

NOTICE

Election Day Protocol and Process in the Event of a Tie

With the Election Day drawing near, we wished to share some information regarding protocol on Election Day and the process in the event of a tie to clarify any questions you may have. Should you need further clarification, please contact the Electoral Officer, M. Joseph Redman, or the Deputy Electoral Officer, Tracy Zimmer. Both will also be in attendance at the polling location on Election Day.

Election Day Protocol

Attendance on Election Day – Prior to the Polls Opening

Candidates are permitted, but not required, to attend at the commencement of the Election to view the empty ballot box and the sealing of the ballot box. (*Election Regulations* Section 5(10))

- The Electoral Officer will open up the voting room at 8:45am for all Candidates to view the empty ballot box.
- If you wish to participate in this, please ensure you arrive at 8:45am.
- The ballot box will be sealed promptly at 8:55am to prepare for the opening of the polls.
- The ballot box will not be reopened once sealed until polls close.

Attendance on Election Day – During Polling

Polling will take place on Election Day from 9:00am until 8:00pm MDT.

- Candidates may have up to 2 agents (“scrutineers”) attend at the polling place at any one time to observe the election process. (*Election Regulations* Section 5(9))
- The purpose of attendance is to ensure the fairness of the Election on the Candidates behalf.
- No campaigning shall take place in the polling location on Election Day.

Attendance on Election Day – After Polls Close

The polls will close promptly at 8:00pm.

- Once polls are closed, the mail-in ballots will be removed from their sealed envelopes and placed into the sealed ballot box used during polling in accordance with *Election Regulations* Section 6.1.
- When all mail-in ballots are in the ballot boxes, the ballot box will be unsealed, opened, and votes will be counted by the Chief Electoral Officer and Deputy Electoral Officer in accordance with *Election Regulations* Section 7.

- Candidates and their 2 scrutineers are entitled to attend during counting to observe the count.
- Any observers of the count must arrive at the polling location no later than 8:00pm.
- Late arrival will not trigger a recount.

We ask that all Candidates, their scrutineers, and election staff, respect the information outlined above and respect each other during this process. Any disrespectful behaviour could result in the expulsion of the individual from the polling station and ballot count room.

Immediately after the counting of the votes, the Chief Electoral Officer will publicly declare the elected Chief and Councillors (*Election Regulations Section 8(1)*).

Within 4 days following the completion of the counting of vote, the Electoral Officer will sign and post at the Band Office an election statement of the election results and mail a copy of this posting to every elector who does not reside on the reserve.

Protocol In the Event of a Tie

In the event of a tie, the ballots will be recounted to ensure that a tie does, in fact, exist. If it is found that 2 or more Candidates have the same number of votes, we will proceed in accordance with *Election Regulations Section 9*:

Where it appears that two or more candidates have an equal number of votes, the electoral officer shall give a casting vote for one or more of such candidates, but the electoral officer shall not otherwise be entitled to vote.

The electoral officer shall cast his vote in accordance with the following procedure: If it appears on the calculation of the votes that 2 or more candidates for any office have received the same number of votes, and if it is necessary for determining which candidate is elected, the electoral officer shall write the names of those candidates separately on blank sheets of paper of equal size and after folding the sheets of paper in a uniform manner and so that the names are concealed, shall deposit them in a receptacle and direct the deputy returning officer to withdraw one of the sheets. The electoral officer shall cast a vote for the candidate whose name appears on the withdrawn sheet.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the above information, do not hesitate to contact either M. Joseph Redman or Tracy Zimmer, contact information below. We will both also be present on Election Day at the polling location to assist with any questions you may have during the Election.

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