



2026 General Election
Candidate Information Session
ucluelet.ca/elections



Candidate Eligibility

Eligibility requirements (Local Government Act):

- 18 years of age
- Canadian citizen
- BC resident for six months before nomination
- Not disqualified by law from voting in an election in BC, or from being nominated for, elected to, or holding elected office
- Candidate residency in the jurisdiction is not required

Time Commitment



DISTRICT OF
UCLUELET

Meetings

- 22 Regular Council Meetings per year (scheduled)
- 3-4 Committee of the Whole Meetings per year (scheduled) including 2 Grants in Aid meetings
- 3-4 Harbour Authority Meetings (scheduled)
- Special Public Meetings & Hearings (as needed)
- Council Orientation
- Budget Review & Planning (Annually)

- Council Strategic Planning
- Local & Regional Committees (*see next slide for details*)
- Public Appearances, Events & Political Events
- Annual Conferences (UBCM, AVICC, BC Economic Development Summit, Local Government Leadership Academy)
**Council members may have opportunities to attend additional annual conferences, subject to Council approval by resolution.*

Agendas

- Agendas are distributed five days before each meeting (typically Thursday afternoon) and may be several hundred pages in length. Reviewing the agenda package in advance helps Council members come to meetings well-informed and prepared for discussions.

Committees

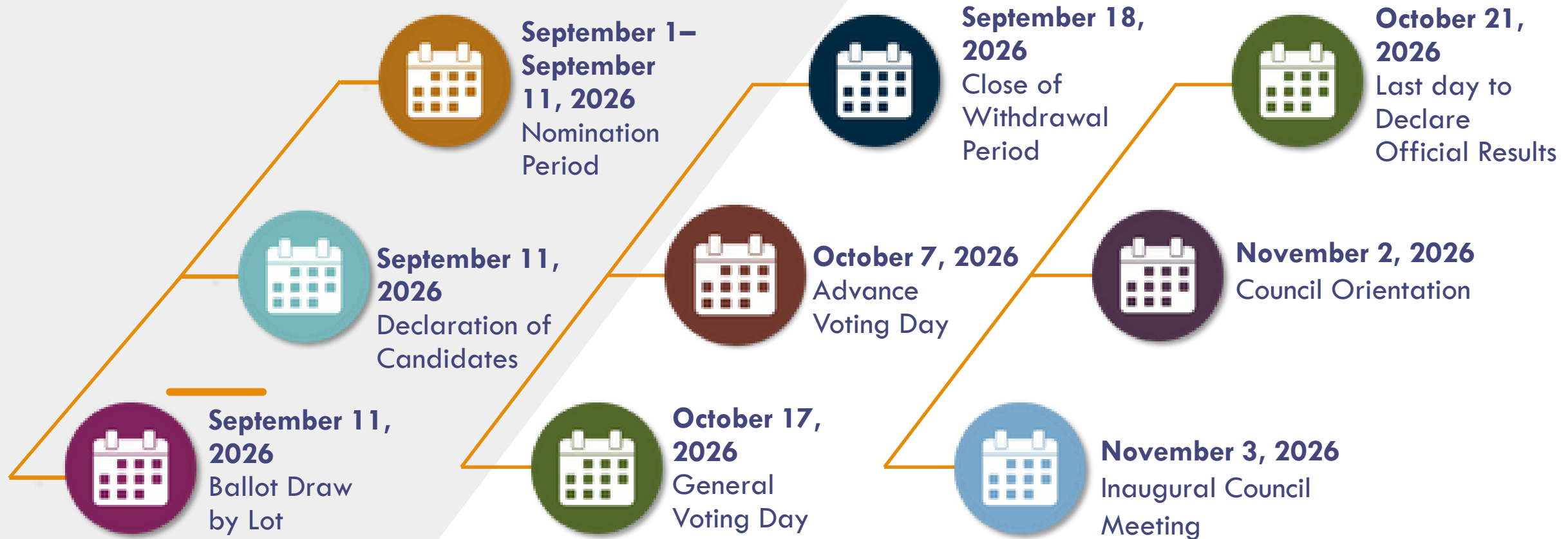


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- Vancouver Island Regional Library Board (1 principal, 1 alternate)
- Alberni-Clayoquot Health Network Table of Partners
- Ucluelet Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee
- Groundfish Trawl Advisory Committee
- Municipal Insurance Associate of British Columbia Voting Delegate (1 principal, 2 alternates)
- Ucluelet Accessibility Committee
- Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Board (1 principal, 1 alternate)
- Ucluelet Tourism Association D.B.A
- Alberni Clayoquot Health Network Transportation Action Table
- Island Coast Economic Trust
- Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Transportation Advisory Committee
- Barkley Community Forest Corporation

Council typically determines committee assignments each year. While appointments are reviewed annually, members often remain on the same committees throughout their term to build expertise, ensure continuity, and make their contributions more meaningful.

2026 GENERAL ELECTION KEY DATES





Role of Election Officials

Chief Election Officer (CEO)

- Administers the election
- Delegates responsibilities and powers to other election officials

Deputy Chief Election Officer (DCEO)

- Performs duties of the Chief Election Officer, when CEO is absent or unable to act
- Exercises delegated authorities

Presiding Election Official (PEO)

- Supports the CEO and DCEO in overseeing the vote and exercises delegated authorities as assigned.

Election Officials

- Oversee the vote and exercise delegated authorities

Ed Chow

Chief Election Officer
(E) echow@ucluelet.ca
(T) 250-726-7744

Florence Pelchat

Deputy Chief Election Officer
(E) fpelchat@ucluelet.ca
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Darya Popova

Presiding Election Official
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Voters

Resident Electors

- Live in Ucluelet and meet all other qualifications:
 - Be 18 years of age or older when they register to vote or 18 years or older on general voting day
 - Be a Canadian citizen
 - Have been a resident of B. C. for at least six months immediately before they register to vote
 - Not be disqualified under the Local Government Act, or any other enactment from voting in local elections or be otherwise disqualified by law

Non-Resident Property Electors

- Own property in Ucluelet but live elsewhere and meet all other qualifications same as Resident Electors above
- Can't vote more than once in the same jurisdiction*
- Only one person is eligible to vote as the non-resident property elector for that property when a person owns a property with one or more other individuals. The owner entitled to vote must be designated, in writing, by the majority of the property owners.
- A person cannot vote on behalf of a corporation, or as a non-resident property elector, based on a property owned wholly or in part by a corporation.



Voters List

- Candidates are entitled to have a copy of the voters list
- Candidates are responsible for protecting personal information on the list
- Candidates are responsible for ensuring that any campaign workers provided access to the List of Registered Electors (LORE) are informed of the permitted uses of the list, understand its confidential nature, and track its provision, access, and distribution. (Refer to the Candidate Acknowledgment of Receipt of LORE in the nomination package for more details.)



Nomination Packages And Nomination Period

- **Nomination Packages**

Available for download on the District website or to pickup at the District Office

- **Nomination Period**

Begins at 9:00 a.m. September 1, 2026

Ends at 4:00 p.m. on September 11, 2026

- Please note if submitting the nomination package by email, candidates must make the required solemn declaration before a Commissioner for Taking Affidavits for B.C. (such as a lawyer or notary public) in advance.
- **Portions of the Nomination package will be available to the public for review.***

Book an appointment with Ed Chow, Chief Election Officer or Florence Pelchat, Deputy Chief Election Officer to submit nomination documents. Allow plenty of time before the submission deadline.

*Appointments available throughout the Nomination Period. Email elections@ucluelet.ca



Candidate Representatives

Financial Agent

- Responsible to meet all financial requirements of the Local Election Campaign Financing Act
- Candidate or appointed person
- Submit Form C4 to the CEO
- * Questions should be directed to Elections BC. Email: electionsbc@elections.bc.ca

Official Agent

- Represents the candidate from time to time. Can appoint scrutineers.
- Candidates **may** appoint an Official Agent
- Official Agent can also be the Financial Agent
- Submit Form C5 to the CEO

Scrutineers

- Observes the vote and ballot counting
- Each candidate **may** appoint 1 scrutineer for each ballot box
- Submit Form C6 to the CEO
- Scrutineers must sign a solemn declaration



Campaign Period

- **Campaign Period**

Begins at 12:01 a.m. on September 19, 2026

Ends at 4:00 p.m. on October 17, 2026

*Expenses used in this period are subject to an expense limit and must be reported on the campaign financing disclosure statement.

- **Candidate Expense Limits for Ucluelet are as follows:**

Mayor candidates: \$12,323.78

Councillor candidates: \$6,161.89

Questions? Contact [Elections BC](#)



Election Financing

- It is important that Candidates are aware of their campaign responsibilities under the Local Elections Campaign Financing Act (LECFA) and associated regulations.

Financial Agent Duties (either the candidate or appointed individual)

- 1) Candidates must open and manage a separate campaign bank account that is used exclusively for the candidate's election campaign.
- 2) Accept and record all income.
- 3) Approve expenses.
- 4) File campaign financing reports with Elections BC within 90 days after the General Election on October 17. (January 15, 2027)
- 5) Maintain financial records in B.C. (Candidate must retain all financial records for 5 years after the General Election).

See Elections BC [Guide for Local Elections Campaign Financing in BC for Candidates and their Financial Agents](#) for more details.



DISTRICT OF
UCLUELET

Election Advertising

- Election advertising includes any paid communication to the public, including canvassing (going door-to-door, calling, visiting business to talk about your campaign, face-to-face conversations), that promotes or opposes the election of a candidate or an elector organization during the pre-campaign period or campaign period.
- When candidates are conducting election advertising, the message must include sponsorship information that:
 - Indicates the ad is authorized by the financial agent, includes the name of the financial agent, and provides a B.C. phone number, B.C. mailing address, or email address where the financial agent can be contact about the advertising.
 - E.g. “Authorized by Alex Smith, financial agent, 604-555-1234
- Election advertising must not be distributed or transmitted on General Voting Day. The following activities are permitted, provided they are located more than 100 metres from the Voting Place (Ucluelet Community Centre):
 - Existing campaign signs, posters, and banners
 - Distribution of pamphlets or other campaign materials
 - Internet messages or social media posts that were published before General Voting Day and are not modified before voting closes.
 - Messages whose sole purpose is to encourage people to vote.



Election Signage

Install and Removal

- Must not be displayed before September 19, 2026
- Must be removed by October 19, 2026

100 Metre Rule

- Election signage **must not** be placed within 100 metres of the Ucluelet Community Centre during voting on October 7 and October 17, 2026

Signage Restrictions

- See District Sign Bylaw No. 1060, 2007 (Available on District Website). Excerpt in the Nomination Package.
- See Ministry of Transportation and Transit policy on Highway Rights of Way



DISTRICT OF
UCLUELET

Election Offences

Election offences as set out in Part 3, Division 18 of the *Local Government Act (LGA)* and in Part 7 of the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act (LECFA)*. Here are a few of the more common ones to note, some more subtle than others:

- Vote buying
- Accepting an inducement to vote*
- Intimidation
- Advertising on General Voting Day, except as permitted under the exceptions outlined on Slide 13.
- Falsely withdrawing a candidate or an endorsement
- Fraudulently voting
- Interfering with ballots or ballot boxes
- Canvassing/advertising within 100 metres of a voting place
- Any other activity contrary to the *LGA*



All Candidates Meeting

The municipality will not host an all-candidates meeting. If a local group is hosting an all-candidates meeting, they will be in touch with candidates directly.



After the Election

Campaign Finance Disclosure Statement

- See Elections BC for details and [forms](#)
- All candidates must file Campaign Disclosure Statements with Elections BC by January 15, 2027
- Late penalties will apply

Council Orientation session – November 2, 2026

First Council Meeting following the election – November 3, 2026

- Council members will take their Oath of Office at the Inaugural Council Meeting on November 3.



2026 GENERAL ELECTION-Candidate Information Session



Questions?



Resources for Candidates

[Running for local office - Province of British Columbia](#)

[Candidate Handbook – Elections BC](#)

[Candidate's Guide to Local Elections in B.C. - Province of British Columbia](#)

[What to know before you start campaigning – Elections BC](#)

[The role of local elected officials - Province of British Columbia](#)



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For general election related
inquiries please email
elections@ucluelet.ca.

THANK YOU!
ucluelet.ca/elections