



2026 Local Government Elections Frequently Asked Questions

Where and when can I vote?

At any of the following 2026 voting opportunities, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM:

Advance Voting Day #1 = *October 7, 2026 – Quesnel City Hall*

Advance Voting Day #2 = *October 10, 2026 – Quesnel City Hall*

General Election Day = *Saturday, October 17, 2026 – Quesnel City Hall, Correlieu Secondary School, and Dragon Lake Elementary School*

Do I qualify to vote?

You can vote in a civic election in the City of Quesnel as a **“resident elector”** if you:

- Are 18 years of age or older on the day of registration **OR**, if an election or assent voting is in progress, will be 18 years of age or older on general voting day for the election or assent voting; and
- Are a Canadian citizen**; and
- Have been a resident of BC for at least six (6) months immediately before the day of registration; and
- Are a resident of the City of Quesnel; and
- Are not disqualified under the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting in an election or assent voting in BC, or be otherwise disqualified by law.

All City of Quesnel residents who meet these requirements can vote. It does not matter whether you rent or own your home.

If you own property in the City of Quesnel but live somewhere else in BC, you are qualified to vote in the City of Quesnel civic election as a **“non-resident property elector”** as long as you:



- Are not entitled to register as a resident elector in the City of Quesnel; and
- Are 18 years of age or older on the day of registration, **OR** if an election or assent voting is in progress, will be 18 years of age or older on general voting day for the election or assent voting; and
- Are a Canadian citizen**; and
- Have been a resident of BC for at least six (6) months immediately before the day of registration; and
- Have been a registered owner of real property in the City of Quesnel for at least thirty (30) days immediately before the day of registration (the only persons who are registered owners of the real property, either as joint tenants or tenants in common, are individuals who are not holding the property in trust for a corporation or another trust); and
- Have received the written consent of the majority of individuals registered as owners of the real property to be registered as the non-resident property elector for this property (if there is more than one owner of the property); and
- Are not disqualified under the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting in an election or assent voting in BC, or be otherwise disqualified by law.

Non-resident property electors can vote only once, regardless of the number of properties they own. If there is more than one registered owner of a property, only one of those individuals may, with the written consent of the majority of the other owners, register as a non-resident property elector.

Pre-registration as a non-resident property elector is recommended.

***Landed immigrants who are not yet Canadian citizens are not permitted to vote in civic elections.*

When will we know who is running for Mayor and Councillors?

The nomination period closes on September 11, 2026, at 4:00 PM. A notice of election will be placed in the local newspaper and on our website the following week, indicating who the candidates are.



Is my name on the current list of electors?

The City of Quesnel utilises same day registration allowing both resident and non-resident property electors to register at the time of voting by completing an application form available at the voting place. Registration is available during each of the advance, special and general voting opportunities, or when voting by mail-in ballot.

Do I need identification to vote?

Yes. **Resident Electors** must produce two (2) valid pieces of identification that provide evidence of the person's identity and residency in the City of Quesnel, at least one of which must contain a signature (picture identification is not necessary). Valid ID include:

- BC Driver's License
- City of Quesnel Tax Notice
- BC Identification Card
- BC Care Card or BC Gold Care Card
- BC Services Card with or without a photo
- Vehicle Insurance Papers
- Social Insurance Number Card
- Citizenship Card
- Property tax notice
- Credit card or debit card
- Utility bill

Note: If the Driver's License and the Care Card are combined, then this document only counts as 1 piece of identification and the elector will have to provide another piece of identification.

Non-Resident Electors must produce two (2) valid pieces of identification in order to prove identity, at least one of which must have a signature, as well as proof of ownership of property in the City of Quesnel. If there are other owners of the property in question, you must also have written consent from the majority of all the owners stating that you are the one owner who is designated as the Non-Resident (Property) Elector for that property. Non-resident electors can vote only once, regardless of the number of properties they own. ****Property registered in company/corporation names **do not qualify** under the Local Government Act to vote in municipal elections.*



Do you offer curbside voting for persons with disabilities?

Yes, curbside voting is available at both advance voting opportunities as well as on general voting day. Contact the Chief Election Officer or Deputy Chief Election Officer (250-991-7477, elections@quesnel.ca) for more information.

Can I vote if I am out of town in October?

Individuals who will be unable to attend the advance voting opportunities or cast a ballot on General Voting Day will be able to vote by mail. For information on, and to pre-register for, a mail-in ballot, please contact the Chief Election Officer or Deputy Chief Election Officer (250-991-7477, elections@quesnel.ca).

Are mail-in ballots permitted?

All individuals who qualify to vote but are unable to attend the advance voting opportunities or cast a ballot on general voting day, or those who prefer it, will be able to vote by mail. For information on, and to pre-register for, a mail-in ballot, please contact the Chief Election Officer or Deputy Chief Election Officer (250-991-7477, elections@quesnel.ca).

Do I have to vote for all six (6) Councillor positions on the ballot?

No. The ballot contains all the candidates running for office. Electors have a choice of voting for **UP TO SIX (6)** Councillor candidates, but are not required to vote for six (6). In other words, if you only have four (4) Councillor candidates you wish to vote for, you may do so.

Am I qualified to run for office?

You do not have to be a resident of, or own property in, the City of Quesnel to be nominated, elected and to hold office as a member of local government. However, you must meet the following criteria (Section 81 of the [Local Government Act](#)):

- Canadian citizen (landed immigrants who are not yet Canadian citizens are not qualified); and
 - Will be 18 years of age or older on General Voting Day; and
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- Resident of BC for at least the last six (6) months immediately before the day nomination papers are filed; and
- Not disqualified by the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting in an election or assent voting in BC or from being nominated for, being elected to or holding the office, or be otherwise disqualified by law.

Do I have to live in the City of Quesnel to run for office?

No. The *Local Government Act* does not limit candidates to residents of the communities.

How do I get nominated?

Candidates must be nominated by two qualified resident electors to run for Mayor OR Councillor. **Nomination packages for Mayor and Councillor will be available as of August 4, 2026** from the City Website, or at City Hall reception, 410 Kinchant St, during regular office hours of 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Nomination packages for School Board Trustee will be available from School District No. 28. Nominations for Mayor and Councillor must be filed with the Chief Election Officer or the Deputy Chief Election Officer at City Hall and will only be **accepted between 9:00 AM on September 1, 2026 and 4:00 PM on September 11, 2026.** A nomination deposit is not required.

How many nominators do I need to run for office?

Two eligible electors from the City of Quesnel. See the [Candidate's Guide to Local Government Elections in BC](#) for more information.

Where do I get nomination papers and when is the period for filing them?

Nomination packages for Mayor and Councillor will be available as of **August 4, 2026** from the City of Quesnel website or at City Hall reception, 410 Kinchant St. Nomination packages for School Board Trustee will be available from School District No. 28. Nominations for Mayor and Councillor must be filed with the Chief Election Officer or the Deputy Chief Election Officer at City Hall and will only be **accepted between 9:00 AM on September 1, 2026, and 4:00 PM on September 11, 2026.** A nomination deposit is not required.



What are the rules for campaign signs?

The City's Sign Political Bylaw permits temporary election signs to be placed from the beginning of the election period (as determined by Provincial/Federal legislation) until four days after the general election day. [City of Quesnel Political Campaign Signs Bylaw 1875](#)

See the [Candidate's Guide to Local Government Elections in BC](#), the [Guide to Local Elections Campaign Financing in BC for Candidates and their Financial Agents](#), and the [Local Elections Campaign Financing Act \(LECFA\)](#) for more information.

In addition to the rules included in the City's Political Sign Bylaw, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regulates sign placement along Provincial highways (i.e. Highways 97 and 20). Their regulations can be found online at: <https://www.gov.bc.ca/electionsigns>.

Where can I find information on campaign financing, elector organizations and third-party sponsors?

On May 29, 2014, the Government of British Columbia gave Royal Assent to the [Local Elections Campaign Financing Act \(LECFA\)](#) and the [Local Elections Statutes Amendment Act \(LESAA\)](#). The new rule changes in LECFA and LESAA are now in force and will affect candidates, elector organizations and third-party advertising sponsors for the November 2014 and subsequent general local elections. For more information or answers to questions about LECFA election advertising, third party advertising and campaign financing rules, please contact Elections BC at:

Elections BC – Electoral Finance

Phone toll-free: 1-800-661-8683 / TTY: 1-888-456-5448

Email: electoral.finance@elections.bc.ca

Fax: 250-387-3578 / Toll-free Fax: 1-866-466-0665

Mailing Address: PO Box 9275 Stn Prov Govt Victoria, BC, V8W 9J6
elections.bc.ca

Where can I find information on financial disclosure requirements?

See the [Financial Disclosure Act](#) and the [Candidate's Guide to Local Government Elections in BC](#).



What is an Elector Organization?

An Elector Organization is an organization that encourages the election of a particular candidate. If the organization wants to have its name appear on the ballot with the candidate's name, it must have been in existence for 60 days and have had a membership of 50 electors of the local government for that period. Elector organizations are bound by the same campaign fundraising and disclosure rules as candidates. See the "Documents & Links" on the City's 2026 Election page for more information.

What is a Campaign Organizer?

A campaign organizer is a group or individual that encourages the election of a particular candidate or support for a particular elector organization through a series of campaign activities. An individual, other than a candidate, who undertakes an election campaign is a campaign organizer only if he or she accepts financial support for the campaign activities from other people or groups. A group does not need to be incorporated under the [Societies Act](#) to be a campaign organizer. Campaign organizers are bound by the same campaign fundraising restrictions and disclosure rules as candidates. See the "Related Documents & Links" section on the [City's 2026 Election page](#) for more information.

Does the public have access to candidates' nomination documents?

Yes. As authorized under Section 89 (8) of the [Local Government Act](#), public access to nomination documents will be provided in City Hall during regular office hours and by Internet access until 30 days after the declaration of the election results.

Who can I contact if I have questions?

Chief Election Officer at 250-991-7477

E-Mail at elections@quesnel.ca
