

ELECTIONS '17

This is the second in a four-part series of articles dealing with this year's municipal election.

WHAT ARE THE QUALIFICATIONS A PERSON MUST HAVE TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR NOMINATION? A person may be nominated as a candidate if, on *Nomination Day*, the person:

- Is eligible to vote in that election:
- Is at least 18 years old
- Is a Canadian Citizen
- Has resided in Alberta for the 6 consecutive months immediately preceding Nomination Day.
- Is a resident of the municipality for the 6 consecutive months immediately preceding Nomination Day
- Is not otherwise ineligible or disqualified.

WHEN IS AN INDIVIDUAL INELIGIBLE TO RUN FOR OFFICE? A person is not eligible to run as a candidate if the person:

- is the auditor of the municipality,
- is an employee of the municipality, unless the person has taken a leave of absence,
- is indebted to the municipality for taxes in excess of \$50,
- is indebted to the municipality for any other debt in excess of \$500, and is in default for more than 90 days,
- has, within the previous 10 years, been convicted of an offence under the Local Authorities Election Act, the Election Act or the Canada Elections Act,
- is party to a subsisting contract with the municipality,
- has a pecuniary (money) interest in any subsisting contract with the municipality (NOTE: there are several qualifiers for this rule to give local businessmen an equal opportunity to continue doing business with the municipality and at the same time hold office).

A person cannot be nominated for more than one office on Town Council. However, a candidate can run for Town Council and as a School Board Trustee simultaneously.

REGISTRATION OF CANDIDATES? Effective January 1, 2014, the Local Authorities Election Act requires all municipal candidates to register with the municipality, in which they intend to run, before accepting any campaign contributions. The form that is required to be completed and filed with the municipality before raising funds can be accessed here: [Form 3A Application for Registration of Notice of Intent to Become a Candidate for Municipal Office](#). If candidates entirely self fund

their campaign up to and including \$10,000.00, they are not required to file a notice of intent to run, with the municipality. The names of all candidates who register their intent to run in the election will be updated to the attached listing. In order to be included on the election ballot, candidates must also register at the Town Office on Nomination Day, Monday, September 18, 2017 between 10:00 a.m. and Noon.

HOW IS A PERSON NOMINATED? Nomination Packages will be available at the Town Office. The Nomination Form requires the signatures of at least five eligible electors and must be accepted in writing by the candidate. By signing the acceptance the candidate swears that he/she is eligible to be elected and will accept the office if elected. A deposit of \$100 is required. The deposit will be returned to the candidate if they receive the required number of votes.

WHEN IS NOMINATION DAY AND WHAT HAPPENS ON THAT DAY? Nomination day for the 2017 election will be Monday, September 18th. On that day, from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, the Returning Officer will accept nominations, in the Town Office, from eligible candidates for the positions being contested.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE ARE ONLY AS MANY NOMINATIONS RECEIVED AS POSITIONS AVAILABLE? The Returning Officer will declare the nominees elected by acclamation and there will be no need to hold an election for that position.

CAN A NOMINATION BE WITHDRAWN AFTER IT HAS BEEN FILED? If there are more nominations received than vacancies, a candidate may withdraw his/her nomination papers until 12:00 noon on the day following Nomination Day.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE AREN'T ENOUGH NOMINATIONS RECEIVED? The Returning Officer will hold another Nomination Day the following day from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon and shall continue to do so for a period of six days or until sufficient nominations are received. If sufficient nominations are not received after the sixth day, the Minister of Municipal Affairs will be notified.

The third in the series of articles about the municipal election process will appear in the September issue of the Town News.