



# MAIL BALLOT VOTING

## INFORMATION FOR THE 2020 BY-ELECTION

The COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in the Village of Sayward through a Ministerial Order, which received Council assent, permitting the option of mail ballot voting for the November 21, 2020 by-election so that the democratic rights of the electors can be better served. In addition, the goal of keeping electors and election officials and residents healthy and safe during the pandemic is a priority.

### Eligible Electors May Request A Mail Ballot Package

The ballot request form is available:

- For pick up at the Village Office 652 K'Husam Way, Monday to Friday, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm., excluding statutory holidays: **OR**
- Online at [www.sayward.ca](http://www.sayward.ca)

Form is to be available on approximately October 26, 2020.

#### 1. WHO CAN VOTE BY MAIL?

All eligible electors can vote by mail in the 2020 by-election.

#### 2. WHO IS ELIBIGLE TO VOTE?

You can vote if you are:

- A resident elector (ie., you live in the Village of Sayward); OR
- A non-resident property elector (i.e., you live elsewhere in BC but own property in the Village of Sayward); and
- Meet the qualifications as listed below.

#### ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

##### Resident Electors Must Be:

- 18 years of age or older on voting day for the election; and
- a Canadian citizen; and
- a resident of BC for at least 6 months immediately preceding voting day (since May 20, 2020); and
- a resident of OR registered owner of real property in the Village of Sayward for at least 30 days immediately preceding registration (since October 20, 2020), and
- not disqualified under the Local Government Act or by any other enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law.

##### Non-Resident Property Electors Must Be:

- 18 years of age or older on voting day for the election or assent voting; and

- a Canadian citizen; and
- a resident of BC for at least 6 months immediately preceding voting day (since May 20, 2020); and
- a registered owner of real property in the Village of Sayward for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration; and
- not entitled to register as a resident elector; and
- the only persons who are registered owners of the real property, either as joint tenants or tenants in common, and be individuals who are not holding the property in trust for a corporation or another trust; and
- not disqualified under the Local Government Act or by any other enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law; and
- if there is more than one registered owner of the property, only one of those individuals may, with the written consent of the majority of the owners, register as a non-resident property elector.

### **3. HOW DO YOU REGISTER TO VOTE?**

To ensure that you are receiving the correct registration package, you must indicate on your "Application to Vote By Mail" whether you are registering as a Resident Elector or a Non-Resident Property Elector.

### **4. REQUEST TO RECEIVE MAIL BALLOT PACKAGE**

Eligible Electors must request a mail ballot package.

Request Forms are to be available on or about Monday, October 26, 2020

**Requests to receive a mail ballot package must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday November 6<sup>th</sup>**

### **5. RETURN OF MAIL BALLOTS**

The Village of Sayward will send out mail ballot packages commencing approximately on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.

You are responsible for ensuring that your completed ballot and any supporting documentation is hand delivered or mailed with sufficient postage and time to be received at **Village Office no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, November 20, 2020, or delivered to Kelsey Centre, 652 H'Kusam Way, no later than 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 21, 2020.** Please note your mail ballot must be rejected if the elector requirements are not met or if it is received after 8 p.m. on November 21, 2020.

**To be included in the vote count, your mail ballot must be received by the Chief Election Officer no later than 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 21, 2020.**

Any questions can be directed to: Chief Election Officer, Eileen Lovstrom 250-761-4888