



MAIL BALLOT VOTING

INFORMATION FOR THE 2020 BY-ELECTION

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the Town of Lake Cowichan through a Ministerial Order, which received Council assent, permitting the option of mail ballot voting for the October 24th, 2020 by-election so that the democratic rights of the electors can be better served. In addition, the goal of keeping electors and election officials and residents healthy and safe during the pandemic is a priority.

Eligible Electors May Request A Mail Ballot Package

The ballot request form is available:

- For pick up at the Town Hall, 39 South Shore Road, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., excluding statutory holidays: OR
- Online.

Ballots are now only available on voting days.

1. WHO CAN VOTE BY MAIL?

All eligible electors can vote by mail in the 2020 by-election.

2. WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE?

You can vote if you are registered as:

- a resident elector (i.e., you live in the Town of Lake Cowichan); OR
- a non-resident property elector (i.e., you live elsewhere in BC but own property in the Town of Lake Cowichan); and
- Meet the qualifications as listed below.

ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

Resident Electors Must Be:

- 18 years of age or older on general voting day for the election; and
- a Canadian citizen; and
- a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration; and
- a resident of the Town of Lake Cowichan for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration; and
- not disqualified under the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law.

Non-Resident Property Electors Must Be:

- 18 years of age or older on general voting day for the election or assent voting; and
- a Canadian citizen; and
- a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration; and
- a registered owner of real property in the Town of Lake Cowichan for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration; and
- not entitled to register as a resident elector; and
- the only persons who are registered owners of the real property, either as joint tenants or tenants in common, are individuals who are not holding the property in trust for a corporation or another trust; and
- not disqualified under the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law; and
- if there is more than one registered owner of the property, only one of those individuals may, with the written consent of the majority of the owners, register as a non-resident property elector.

3. HOW DO YOU REGISTER TO VOTE?

If you are not on the list of electors, to ensure that you are receiving the correct registration package, you must indicate whether you are registering as a Resident Elector or a Non-Resident Property Elector.

4. REQUEST TO RECEIVE MAIL BALLOT PACKAGE

Eligible Electors must request a mail ballot package.
Request Forms are to be available on Monday, September 14th, 2020.

Requests to receive a mail ballot package must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday October 2nd, 2020.

5. RETURN OF MAIL BALLOTS

The Town of Lake Cowichan will send out mail ballot packages commencing approximately on October 7th, 2020.

You are responsible for ensuring that your completed ballot and any supporting documentation is hand delivered or mailed with sufficient postage and time to be received at **Town Hall no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, October 23, 2020**, or delivered to **Centennial Hall, 309 South Shore Road , no later than 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 24, 2020**. Please note your mail ballot must be rejected if the elector requirements are not met or if it is received after 8 p.m. on October 24th, 2020.

To be included in the vote count, your mail ballot must be received by the Chief Election Officer no later than 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 24, 2020.

Any questions can be directed to: Chief Election Officer, Joseph A. Fernandez, at 250-749-6681.