



General Voting Day for Victoria's 2020 By-Election is Saturday

Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC — On Saturday, December 12, City of Victoria voters may vote at **any** one of six locations from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on General Voting Day to elect one Councillor in Victoria's 2020 By-Election:

- James Bay Community School, 140 Oswego Street
- Oaklands Elementary School, 2827 Belmont Avenue
- Sir James Douglas Elementary School, 401 Moss Street
- Da Vinci Centre, 195 Bay Street
- Crystal Garden, 713 Douglas Street
- Victoria High School at SJ Willis Education Centre, 923 Topaz Avenue

Each voting place will be equipped with two voting machines for increased efficiency. An accessible voting machine will be available at the Crystal Garden.

Crystal Garden Parking

The first hour of parking will be free for Victoria voters at the parking lot located under the Victoria Conference Centre. Voters must bring their parking ticket to the Crystal Garden for validation when voting. Two free, 30-minute on-street parking spaces will be available for voters in front of Crystal Garden. The first hour of parking is also free at Broughton Street Parkade, located under the Greater Victoria Public Library.

Curbside Voting

Curbside voting is for those who have **accessibility challenges** and cannot access a voting location and will be available at all voting places on General Voting Day. Accessible parking spaces outside each voting place will be designated for curbside voting. Signs will identify the parking spaces and will include a phone number to call. By-election staff will come out to assist voters with voting from their vehicle.

Vote by Mail

Voters may request a mail ballot package up to and including on General Voting Day by filling out an online form at victoria.ca/election or calling 250.361.0571 on Saturday, December 12.

Mail ballots requested this week are to be picked up at Victoria City Hall.

To ensure the City receives completed mail ballots in time, voters have two options to return their completed mail ballots in person:

- to the drop box outside the Pandora Avenue entrance of City Hall
- or before 8 p.m. at one of the six voting places on General Voting Day

All mail ballots must be received by the City of Victoria before 8 p.m. (Pacific Time) on Saturday, December 12 to be counted.

Voter Eligibility

To be eligible to vote in Victoria's 2020 By-Election, you must be 18 years or older on voting day, be a Canadian citizen, a resident of British Columbia for at least six months, a resident of the City of Victoria or a registered owner of property in Victoria for at least 30 days prior to voting day.

If you own property in Victoria but live elsewhere, you are eligible to vote in Victoria's 2020 By-Election as a non-resident property elector – as long as you own the property as an individual, not as a corporation.

What to Bring

Voters can check to see if they are on the Voters List on the City's website. Those who are on the list are required to bring one piece of valid ID when voting. Those who are not on the list will need to bring two pieces of valid ID to register to vote.

Safety Measures

The City of Victoria is committed to delivering a safe and physically distanced by-election during the COVID-19 pandemic. Following public health, Elections BC and WorkSafeBC directives, the City's COVID-19 safety plan for each voting place will make sure the by-election is safe for voters, candidates and election staff.

All voting places will have protective measures in place, including physical distancing, capacity limits, and plexiglass protective barriers. Hand sanitizing stations will be provided and voters will be asked to sanitize their hands before and after voting. Election officials will wear masks or face-visors and there will be frequent cleaning of voting stations and high-touch surfaces. Pens will be provided for voting and will be sanitized between use.

Electors are required to wear masks when voting. Those who are ill or self-isolating are asked **not to visit a voting place** and to request a mail ballot package for pick up and return by someone on their behalf before 8 p.m. on General Voting Day.

Candidate Profile Guide

To assist voters in finding information about the candidates and to make informed choices, the City's *Candidate Profile Guide* is available online. All candidates were provided the opportunity to submit a brief candidate profile and photograph to let voters know about themselves and their platforms.

Tune In

The results of Victoria's 2020 By-Election will be webcast live starting at 8 p.m. on Saturday, December 12. For information on what you need to know to vote, and to tune in, visit victoria.ca/election.

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For More Information:

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