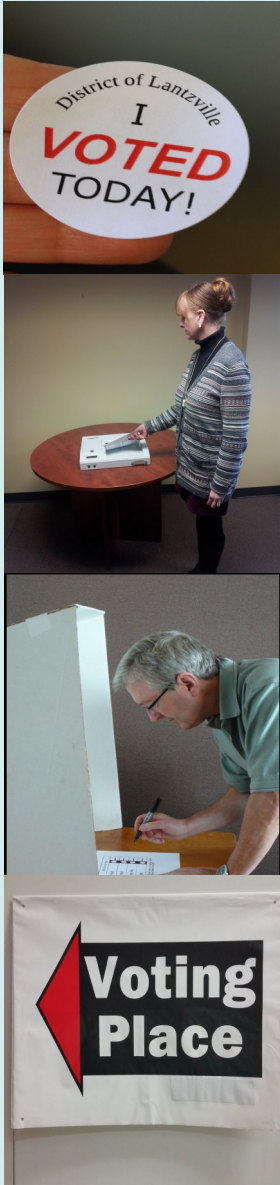




# DISTRICT OF LANTZVILLE Community Update

Summer 2015 SPECIAL EDITION



**DISTRICT OF  
LANTZVILLE**

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## BY-ELECTION 2015!

### District of Lantzville Electors *VOTE*

To elect four Councillors  
to serve the remainder of Council's  
four-year term ending in the fall of 2018

### ADVANCE VOTING DAYS

Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> & August 5<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am - 8:00 pm at the District Office, 2nd Floor, 7192 Lantzville Road

Advance Voting is open to all electors

All ballots are counted when general voting closes on August 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm

### GENERAL VOTING DAY

Saturday, August 8, 2015

8:00 am - 8:00 pm at Costin Hall, 7232 Lantzville Road

## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY...VOTE!

This summer, electors in the District of Lantzville have an opportunity to make a difference in your community! Local government is responsible for a wide range of services that affect you in your everyday life: from land use and community planning, to the maintenance of roads, parks, and trails, to recreation, waste collection, bylaw enforcement, and the provision of potable water. You have the opportunity to impact these services and the future of Lantzville when you vote to elect four Councillors to complete the seven-member Council that will serve until the new five-member Council (per Bylaw No. 110) is elected at the 2018 General Local Election and sworn in. Council adopts policies and laws that map the future of Lantzville and govern day-to-day operations delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer and staff to implement and manage.

Your vote counts! Qualified *Resident* and *Non-Resident Property Electors* can choose from several voting opportunities for the 2015 By-election, including Advance Voting, voting on General Voting Day or Vote by Mail if you are unable to attend other voting opportunities.

On General Voting Day, Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> electors can enter the Voting Place at Costin Hall and go directly to the table that displays the first letter of your last name, to be issued your ballot. If you are not on the voters' list, you will be referred to the New Registrations table to show ID/register to receive your ballot. It only takes a short time to vote and make a difference in your community. Check to see if your neighbour needs a ride to the Voting Place. Let's continue our community's history of record-breaking voter turnout!

**Be sure to VOTE July 29, August 5 or 8, 2015!**

# Your VOTE Counts— on July 29<sup>th</sup>, August 5<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>

## Do you need assistance to vote?

**Accessible**— Both Voting Places (District Office, 2nd Floor\*, on July 29<sup>th</sup> & August 5<sup>th</sup> and Costin Hall on August 8<sup>th</sup>) are wheelchair accessible (\*elevator in Office).

**Curbside voting**— If you can make it to the Voting Place but have difficulty getting into or out of your car:

- call the Chief Election Officer (CEO) at 250.619.6006; OR
- have someone come into the Voting Place; and ask for “curbside assistance”.

Election Officials will: bring a ballot to you in your vehicle in the parking lot, wait while you mark the ballot, and will deposit the ballot into the vote counting unit in the Voting Place, on your behalf.

**Marking your ballot**— You can ask an Election Official, friend or relative to help you if you are unable to read or mark your own ballot. The *Local Government Act* requires the person assisting an elector to first sign a solemn declaration with the CEO to

commit to: preserve the secrecy of the ballot, mark the ballot as the elector instructs and not attempt to influence how you vote.

**Translation**— Bring someone to assist you if you need a translator. The translator will also need to sign a solemn declaration that they are able to make the translation and will do so to the best of their ability.

**NOTE:** Candidates, their representatives and financial agents must not assist electors.

## Who is qualified to vote?

You can vote in the District of Lantzville By-election as a *Resident Elector* if you are:

- a Canadian citizen (landed immigrants and corporations are not eligible); AND
- 18 years of age or older on General Voting Day; AND
- a resident of BC for at least six months immediately before voting; AND
- a resident in the District of Lantzville for at least 30 days before voting; AND
- not disqualified by law from voting.

## Own property in Lantzville but do not live here?

If you do not live in Lantzville, but own property here, you can vote as a *Non-Resident Property Elector (NRPE)* if you:

- are eligible to vote as a *Resident Elector* in another municipality or regional district in BC and not in Lantzville; AND
- own property in the District of Lantzville for at least 30 days immediately before you register.

You may only register as a *NRPE* in relation to one piece of property. If more than one person owns the property, only one of the owners may register and that person must provide the written consent of the majority of the owners. If you own property with a corporation, none of the property owners are eligible to vote. Call the District Office for *NRPE* Voter Registration and Consent Forms (250.390.4006).

**Is identification required?** ID is not required if you are on the List of Registered Electors. If you are not on the list, qualified electors may register when voting. Bring at least two documents to prove who you are and where you live (at least one with your signature). Acceptable ID includes: BC driver's licence or identification card, social insurance card, citizenship card, BC Care/Gold Care Card, bank credit card, utility bill, and property tax notice. *Non-Resident Property Electors* must also bring a Land Title certificate and, if more than one property owner, a signed Consent Form. Call the District Office for a complete list of acceptable ID, and the option to swear a residency declaration, if required.

## Vote by Mail!

Eligible electors may vote by mail if they:

- have a physical disability, illness or injury that affects their ability to vote at another voting opportunity; OR
- expect to be absent from the District of Lantzville on General Voting Day and at the times of all Advance Voting opportunities.

Electors who are eligible and wish to vote by mail should contact the Chief Election Officer now to obtain an application to receive a mail ballot package. On the form you will indicate if you or someone else will be picking up your mail ballot package at the District Office or if you want the package mailed to your residence or another address. Ballot packages are available now. It is your responsibility to ensure that your mail ballot is received by the Chief Election Officer *before* the close of voting at 8:00 pm on Saturday, August 8, 2015.

# ...*VOTE* to *ELECT* four Councillors!

## How do you mark the ballot?

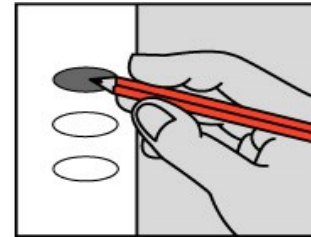
After signing the voting book and receiving your ballot, immediately proceed to a voting booth to vote. The names of the candidates for the four vacant Councillor seats will be listed on the ballot in alphabetical order by the last name. The District uses an automated vote counting system. Votes marked on the ballot are 'read' by an optical scanning device in the vote counting unit.

Do NOT mark your ballot with a (√) or (X). Instead, mark by completely filling in the oval next to the candidate(s) of your choice, using only the special marking pen provided.

Undervoting (voting for fewer candidates than seats available, e.g. for one or two instead of four) is legal and votes will be counted.

If you inadvertently spoil your ballot, ask the CEO to replace it with a new ballot.

After marking your ballot, place it in a secrecy folder or hold it so it is not visible, and proceed to the vote counting unit. Place your ballot face down on the vote counting unit and wait to confirm the ballot was accepted. Simple!



## Voting rules and regulations!

This By-election is regulated by the *Community Charter*, the *Local Government Act*, the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* and the *District of Lantzville Elections and Other Voting Opportunities Bylaw No. 90, 2011*. Some key rules to follow on Voting Days:

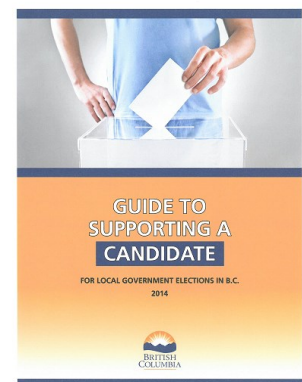
- No campaigning within 100 metres of the Voting Place, including no displaying signs, ads, bumper stickers, posters, buttons or flyers or other material that advocates for or against a candidate
- No influencing voters within 100 metres of the Voting Place
- Only eligible electors are permitted in the Voting Place—and they must leave immediately after voting. 'Future voters' (children) are welcome under close adult supervision
- Voting is by a secret ballot—no talking about how you or someone else votes, no displaying your ballot and only one person per voting booth
- No vote buying or intimidation
- No signing false statements
- Turn off all cameras, phones and technology before entering the Voting Place—it is unlawful to reproduce a ballot
- No TV, radio or newspaper campaign ads and no campaign social media on General Voting Day.

Election offences can result in a \$10,000 fine and up to two years in prison. Contact the local RCMP if you believe that someone has committed an election offence. Elections BC administers, investigates and enforces the campaign financing disclosure and election advertising rules under the *LECFA*.

The rules for local government elections are different than the rules for Provincial and Federal elections. The Province and Elections BC have created several guides to provide information, as well as examples, of how the *Local Government Act* and the new *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act* apply, including:

- Candidate's Guide to Local Government Elections in BC
- Elector Organization Guide to Local Government Elections in BC
- Guide to Supporting a Candidate for Local Elections in BC
- Local Elections in BC: What Every Candidate Needs to Know
- Voter's Guide to Local Elections in BC
- Guide to Local Elections Campaign Financing in BC

View guides on the websites of the Province of BC, Elections BC, or the District of Lantzville, or at the District Office.



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## 2015 By-election to Elect FOUR Councillors

### What will be on the ballot?

#### Councillor

Vote for not more than FOUR (4)

○	BIELEWSKI, Jennifer
○	COLCLOUGH, Bob
○	DONALD, Mike
○	ENGLISH, John
○	FINNEGAN, Richard
○	GESELBRACHT, Will Wyn
○	GRIFFEY, Warren Gordon
○	MOODY, Joan
○	NEARY, Dot
○	PARKHURST, Doug
○	POPPERL, Peter
○	SWAIN, Mark

Note: This sample ballot is for illustration purposes only.

### Questions about Candidates?

Be an informed voter! Read the local newspapers, check out candidates' campaign materials (brochures, signs, websites), and attend any public All-Candidates meetings organized by local community groups. Take every opportunity to ask the candidates questions: How do they plan to address the issues that are of concern to you and your family? What are their priorities for the community?

It is the responsibility of the municipality to conduct the by-election and, as such, we must retain independence and neutrality. Therefore, we only provide candidate contact information on our website — we do not provide or promote any candidates or candidate campaign information.

### What happens after the Voting Place closes on General Voting Day?

After closing the Voting Place to electors at 8:00 pm on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, Election Officials (EOs) will open the Vote by Mail envelopes and deposit the ballots into the vote counting unit. Then, with scrutineers and candidates observing if they wish, EOs will set the vote counting unit to print results tapes showing the number of votes for each candidate.

EOs tally these preliminary results and post a summary at the District Office and on the District's website: [www.lantzville.ca](http://www.lantzville.ca) and distribute it to the media.

Officials will also complete a ballot account, and end the long day by packaging the election materials.

Final determination of election results starts Monday, August 10, 2015. The Chief Election Officer must declare the official results before 4:00 pm on Wednesday, August 12, 2015.

The elected Councillors' term of office starts when they swear their Oath of Office at the special Council meeting (their Inaugural meeting) that is scheduled to be held at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #257, 7225 Lantzville Road at 7:00 pm on Monday, August 31, 2015. It will also be the first meeting for our new Chief Administrative Officer, Brad McRae. This is a public meeting and you are invited to attend!

September will be a busy month with orientation of the new Council members, strategic planning, and resumption of regular business for the seven-member Council. Regular Council meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm Monday, September 14 and 28, 2015.

**Why vote?** Our right to vote is a precious right — use it!

#### Voter Turnout History

Year	Voter Turnout %
2014	49.4
2011	44.1
2008	21.6
2005	51.4

### Do you have questions about voting or local government elections?

Visit our website or District Office, or contact:

**Trudy Coates, Chief Election Officer**  
P: 250.390.4006 (250.619.6006 on Voting Days)  
E: [trudy@lantzville.ca](mailto:trudy@lantzville.ca)

**Lynn Ketch, Deputy Chief Election Officer**  
P: 250.390.4006  
E: [trudy@lantzville.ca](mailto:trudy@lantzville.ca)

Visit the Provincial Ministry of Community, Sport & Cultural Development and Elections BC websites:

- [www.cscd.gov.bc.ca/lgd/gov\\_structure/Elections](http://www.cscd.gov.bc.ca/lgd/gov_structure/Elections)
- [www.elections.bc.ca/index.php/local-elections-campaign-financing/](http://www.elections.bc.ca/index.php/local-elections-campaign-financing/)

Election results will be posted at:

- [www.lantzville.ca](http://www.lantzville.ca)

*Information in this newsletter is provided for ease of reference. It is not intended to provide complete and comprehensive election information, and is not a substitute for the applicable sections in the Local Government Act and Local Elections Campaign Financing Act.*