

WHISTLER 2022 GENERAL ELECTION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

GENERAL

Can I be both Mayor and Councillor in Whistler?

No. You can only hold one office in the same local government.

Can I run for office if I work for the Resort Municipality of Whistler?

No, there is a specific restriction against both working for and holding office in the same local government. However, if you take a leave of absence from your job, you could run in the election. If elected, you would have to resign from your job.

I work on contract for the Resort Municipality of Whistler. Can I run for office?

It depends on whether you are considered to be an employee of the local government despite your contract. You also may wish to consider whether your contract could expose you to allegations of conflict of interest while serving as an elected representative.

How many people need to nominate me to run for office?

Two. You will need to ensure that those who have nominated you are eligible voters.

Do I have to pay a fee to run for office?

No. Some local governments require a fee to become a candidate but the Resort Municipality of Whistler does not.

Where can I get some information on campaign financial disclosure requirements?

The *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act (LECFA)* regulates candidate and elector organization campaign financing and third party advertising sponsors.

It is the responsibility of Elections BC to educate candidates, elector organizations and third party advertising sponsors on the campaign financing requirements. For this reason, and to ensure consistent messaging, it is imperative that ALL inquiries, from the simple to the complex, related to the provisions of *LECFA* be directed to Elections BC.

Can the public view my nomination documents?

Yes, they will be available for public inspection during regular hours at the Customer Service desk at Municipal Hall and will be available on the RMOW website at www.whistler.ca/elections. Nomination documents are available for viewing until 30 days after the declaration of the official election results.

What if I decide I do not want to run for office after I have put in my nomination papers?

A candidate may withdraw until 4 p.m. on September 16, 2022 (the 29th day before General Voting Day on October 15, 2022). If a candidate wishes to withdraw after that deadline, the Chief Election Officer must notify the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Minister will decide whether or not the candidate may withdraw.

Do I have to have a financial agent?

Yes, every candidate must appoint a financial agent. A candidate may act as their own financial agent however they must submit a declaration to that effect before the nomination period ends. The financial agent is responsible for ensuring that the financial aspects of the election campaign comply with the *LECFA* requirements. Refer to Elections BC for assistance with financing questions.

Do I have to have an official agent?

No, however, a candidate may appoint an official agent to act on their behalf throughout the election process. The official agent may be the election campaign manager or the spokesperson for the candidate. The official agent appointment must be made in writing and must be submitted to the Chief Election Officer as soon as practicable after the appointment has been made.

Can I appoint scrutineers?

Yes. A candidate may appoint scrutineers to act as their representatives to observe voting at any of the voting places. Each candidate may appoint one scrutineer for each ballot box in use. To appoint a scrutineer, a candidate (or an official agent) must fill out the Appointment of Candidate Scrutineer form. The form must be delivered to the Chief Election Officer. For more information on scrutineers please refer to the Candidate's Guide to Local Government Elections in BC included in this nomination package.