

**SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE REGIONAL DISTRICT  
BYLAW NO. 578, 2014**

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Being a bylaw to provide for the determination of various procedures for the conduct of local government elections and other voting.

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WHEREAS under the *Local Government Act*, Regional District Board may, by bylaw, determine various procedures and requirements to be applied to the conduct of local government elections and other voting;

AND WHEREAS the Regional District Board wishes to establish voting procedures and requirements under that authority;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. CITATION:

This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "Local Government Election Bylaw No. 578, 2014."

2. REPEAL:

The Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District Local Government Election Bylaw No. 533, 2011 is hereby repealed.

3. USE OF PROVINCIAL LIST OF VOTERS AS THE REGISTER OF RESIDENTIAL ELECTORS:

- a. As authorized under section 59 of the *Local Government Act*, the most current available provincial list of voters prepared under the elections act, is deemed to be the register of resident electors on the 52<sup>nd</sup> day prior to the general voting day for elections held for electoral areas A, C, D and E of the regional district.

4. ADDITIONAL ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITIES:

- a. As authorized under section 98 of the *Local Government Act*, the Regional District Board authorizes the chief election officer to establish additional advance voting opportunities for each election to be held in advance of general voting day and to designate the voting places, and to establish the date and voting hours for these voting opportunities.
- b. In accordance with section 97(3) of the *Local Government Act* [population of jurisdiction less than 5,000], a second voting opportunity will not be established.

5. ADDITIONAL GENERAL VOTING OPPORTUNITIES:

- a. The Regional District Board authorizes the chief election officer to establish additional general voting opportunities for general voting day for each election or other voting to designate the voting places and voting hours, within the limits set out in section 96 of the *Local Government Act*, for such voting opportunities.

6. SPECIAL VOTING OPPORTUNITIES:

- a. To give electors who may otherwise be unable to vote an opportunity to do so, the Board may provide a special voting opportunity as authorized under section 99 of the *Local Government Act* and authorizes the chief election officer to establish a special voting opportunity for each election and to designate the location, the date and the voting hours for the special voting opportunity.

- b. The following restrictions apply to persons who may vote at this special voting opportunity:
  - i. The only electors who may vote are electors who, on the date on which the special voting opportunity is held and before the end of the voting hours for the special voting opportunity, have been admitted as patients to a hospital within the region.
- c. The following procedures for voting and for conducting the voting proceedings only apply to the special voting opportunity:
  - i. A portable lap type voting booth is to be utilized.
  - ii. All other voting procedures are as per normal.
  - iii. Upon completion of the marking of the ballot it is to be deposited by the elector in the ballot box supplied by the presiding election official.
  - iv. Upon completion of the special voting the ballot boxes are to be sealed until the time of counting.
  - v. The Regional District Board authorizes the chief election officer to limit the number of candidate's representatives who may be present at the special voting opportunity.

7. MAIL BALLOT VOTING:

- a. As authorized under section 100 of the *Local Government Act*, the chief election officer may allow for voting and registration to be done by mail for those electors who reside in electoral areas A and C, as these areas are remote.
- b. Mail ballot voting and registration will only be allowed for electors residing in areas within electoral areas A and C where voting places are not established for the general voting day.
- c. The following procedures for voting and registration must apply:
  - i. Sufficient record will be kept by the chief election officer so that challenges of the elector's right to vote may be made in accordance with the intent of section 116 of the *Local Government Act*;
  - ii. A person exercising the right to vote by mail under the provisions of section 100 may be challenged in accordance with, and on the grounds specified in section 116 of the *Local Government Act*, until 4:30 p.m. two days before the general voting day.
- d. To vote using a mail ballot, the elector shall mark the ballot in accordance with the instructions contained in the mail ballot package provided by the chief election officer.
- e. The time limits in relation to voting by mail ballot will be determined by the chief election officer.
- f. As provided in the *Local Government Act*, a mail ballot must be received by the chief election officer before the close of voting on general voting day in order to be counted for an election.

8. ORDERS OF NAMES ON BALLOT:

- a. The order of names of candidates on the ballot will be determined by lot in accordance with section 107 of the *Local Government Act*.

9. NUMBER OF SCRUTINEERS AT VOTING PLACES:

- a. As authorized under section 110(3) of the *Local Government Act*, the number of scrutineers for each candidate that may attend at an election is one (1) scrutineer for each ballot box in use.

10. RESOLUTION OF TIE VOTE AFTER JUDICIAL RECOUNT:

- a. In the event of a tie vote after a judicial recount, the tie vote will be resolved by conducting a lot in accordance with section 141 of the *Local Government Act*.

READ A FIRST TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

READ A SECOND TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

READ A THIRD TIME this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

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Barry Pages  
Chair

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Joanne Fraser  
Corporate Officer