

# REPORT TO COUNCIL



**Date:** December 07, 2011  
**File:** 0625-01  
**To:** City Manager  
**From:** Chief Election Officer (Deputy City Clerk)  
**Subject:** Election 2011 Results Report

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## **Recommendation:**

THAT Council receives the final report of the Chief Election Officer, dated December 07, 2011 regarding the 2011 Local Government Election, for information.

## **Purpose:**

To provide Council with the final report of the 2011 Local Government Election including a summary of the overall objectives, voting opportunities, and results.

## **Official Results**

The official results of the 2011 election were declared, as required by the *Local Government Act*, on Wednesday, November 23, 2011. A summary of those results, with a summary of the ballot account, is included in this report.

## **Background**

The plan for the 2011 election included the following three key objectives:

1. Accessibility - provide access to voting and voting information
  - o Additional advanced voting opportunities - added 5 for a total of 7
  - o Voter Assist terminal (over 40 users); Special voting (422); Mail-In voting (204)
  - o Voting opportunities "Where the People Are" - Orchard Park Shopping Mall, University/College Campuses, Kelowna Family Y, Parkinson Rec Centre, and City Hall
  - o Website, social media
  
2. Communication - inform the public
  - o News releases (20), public service announcements, newspaper advertisements
  - o Voter information card - direct mail to 54,721 households
  - o Website enhancement - Election 2011 "Your City, Your Vote" ; 20,450 visitors (7400 new to kelowna.ca)
  - o e-subscribe - 273 subscribers requested election updates directly from the City
  - o Social Media - Facebook page (2000 views) Twitter hashtag '#kelownavotes' (5400 tweets)
  - o Radio ads/online advertising

3. Integrity of the Voting Process - conduct all election proceedings impartially, openly and fairly
  - o Train election officials to fulfill the duties of their position
  - o Secure voting opportunities to preserve the secrecy of the ballot
  - o Interact with all electors equally
  - o Adhere to, and enforce compliance with, all legislative requirements governing the General local elections

### **Voting Opportunities**

For the 2011 Election, in addition to the 10 general voting opportunities, a further seven (7) advanced voting opportunities were offered over a total of five (5) days of voting.

#### **Advanced Voting**

Parkinson Recreation Centre has been the traditional advance voting location for the two advance voting opportunities offered by the City during local government elections. With the addition of Okanagan College, UBC-Okanagan, and City Hall, electors were given more opportunities to vote, over several days. The result was a high voter turnout overall with a total of 6354 residents choosing to cast their ballot at one of the four advance locations.

#### **Special**

As in previous years, all Interior Health Authority licensed care facilities with more than 50 residents (a total of 12 facilities) were contacted with the option to have a mobile polling station set up in their facility. Of the 12 facilities contacted, 8 facilities accepted the offer and a mobile polling station was set up at a pre-arranged date and time for residents and staff to vote.

A polling station was also set up at Kelowna General Hospital on Election Day from 9am to 5pm for qualified electors who were patients of the hospital or persons employed by KGH. A team of eight election staff conducted stationary voting in the lobby of the hospital, as well as mobile voting throughout the hospital for patients confined to their rooms.

#### **Mail Ballot Voting**

The mail ballot voting opportunity is a voting opportunity made available through the legislation for those municipalities who choose to offer voters with a physical disability, illness or injury OR voters who are going to be out of town on all voting days, the opportunity to vote by mail in the Local Government Election.

Although there was an increase in the rate of return over 2008, the 59% return rate for 2011 indicates that legislative changes to better accommodate this voting opportunity may be beneficial to municipal election officials and residents in future elections. Staff will be following up with the Ministry regarding potential improvements to the mail ballot process.

With several new initiatives in 2011, the voting location at Orchard Park Shopping Mall seems to have been one of the most popular. With the cooperation of Orchard Park Mall Administration, the City successfully arranged and conducted a safe, secure and private voting location for 1,904 voters.

This initiative, along with more overall advanced voting locations and multiple media messaging, will be key considerations when budgeting and planning for future elections. The City believes that going where the people are is a positive step, one that is best supported by providing electors in the City of Kelowna multiple forms of accessibility and information when asking for their participation in future elections.

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements: *Local Government Act, S. 148*

Internal Circulation: Communications

Considerations not applicable to this report:

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Existing Policy:

Financial/Budgetary Considerations:

Personnel Implications:

External Agency/Public Comments:

Communications Comments:

Alternate Recommendation:

Submitted by:



K. Needham,  
Chief Election Officer/Deputy City Clerk

Approved for inclusion:  R. Mayne, Director Corporate Services



City of Kelowna - Summary of Results and Ballot Accounts – 2011 Local Government Election

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

Candidate:		Number of Votes Received:
CHUNG, Ken		749
CONDY, Calvin (Cal)		1000
GRAY, Walter	(Elected)	13995
OUELLETTE, Kim		370
SHEPHERD, Sharon		13574

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

Candidate:		Number of Votes Received:
BASRAN, Colin	(Elected)	13073
BATT, Tasha		2025
BLANLEIL, Andre	(Elected)	12081
BOYKO, David		757
CASS, Doug		457
CRAIG, Kevin		7630
DEHART, Maxine	(Elected)	10106
FEHR, Elizabeth		1884
FIDDLER, Darrin		425
FRASER, Michael David		473
GIVEN, Gail	(Elected)	13111
GOW, Will		3452
GRAHAM, Mary-Ann (Maggie)		4105
GRAN, Carol		8702
HERRINGTON, Shane		6160
HOBSON, Robert Douglas	(Elected)	12413
HODGE, Charlie		6513
JACK, Erik		611
JAMES, Graeme		8584
KALMANOVITCH, Tisha		2398
KENNEDY, Bobby		2449
KOVACIC, Willy		740
MABEY, Rob		3093
MCFADDEN, Peter		2744
MURPHY, James		351
POWELL, Andrew		748
RATHWELL, JC		604
READY, Ron		1997
REID-NAGY, Angela		5770
ROSS, Scott		1790
RULE, Michele		4950
SCANLAN, Gail		1808
SHAW, Simon		1005
SINGH, Mohini	(Elected)	10077
STACK, Luke	(Elected)	10279
THOMPSON, Mark		1917
THORBURN, Dan		1011
UITVLUGT, Andrew (Andy)		227
VAN RYSWYK, Dayleen		1337
ZIMMERMANN, Gerry	(Elected)	18857

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

Candidate		Number of Votes Received
BECENKO, Chris		1280
BRINKERHOFF, Joyce	(Elected)	6407
CACCHIONI, Rolli	(Elected)	10646
FONDA, Torrie		1746
GORMAN, Chris	(Elected)	8025
GRAY, Larry		5883
HADDRELL, Darren		591
HRISTOVSKI, Val		2293
KLASSEN, Jeff		3748
KNIGHT, Richard		4887
KRASICHYNSKY, Gregory		1615
PENDHARKAR, Murli	(Elected)	6248
THOMPSON, Mark		4189
VOLK, Reg		3750

Summary of Ballot Accounts

	<u>Mayor</u>	<u>Councillor</u>	<u>School Trustee</u>
Total number of ballots given out:	30,532	30,532	30,521
Ballots rejected: (over voted or blank voted on that race)	30	30	30
Spoiled ballots:	348	348	348
Ballots not accounted for (Mail-in)	162	162	162
Ballots accepted with valid marks:	29,992	29,992	29,981
Unused Ballots	11,783	11,783	11,084
Total Number of Ballots Accounted For:	42,312	42,312	41,602

Estimated Voter Turnout

Number of Electors Casting a Ballot	29,992
Estimated Number of Electors	90,600
% Turnout	33.10%

I hereby certify the foregoing to be a true statement of the said election and of the votes cast and of the ballot paper account and of the results of the 2011 Local Government Election.

Given under my hand this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2011.

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Karen Needham, Chief Election Officer