



# REQUEST FOR DECISION

Meeting: September 8, 2025

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## 2025 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

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### DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND:

Municipal Election Day is Monday, October 20, 2025. Section 73 of the *Local Authorities Election Act* states that:

(2) ....an elected authority may by resolution provide for holding an advance vote for an election.

Administration is requesting that Council set a date and time for an **advance poll** for the Election.

Also, Alberta Municipal Affairs suggests that an **alternative voting station** be established in the event of an emergency that deems the voting station as unavailable on Election Day.

### DISCUSSION/OPTIONS:

#### Advance Poll:

In our community, there are many reasons that residents may be appreciative of having an advance poll. We have some residents who may not be in Town or available on Election Day due to work, appointments, travel or other personal reasons. By offering an advance vote, it is providing an alternative to those residents in the hopes of getting the highest number of voters out to vote.

In 2021, the advance vote was held the Thursday prior to Election Day from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Lodge Room at the Claresholm Community Centre, which was 4 days prior the Election.

For the 2023 By-Election, the advance vote was held the first Wednesday of the month, which was 11 days prior to By-Election Day.

Administration recommends that the advance vote take place in the Lodge Room once again. Council should keep in mind that Thanksgiving Day is Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup> and Regular Council Meeting Date is Tuesday, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Looking at current bookings for the Lodge Room at the Community Centre, the following dates are available:

Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> – 19 days prior to the Election.

Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> – 18 days prior to the Election.

Tuesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> – 13 days prior to the Election.

Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup> – 11 days prior to the Election.

Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> – 5 days prior to the Election.

Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup> – 4 days prior to the Election.

#### Alternative Voting Station:

In the case of an emergency where the Community Centre becomes unavailable as the Voting Station on Election Day for any reason, Administration is suggesting that the Claresholm Social Centre be the backup location. It is very important to have an alternative location because if one is not set prior to the Election, there would be no way to move at the last minute if necessary.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS:**

Moved by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ to hold an Advance Vote for the 2025 Municipal Election in the Lodge Room at the Claresholm Community Centre from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_.

Moved by Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ that the Voting Station for the 2025 Municipal Election be the Claresholm Community Centre located at 690 – 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue West with an alternative location in the case of an emergency to be the Claresholm Social Centre located at 5009 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Street East.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- 1.) None

**APPLICABLE LEGISLATION:**

- 1.) *Local Authorities Election Act*, RSA 2000, Chapter L-21

PREPARED BY: Karine Keys, Legislative Services Administrator

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APPROVED BY: Abe Tinney, CAO

DATE: September 3, 2025

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