



**2025 By-Election
Candidate Questions and Answers**

Q. When is the by-election for the position of school trustee?

- A. The general voting day will be held on Saturday, October 11 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The two advance opportunities will be held on Wednesday, October 1 and Saturday, October 4 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Q. What are the qualifications for being a candidate for school trustee in the upcoming by-election?

- A. To be a candidate in the upcoming by-election, you need to meet the following criteria to be nominated:
- Canadian citizen;
 - 18 years or older on the date of the by-election;
 - A resident of B.C. at least 6 months before the date you submit the nomination papers; and
 - Not be disqualified under the *School Act* or any other enactment from being nominated for, being elected to or holding office as a trustee, or be otherwise disqualified by law.

Q. What must I submit to be nominated?

- A. You need to submit a complete nomination package which includes the following items:
- CS2 – Nomination Documents
 - Page 1 – signed by the 2 nominators and signed by the nominee;
 - Page 3 – solemn declaration signed by the nominee and witnessed by a commissioner for taking affidavits in BC (if not the Chief Election Officer);
 - Page 2 – is not needed because you do not need more than 2 nominators.
 - C3 – Other Information provided by the nominee; and
 - Financial Disclosure Act – Statement of Disclosure Form.

Remember that it is your responsibility to submit a completed, error-free nomination package. The Chief Election Officer is not responsible for making corrections to your nomination package. We recommend you book an appointment to submit your nomination papers early in the nomination period. This way, you



will have sufficient time to re-submit if there are any problems with your nomination papers.

Q. Are there any other forms that I must submit with my nomination papers?

A. You only need to submit the following documents at the same time as you submit nomination papers or at the latest before the close of the nomination period (4 pm on Friday, September 5), if applicable to your situation:

- CS4 – Appointment of Financial Agent (This is the person who is responsible for your campaign finances and expenses. If you do not appoint a financial agent, then you will be your own financial agent. Then you do not need to complete the form.); and
- CS5 – Appointment of Candidate Official Agent (This is the person who may act on your behalf for dealing with elections matters. If you do not appoint a candidate official agent, then you will be your own official agent. Then, you do not need to complete the form.)

You may submit the following documents at any time during the election, if applicable to your situation:

- Form 8-6 – Candidate Information Release Authorization (This form allows the Chief Election Officer to share your contact information with anyone who requests it.); and
- CS6 – Appointment of Candidate Scrutineers (This is the person who will be your representative at the voting places to observe the proceedings. You can have as many scrutineers as there are voting places but there can only 1 scrutineer per voting place at any time. Each candidate scrutineer must have their own appointment form so you may make as many copies of this form as you like.)

Q. How many people do I need to nominate me for office?

A. You need two (2) people who are qualified to be electors in the City of Abbotsford School District. They can be residents of the City, or they can be non-residents who own property within the electoral boundaries. You are responsible for ensuring that they are eligible to nominate you. They can check with the Election Office to see if they are on Voter's List to help ensure that they meet the qualifications.



Q. Do I need to pay a nomination deposit to run for office?

A. No.

Q. When must I submit my nomination papers?

A. You can submit your nomination package at any time during the nomination period, which starts at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 26 and closes at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 5. These documents must be completed properly and submitted before the close of the nomination period.

Q. Do I need to book an appointment with the Chief Election Officer to submit my nomination papers?

A. No but it is highly recommended that you do book an appointment with the Chief Election Officer or the Deputy Chief Election Officer. The appointment will not take long – about 10 to 15 minutes. During that time, the Election Officer will review the nomination package to ensure that there are no errors on the nomination papers and to witness the signing of the declaration of your intention to run for office. At that time, the Election Officer can identify if anything what needs to be changed to submit the nomination papers properly. There is no charge for witnessing the declaration.

Q. Can I submit my nomination papers by fax or email?

A. Yes, you can so long as the nomination papers are submitted by the deadline and as long as the declaration on page 3 of Form CS2 has been witnessed by a commissioner for taking oaths in BC (usually a lawyer or a notary public, if not an Election Officer). You then have an additional responsibility to provide the original signed nomination papers to the Chief Election Officer by 4:00 pm on Friday, September 12, 2025.

Just remember that if there are any problems with the nomination package, you may not have sufficient time in which to fix the errors and to re-submit the nomination package before the deadline.



Q. Can I submit my nomination papers after the deadline of 4 p.m. on Friday, September 5?

- A. Absolutely not, as late nominations will not be accepted. Incomplete nomination papers mean that your nomination will not be valid, and you will not be candidate in the by-election. Waiting until the last day to submit your nomination papers means that you may not have time to correct the nomination papers prior to the deadline.

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Q. What happens at 4 pm on the last day of the nomination period? Then what happens after that?

- A. At 4 pm on Friday, September 5, the Chief Election Officer will declare all nominees who have submitted complete and error-free nomination packages as candidates in the by-election.

Then, there is a waiting period between Friday, September 5 and 4 pm on Tuesday, September 9 during which anyone may challenge the nomination of any of the candidates. A challenge may be made only by an elector, another nominee, or the chief election officer. The challenge may only be made for one or more of the following grounds:

- (a) The nominee is not qualified to be nominated or to be elected;
- (b) The nomination was not properly made in accordance with the legislation; or
- (c) The usual name given in the nomination documents is not the person's usual name.

The last important deadline is 4 p.m. on Friday, September 12, prior to there being a declaration of election by voting. First, any candidate who submitted their



nomination documents by fax or by email must submit to the Chief Election Officer the originals signed nomination documents. Second, any nominee who wishes to withdraw from the election process must submit their written request to withdraw by that time.

Q. When will the election declared?

- A. At 4 pm on Monday, September 15, the Chief Election Officer will see how many candidates there are whose nominations are not challenged. If there is only one candidate, then the Chief Election Officer will declare that the candidate is elected by acclamation and there will be no election on October 11. If there is more than one candidate, then the Chief Election Officer will declare that there will be an election by voting and there will be an election on October 11.

Q. Who can I contact if I have more questions about the by-election?

- A. You can contact the Chief Election Officer or the Deputy Chief Election Officer at the following:
 - Phone number - 604-851-VOTE (8683)
 - Email - ElectionOffice@abbotsford.ca