

TO: CITY MANAGER

DATE: 1998 DECEMBER 22

FROM: CITY CLERK

SUBJECT: 1999 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION

PURPOSE: The purpose of this report is to appoint the Chief Election Officer and Deputy Chief Election Officer for the 1999 Local Government Election.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **"THAT** Debbie Comis be appointed Chief Election Officer for the 1999 Local Government Election.
2. **THAT** Maryann Pasqua be appointed Deputy Chief Election Officer for the 1999 Local Government Election."

REPORT

In preparation for the 1999 Local Government Election a number of recommendations are being submitted to Council for approval.

Section 41 of the Municipal Act of B.C. provides as follows:

- "(1) For the purposes of conducting an election, the local government must appoint a chief election officer and a deputy chief election officer."

These roles have traditionally been fulfilled by the City Clerk and Deputy City Clerk and as a result it is recommended that these individuals be appointed to serve in these positions for the 1999 election.

In 1993 Council adopted Bylaw No. 9945 to use the most current, available Provincial Voters List as the foundation for the Local Government Voters List. This bylaw is in effect and therefore we will continue to use the Provincial List in addition to the advance voter registration process.

In the past several elections Council have approved the use of booths in shopping malls, recreation centres and seniors centres to conduct voter registration . This has proved to be a costly exercise which does not appear to result in a large number of registrations and does not make an appreciable difference, year to year, in the number of registrations processed on voting day.

As a result, staff are not recommending voter registration booths in 1999. Voters will be able to register in advance through the election office at City Hall or on voting day at the respective voting places. A staff member at each voting place will be designated to provide registration services on general voting day.

Staff also plan to use the City's website to provide general information to both voters and candidates including information on the use of electronic voting machines.

For the information of Council, the date for the 1999 Local Government Election is November 20. The election office will be opened and election staff in place on 1999 February 01.

Discussions will again be initiated with staff at the Burnaby School District with respect to cost recovery for conducting the election for School Trustees for the Burnaby School Board as provided for in the Municipal Act. A further report will be submitted to Council providing details of the discussion for Council approval as soon as the information becomes available.

Respectfully submitted,



D. R. Comis
CITY CLERK

Copy: Deputy City Manager Corporate Services
Acting City Solicitor