

## 2020 Local Government Elections – Mail-in Ballot Procedure

### ISSUE

This report submits Bylaw No. 9717, *The Election Amendment Bylaw, 2020* for City Council's consideration. *The Election Amendment Bylaw, 2020* implements City Council's decisions around the mail-in ballot process for the 2020 municipal election.

### RECOMMENDATION

That City Council consider Bylaw No. 9717, *The Election Amendment Bylaw, 2020*.

### BACKGROUND

As its [July 27, 2020 Regular Business Meeting](#), City Council considered a report of the Returning Officer dated July 20, 2020 and resolved:

1. That the Administration remove the requirements, other than being an eligible voter, for the mail in ballot application witnesses to act as such and bring an amended bylaw back to Council;
2. That the Administration remove mail in ballot eligibility criteria in 11.2 given that all eligible voters will be able to request a mail in ballot regardless of circumstances and bring back an amended bylaw to Council; and
3. That the Administration report regarding the possibility of establishing additional advance polls and additional regular polling stations for the November 2020 municipal election to be reported on at August Governance & Priorities Committee or a special meeting of City Council in early August.

### DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

In accordance with City Council's instruction, we are pleased to re-submit Bylaw No. 9717, *The Election Amendment Bylaw, 2020* for City Council's consideration.

The Bylaw removes the requirements for witnesses to provide identification for applications for mail-in ballots. In addition, who can act as a witness for the purposes of an application for a mail-in ballot has been expanded to anyone who is an eligible voter in the municipal election.

Further, the Returning Officer has reviewed the internal election processes again and suggested some modifications to the Bylaw to provide additional clarity.

**APPENDIX**

1. Proposed Bylaw 9717, *The Election Amendment Bylaw, 2020*.

Report Approval

Written by: Cindy Yelland, City Solicitor

Approved by: Cindy Yelland, City Solicitor

Admin Report - 2020 Local Government Elections – Mail-in Ballot Procedure  
File No. 110.0448