

To: Electoral Area Services Committee

Date: 2018-07-10

From: Jaime Schween, Manager of Corporate Administration/
Chief Election Officer

File No: 4200-20-2018

Subject: 2018 General Local Elections

INTENT

This report is intended to advise the Electoral Area Services Committee of information pertaining to the upcoming General Local Elections. Staff is not looking for a recommendation and has forwarded this information should members want more clarification to discuss the item further.

STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

BACKGROUND

The Chief Election Officer for the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) conducts the elections for the office of Electoral Area Director for all eight FVRD Electoral Areas. Additionally, the CEO conducts elections for rural School Trustees in our Electoral Areas under agreements with School District 33 (Chilliwack), School District 75 (Mission) and School District 78 (Fraser-Cascade).

The Chief Election Officer, amongst other items, is responsible for receiving nomination documents, declaring candidates, and administering voting opportunities within the FVRD Electoral Areas.

Elections BC is an independent and non-partisan Office of the Legislature that is responsible for administering provincial electoral finance and local elections campaign financing, disclosure rules and advertising laws under the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* ("LECFA").

As the 2018 General Local Elections cycle is now underway, it is important to keep pertinent information and dates in mind.

DISCUSSION

Under LECFA, Elections BC is responsible for establishing limits on election expenses and third party advertising. These limits are both based on the office and population of the individual FVRD Electoral Area.

Election expenses

The election expense limit that applies to each individual FVRD Electoral Area is \$5,000. Election expense limits apply during the campaign period of September 22 to October 20, 2018.

Third Party Advertising

Under LECFA, the Third Party Advertising Limit that applies to each individual FVRD Electoral Area is \$750. Again, this limit applies during the campaign period of September 22 to October 20, 2018.

As election expenses and third party advertising limits are administered by Elections BC, all inquiries should be directed to Elections BC by phone at 250-387-5305 or at www.elections.bc.ca.

Please note that it is important to be aware of the following dates:

Election Period:	January 1 to September 21, 2018
Nominations Open:	September 4, 2018 at 9am
Nominations Close:	September 14, 2018 at 4pm
Campaign Period:	September 22 to October 20, 2018
Advanced Voting Opportunity:	October 10, 2018
General Voting Day:	October 20, 2018
Deadline for filing campaign financing disclosure statement:	January 18, 2019

CONCLUSION

As the cycle for 2018 General Local Election is now in process, this report highlighting the role of Elections BC, as well as upcoming critical dates, is being brought forward for the Committee's information.

COMMENT BY:

Paul Gipps, Chief Administrative Officer

Not available for comment.