, including, without limitation, enhanced audio or visual aids, brailled-marked keypads, or sip and puff devices.”

(c) by deleting Section 11.2 Use of Voting Machines in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

**"11.2 USE OF VOTING MACHINES**

**11.2.1 Council hereby authorizes the conducting of general local elections and other voting in the City of Prince George using an automated vote counting system and ballot marking device. "**

(d) by inserting in Section 11.3.4 the words "either manually or by using a **ballot marking device**, if such a device is available" immediately following the word "**ballot.**"

READ A FIRST TIME THIS      **24<sup>th</sup>**      DAY OF      **JULY**      , 2017.

READ A SECOND TIME THIS      **24<sup>th</sup>**      DAY OF      **JULY**      , 2017.

READ A THIRD TIME THIS      **24<sup>th</sup>**      DAY OF      **JULY**      , 2017.

All three readings passed by a **UNANIMOUS** decision of Members of City Council present and eligible to vote.

ADOPTED THIS      **21<sup>st</sup>**      DAY OF      **AUGUST**      , 2017,  
BY A **MAJORITY**      DECISION OF ALL MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL PRESENT AND  
ELIGIBLE TO VOTE.

  
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MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CORPORATE OFFICER