

## SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

### BYLAW NO. 692

*Consolidated for convenience to include Bylaw 692.1*

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*, the Regional 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 Board wishes to establish voting procedures and requirements under that authority;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of the Sunshine Coast Regional District, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

#### 1. CITATION

This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as “Sunshine Coast Regional District Election Procedures Bylaw No. 692, 2014.”

#### 2. REPEAL

“Sunshine Coast Regional District Election Procedure Bylaw No. 639, 2011” and all amendments thereto are hereby repealed.

#### 3. DEFINITIONS

**General Local Election** means the election held for the electoral area directors of the Regional District which must be held in the year 2014 and in every fourth year thereafter.

#### 4. USE OF PROVINCIAL LIST OF VOTERS

For the purposes of all local elections and submissions to the electors under Part 3 and 4 of the *Local Government Act*, the most current available Provincial list of voters prepared under the *Election Act*, shall become the register of resident electors no later than 52 days prior to the general voting day.

#### 5. ACCESS TO NOMINATION DOCUMENTS

In addition to the public inspection requirements under section 89 of the *Local Government Act*, nomination documents will be available on the Sunshine Coast Regional District’s website as soon as practicable from the date the nomination documents are delivered to the Regional District until thirty days after the declaration of official election results.

## 6. ACCESS TO DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

As authorized under subsection 59(3) of the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, a fee of \$0.25 per page will be imposed for providing a copy or other record of information referred to in subsection 59(1) of the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*.

## 7. REQUIRED ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITIES

In accordance with section 107 of the *Local Government Act*, two advance voting opportunities for an election by voting and for other voting will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at locations to be established by the Chief Election Officer on:

- (a) the 10<sup>th</sup> day before general voting day; and
- (b) the 3<sup>rd</sup> day before general voting day.

## 8. ADDITIONAL ADVANCE VOTING OPPORTUNITIES

As authorized under section 108 of the *Local Government Act*, the Regional Board authorizes the chief election officer to establish additional advance voting opportunities 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.

## 9. ADDITIONAL GENERAL VOTING OPPORTUNITIES

The Regional Board authorizes the chief election officer to establish additional general voting opportunities for general voting day and to designate the voting places and voting hours within the limits set out in section 106 of the *Local Government Act*, for the additional general voting opportunities.

## 10. MAIL BALLOT VOTING

- (a) As authorized under section 110 of the *Local Government Act*, voting and elector registration may be done by mail for those electors who meet the criteria in paragraph (b).
- (b) The following electors are permitted to vote by mail ballot and to register to vote by mail:
  - (i) those persons who have a physical disability, illness or injury that affects their ability to vote at another voting opportunity;
  - (ii) persons who expect to be absent from the Regional District on general voting day and at the times of all advance voting opportunities.
- (c) The following procedures for voting and elector registration 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 126 of the *Local Government Act*;
  - (ii) a person exercising the right to vote by mail under the provisions of section 110 may be challenged in accordance with, and on the grounds specified in section 126 of the *Local Government Act*, until 4:30 pm two days before general voting day.

- (d) The time limits in relation to voting by mail ballot will be determined by the chief election officer.
- (e) As provided in the *Local Government Act*, to be counted, a mail ballot must be received by the chief election officer before the close of voting on general voting day.

#### **11. RESOLUTION OF TIE VOTE AFTER JUDICIAL RECOUNT**

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 151 of the *Local Government Act*.

#### **12. SEVERABILITY**

If any portion of this Bylaw is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, then the invalid portion may be severed and the remainder of the Bylaw will be deemed valid.