
CITY OF KELOWNA

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 23, 2005
To: City Manager
From: Chief Election Officer
Subject: 2005 General Local Government Elections

Recommendation:

THAT the final report from the Chief Election Officer for the 2005 General Local Government Election be received;

AND THAT Council send a letter to the Minister of Community Services recommending that Part 3 of the *Local Government Act* be reviewed with respect to any timely amendments or updates, and in particular with respect to possible opportunities for alternative forms of voting that would allow electors to cast absentee ballots.

Background:

Official Results:

The official results of the 2005 election were declared, as required by the *Local Government Act*, on Wednesday, November 23, 2005. A summary of those results, with a summary of the ballot account, is attached to this report.

Advance Voting Opportunities:

The dates, times, and location of advance voting opportunities were set by Council, through Bylaw No. 9440, which was adopted on June 27, 2005. There were two opportunities, both at Parkinson Recreation Centre, on November 9 and November 15, 2005, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Two thousand, three hundred and thirty five electors cast ballots at the advance voting opportunities.

Special Voting Opportunities:

Special voting opportunities were offered to all facilities in Kelowna licensed to provide "complex care" to their residents, as well as to Kelowna General Hospital. Six special voting opportunities were held in the days prior to general voting day at the facilities themselves, with special voting occurring at Kelowna General Hospital on general voting day itself. Special voting is limited, by Bylaw No. 9440, to patients, residents and staff of the facilities at which the voting was held. A total of three hundred and ninety two electors cast ballots at the special voting opportunities.

General Voting Opportunities:

General voting was held on November 19, 2005, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at sixteen locations spread throughout Kelowna. This was an increase of six from the number of general voting locations at the 2002 local government election. Turnout was fairly evenly spread throughout all locations, with the exceptions of the Dorothea Walker Elementary School location (2748) and the Rutland Senior Secondary School location (2477), which received higher numbers than the

others (both locations are traditionally busy), and the South Kelowna Elementary School location (241) which received much lower numbers.

Turnout in municipal elections in British Columbia traditionally averages around 30%, with turnout generally decreasing in reverse proportion to the size of the community. Estimated turnout for the City of Kelowna election this year was 31.45%, up from less than 25% in 2002.

Alternative Opportunities for Voting:

There are several other jurisdictions in Canada in which relevant election legislation provides for a variety of alternative voting methods, including internet voting, general mail ballot voting and other methods for absentee voting. The existing *Local Government Act* provisions in British Columbia are much more restrictive in the options that we can provide to our electors. We had several inquiries during this election from City of Kelowna residents who, for example, were to be out of the country after the beginning of November and would therefore miss both the general voting and advance voting opportunities. Amendments to the *Local Government Act*, which would have to be made by the Province, to provide for some alternative voting methods may allow such residents to exercise their franchise in future elections. We recommend that the Minister of Community Services be requested to review such alternative methods with a view to putting forward the necessary related amendments prior to the 2008 general local government elections in British Columbia.

Allison M. Flack, Chief Election Officer

Summary of Results and Ballot Accounts

Summary of Results and Ballot Account Statement

FOR ONE (1) MAYOR FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM:

Candidate	Number of Votes Received
GRAY, Walter	11453
MAY, Stephen	378
OUELLETTE, Kimberly "Kim"	115
SHEPHERD, Sharon	(Elected) 13706
UITVLUGT, Andrew	73

FOR EIGHT (8) COUNCILLORS FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM:

Candidate	Number of Votes Received
BEUTLE, Mike	1450
BLANLEIL, Andre	(Elected) 13005
CHERRILLE, Matt	2990
CLARK, Barrie	(Elected) 8903
DAY, Colin	(Elected) 7946
DUNLOP, Brad	1866
ELSASSER, Jennifer	5745
GATES, Joe	3058
GEBHARD, Gretchen	2856
GIVEN, Brian	(Elected) 12361
GRAHAM, Don	2842
GRAHAM, Mary-Ann	5023
GRAN, Carol	(Elected) 7169
HALLFORD, Valerie	4671
HOBSON, Robert Douglas	(Elected) 14265
HOCKEY, Ron	2448
HODGE, Charlie	5843
IAFRANCESCO, Joe	5325
JAMES, Graeme	4325
KERWIN, Mark	910
LETNICK, Norm	(Elected) 11217
MARSHALL, John	3741
PORTEOUS, David J.A.	4536
RATHWELL, JC	1348
ROCK, Jason	1467
RULE, Michele	(Elected) 8382
SHEA, Rick (Action for a Sustainable Kelowna)	2157
STONE, Cheryl	5668
THOMSEN, Andy (Action for a Sustainable Kelowna)	1865
TJOSVOLD, Cory Jay	2063
ZEGER, John G. (Action for a Sustainable Kelowna)	2267

FOR FOUR (4) SCHOOL TRUSTEES FOR A THREE (3) YEAR TERM:

Candidate	Number of Votes Received	
CACCHIONI, Rolli	(Elected)	10126
HORAN, Caryl J.		7787
HORNING, Wayne	(Elected)	11459
KRIVSKY, Reagan		2554
NICHOLL, Shelley	(Elected)	9160
PAETH, Cathy		3783
SCANLAN, Gail	(Elected)	8161
WOLCZUK, David		3745

	Mayor	Councillor	School Trustee
Total number of ballots given out:	26,112	26,112	26,090
Ballots rejected: (over voted or blank voted on that race)	86	499	5,762
Spoilt ballots:	301	301	301
Ballots accepted with valid marks:	25,725	25,312	20,027
Total:	26,112	26,112	26,090