



**CITY OF EDMONTON**

**BYLAW 21014**

**ELECTIONS BYLAW**

**(CONSOLIDATED ON MAY 23, 2025)**

**THE CITY OF EDMONTON  
BYLAW 21014  
ELECTIONS BYLAW**

Edmonton City Council enacts:

**PART I - GENERAL**

- |                                 |   |  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>PURPOSE</b>                  | 1 | The purpose of this bylaw is to establish procedures for City elections and delegate authorities to the returning officer.   |
| <b>DEFINITIONS</b>              | 2 | <p>(1) Unless otherwise specified, words used in this bylaw have the same meaning as defined in the <i>Municipal Government Act</i>, RSA 2000, c M-26 or the <i>Local Authorities Election Act</i>, RSA 2000, c L-21.</p> <p>(2) In this bylaw:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(a) “<b>City</b>” means the City of Edmonton; and</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">(b) “<b>City Manager</b>” means the City’s chief administrative officer or delegate.</p> |
| <b>RULES FOR INTERPRETATION</b> | 3 | The marginal notes and headings in this bylaw are for ease of reference only.  |

**PART II - PRE-ELECTION PROCEDURES**

- |                            |   |   |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| <b>RETURNING OFFICER</b>   | 4 | <p>(1) The City Manager must appoint an individual to serve as returning officer for all elections.</p> <p>(2) The City Manager must appoint an individual, other than the individual appointed pursuant to subsection (1), to serve as substitute returning officer for all elections.</p> |
| <b>PLACE OF NOMINATION</b> | 5 | The returning officer must designate one or more locations within the City to serve as the local jurisdiction office for the purpose of receiving nominations.  |

**NOMINATION  
SIGNATURES**

6

Candidate nominations must be signed by at least:

- (a) if the candidate is nominated for the office of chief elected official, 100 electors; or
- (b) if the candidate is nominated for the office of councillor, 25 electors.

**NOMINATION  
DEPOSITS**

7

Candidate nominations must be accompanied by a deposit in Canadian funds in the amount of:

- (a) if the candidate is nominated for the office of chief elected official, \$500; or
- (b) if the candidate is nominated for the office of councillor, \$100.

**DEATH OF  
CANDIDATE**

8

- (1) If a candidate dies after being nominated and prior to the opening of voting stations on the first day of advance vote, the returning officer must post notice of the death in a conspicuous location in all relevant voting stations.
- (2) If a candidate dies following the opening of voting stations on the first day of advance vote,
  - (a) the election for the office for which the deceased candidate was nominated must be discontinued, and
  - (b) a new election for that office must be held as soon as practicable.

**PART III - ELECTION PROCEDURES**

**FORM OF BALLOT**

9

The returning officer must establish the form of ballot for each election.

**BLIND ELECTOR  
TEMPLATE**

10

- (1) The returning officer must determine the form of the blind elector template for each election.

- (2) The returning officer must make the blind elector template available during advance voting and on election day.
- (3) The returning officer must notify electors of the availability of the blind elector template as part of the notice of election.

**ELECTOR  
ASSISTANCE  
TERMINAL**

- 10.1 (1) The returning officer may, for any election, provide an elector assistance terminal that:
  - (a) allows an elector to vote privately and independently;
  - (b) is not part of or connected to the Internet or another electronic network;
  - (c) creates a paper ballot that records the vote cast;
  - (d) allows an elector to verify the elector's vote before it is cast, without the assistance of another person; and
  - (e) does not enable the choice of an elector to be made known to an election officer or scrutineer.
- (2) The returning officer must test the elector assistance terminal before the first elector uses the equipment to vote and after the last elector uses the equipment to vote.

**ELECTOR  
ASSISTANCE  
TERMINAL VOTING**

- 10.2 (1) Upon request, electors will receive a ballot compatible with the elector assistance terminal for each office they are eligible to vote for.
- (2) Electors will insert the ballot into the elector assistance terminal and will confirm the name of the candidate they wish to vote for.
- (3) After marking their ballot, the elector assistance terminal will release the ballot for the elector to retrieve and place in the ballot box in a manner that protects the secrecy of their vote.

(S.2, Bylaw 21201, May 23, 2025)

- SPECIAL BALLOTS**      11    (1) Electors may vote by special ballot in any election.
- (2) An application for a special ballot package may be made to the returning officer:
- (f) in writing;
- (g) by telephone;
- (h) in person;
- (i) by e-mail; or
- (j) by a secure website designated by the returning officer.
- (3) For a general election, applications for a special ballot package may be submitted beginning on August 1 of the year in which the general election is held and must be received by the returning officer:
- (a) if the elector is requesting delivery of a special ballot package by mail, no later than 4:30 p.m. on the Monday immediately prior to election day; or
- (b) if the elector is requesting in-person pick-up of a special ballot package, no later than 7:00 p.m. on election day.
- (4) All completed special ballot packages must be received by the returning officer no later than 7:00 p.m. on election day.
- (5) For any other election, the application periods and receipt deadline for special ballot packages must be stated in the resolution fixing the date of election.
- ELECTION DAY VOTING HOURS**      12      On election day, all voting stations will be open continuously between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- COUNTING**      13      At any time after 7:30 p.m. on election day, the returning officer may count special ballot boxes, advance vote ballot boxes, and institutional vote ballot boxes.

## **PART IV - RETURNING OFFICER AUTHORITIES**

- AUTHORITIES**            14            The returning officer may:
- (a)     divide the City into voting subdivisions and alter their boundaries;
  - (b)     designate more than one voting station for each subdivision;
  - (c)     determine the location of all voting stations;
  - (d)     post printed instructions at voting stations in languages other than English as the returning officer deems appropriate;
  - (e)     designate the location of one or more institutional voting stations in addition to all other voting stations; and
  - (f)     delegate any of their powers, duties, or functions to any person.

## **PART V - TRANSITIONAL**

- REPEAL**                15            Bylaw 19457, Election Bylaw, is repealed.

(NOTE: Consolidation made under Section 69 of the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A. 2000, c.M-26 and Bylaw 16620 Section 16, and printed under the City Manager's authority)

Bylaw 21014, passed by Council December 10, 2024

Amendments:

Bylaw 21201, May 23, 2025