

Bylaw # 3170

"Election Bylaw"



Bylaw Statement:

A Bylaw of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, in the Province of Alberta for the purpose of establishing the rules to follow in conducting municipal elections.

WHEREAS the Local Authorities Election Act, RSA 2000 Chapter L-21, hereinafter referred to as the "Act" provides for the conduct of general elections by local authorities; and

WHEREAS the Act permits the local authority to pass bylaws for the conduct of such elections;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Council of the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 in the Province of Alberta, duly assembled hereby enacts as follows:

INTERPRETATION

1. This Bylaw shall be cited as the "Election Bylaw"
2. Headings in this Bylaw are for reference purposes only.
3. Words in the masculine gender will include the feminine gender whenever the context so requires and vice versa.
4. Words in the singular shall include the plural or vice versa whenever the context so requires.

DEFINITIONS

5. Except as otherwise provided for in this bylaw, the terms used in the Local Authorities Election Act (the Act), where used or referred to in this bylaw, shall have the same meaning as defined or provided in the Act.
6. "County" means the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, Province of Alberta.
7. "Local Jurisdiction Office" means the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 Administration Building located at 10001 84 Avenue, Clairmont, Alberta.

RETURNING OFFICER

8. The Director of Corporate Services is hereby appointed the Returning Officer for the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 (hereinafter referred to as the "Returning Officer") for the purpose of conducting elections under the Act.
9. The Returning Officer shall appoint a Substitute Returning Officer to conduct elections in the event the Returning Officer is incapable of performing their duties.

NOMINATIONS

10. A person may file a nomination to become a candidate of the local jurisdiction by filing nomination papers in the prescribed form within the period prescribed by the Act, ending at 12 noon on Nomination Day.

LOCATIONS TO RECEIVE NOMINATION PAPERS

11. Nomination papers shall be received by the Returning Officer at the Local Jurisdiction Office.

VOTING HOURS ON ELECTION DAY

12. Voting Stations shall be open promptly at 10:00 a.m. and remain continuously open until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

ADVANCE VOTING

13. The Returning Officer shall conduct an advance vote on an election in accordance with the Act.
14. The advance vote will be held on the dates and times set by the Returning Officer.

VOTING STATIONS

15. The Returning Officer is authorized to designate more than one voting station for each subdivision and the location of those voting stations.

INSTITUTIONAL VOTING

16. The Returning Officer is authorized to designate the location and voting hours of one or more institutional voting stations for an Election.

SPECIAL BALLOTS

17. A vote by special ballot will be provided, during County general Elections, for those electors who qualify for this vote pursuant to the terms noted in the Local Authorities Election Act.
18. An application for a special ballot may be made to the Returning Officer:
 - a. In writing;
 - b. By telephone;
 - c. In person;
 - d. By email; or
 - e. By secure website
19. Applications for special ballots must be submitted between August 1 of the year in which the general Election is held and 4:30 p.m. on the Friday immediately preceding Election Day.
20. Completed special ballots must be received by the Returning Officer no later than 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

JOINT ELECTIONS

21. The Returning Officer is authorized to enter into agreements, on behalf of the Municipality, to conduct elections or resource sharing, on behalf of other elected authorities in the County of Grande Prairie whose boundaries may or may not be contiguous with the Municipality but do have areas in common.

DEATH OF A CANDIDATE

22. If a candidate for any position dies after nomination day but before 9:00 a.m. on Election Day, the election for that position will be discontinued.
23. The appropriate elected authority will arrange a new election for the position as soon as possible.

SEVERABILITY

Each Section of this Bylaw shall be read and construed as being separate and severable from each other Section. Furthermore, should any Section or Part of this Bylaw be found to have been improperly enacted for any reason, then such Section or Part shall be regarded as being severable from the rest of the Bylaw and the Bylaw remaining after such severance shall be effective and enforceable.

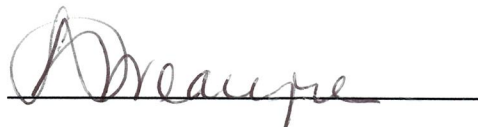
EFFECTIVE DATE

24. Bylaw 3155 and amendments thereto be hereby rescinded.
25. This Bylaw shall come into force and effect on the third and final reading thereof.

Read a FIRST time this 26 Day of July 2021.

Read a SECOND time this 26 Day of July 2021.

Read a THIRD and FINAL time this 26 Day of July 2021.



REEVE



CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER