

TO: CITY MANAGER

FROM: CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER

SUBJECT: 2005 ELECTION BYLAWS

DATE: 2005 APRIL 28

PURPOSE: To obtain Council authorization to prepare bylaws for conducting the 2005 Local Government Election.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. THAT Council authorize the City Solicitor to prepare a bylaw to provide additional Advance Voting Opportunities on 2005 November 10, 16 and 17.
2. THAT Council authorize the City Solicitor to prepare a bylaw to provide a Special Voting Opportunity for qualified residents of care homes and seniors facilities.
3. THAT Council authorize the City Solicitor to prepare a bylaw to provide a Special Voting Opportunity for persons hospitalized in Burnaby General Hospital on voting day.
4. THAT Council authorize the City Clerk to execute an agreement with School District No. 41 to share in the costs of the 2005 Local Government Election for school trustees.

REPORT

The Local Government Act of BC requires the adoption of election bylaws and agreements for the conduct of local government elections.

As in previous elections, Council is required to hold an Advance Voting Opportunity 10 days prior to the Local Government Election. In 2005 that date falls on 2005 November 09. Council have traditionally authorized additional voting opportunities to accommodate the needs of individuals unable to vote on November 19th. To this end staff recommend November 09, 10, 16 and 17 be designated as Advance Voting days in 2005. Voting will be held in Studio 103 of the Shadbolt Center for the Arts from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm on those dates.

Traditionally Council have also provided Special Voting Opportunities for qualified individuals residing in care facilities or seniors' housing or who are hospitalized on voting day. It is recommended Council continue with this practice for the 2005 Local Government Election.

Since 1996 the City of Burnaby has entered into a cost sharing agreement with School District No. 41 to recoup costs of election services directly attributable to the election of school trustees. It is recommended Council continue with this practice and authorize staff to pursue an agreement with the School District for cost sharing in 2005.

Respectfully submitted



D. R. Comis,
Chief Election Officer