

To: Electoral Area Services Committee
From: Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: 2018-06-12
File No: 4200-20-2018 Election

Subject: Remuneration Rates for 2018 General Local Election

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Fraser Valley Regional District Board establish remuneration rates for 2018 General Local Election staff as follows:

Chief Election Officer	5 days off in lieu of overtime or cash equivalent
Deputy Chief Election Officer	3 days off in lieu of overtime or cash equivalent
Presiding Election Officials	\$500
Alternate Presiding Election Officials	\$400
Election Officials	\$240
Mileage	\$0.55/km

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

BACKGROUND

The recommended remuneration rates for election staff were established as part of the 2014 General Local Elections. A review of 2018 election remuneration rates was recently conducted by www.civicinfo.bc.ca. Based on this review, staff feel that the 2014 rates are still in keeping with what is currently being paid by the FVRD's member municipalities.

It should be noted that the recommended remuneration rates for Presiding Election Officials, Alternate Presiding Election and Election Officials, are for a full day shift – generally between 13 and 15 hours for the Advanced Voting Opportunity, and between 14 and 16 hours for General Voting Day. Additionally, the rate includes attendance at mandatory elections training in the weeks leading up to elections.

The proposed rates for the Chief Election Officer and Deputy Chief Election Officers reflect the significant increase in workloads which must be managed on top of existing workloads of their regular positions.

In addition, the Chief Election Officer will be responsible for conducting elections for rural School Trustees in our Electoral Areas under agreement with the respective School District.

Historically, the FVRD has been responsible for conducting elections for Electoral Area Directors at three to four voting places for the Advanced Voting Opportunity, and 10 to 11 voting places on General Voting Day. It should be noted that as part of the 2018 General Local Elections, the ability for eligible voters to vote by way of mail ballot has been also been included.

On the assumption that there are no acclamations, and that there are elections in all Electoral Areas, the following ballots will be put forward:

8 Electoral Area Director Ballots

3 School Trustee Ballots for School District No. 78 (Fraser-Cascade)

1 School Trustee Ballot for School District No. 75 (Mission)

1 School Trustee Ballot for School District No. 33 (Chilliwack)

Depending on anticipated voter turn-out and the number of ballots being conducted at each voting place, the Chief Election Officer may choose to assign between three and four election staff at each location.

DISCUSSION

At the January 2018 Board meeting, appointments were made for the 2018 General Local Elections Chief Election Officer (Jaime Schween) and Deputy Chief Elections Officers (Pam Loat and Tina Mooney). As previously noted, the *Local Government Act* (the "Act") requires that the Board appoint a Chief Election Officer and a Deputy for the purposes of conducting a General Local Election. Although the Act prescribes the procedures for conducting a General Local Election, it does not prescribe the rates to be paid to the Chief Election Officer and his/her Deputy, or the Election Officials. Rather, it is left to each jurisdiction to set its own rates.

COST

The amount of \$25,000 has been budgeted as part of the 2018 budget. Costs recovered as part of administering the elections for School Districts 33, 75 and 78 will offset these costs.

CONCLUSION

Staff is bringing forward the recommended remuneration rates for elections staff as part of the 2018 General Local Elections.

COMMENTS BY:

Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services:

Reviewed and supported.