



Elections - 2010

Municipal Newsletter

(The Municipal Newsletter is now available on-line @ www.redlake.ca)
August 20, 2010 Volume No. 19-10



MUNICIPAL OFFICE

2 Fifth Street
Box 1000
Balmertown, Ontario
POV 1C0

Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Phone Number:

807-735-2096

Fax Number:

807-735-2286

E-Mail:

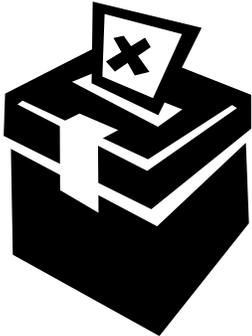
municipality@red-lake.com

Website:

www.red-lake.com

After Hour Trouble Calls

Please call 727-2597



Candidates and/or School Board Trustees

Election Forms &
Documents, including
Nomination Papers,
Guides, etc. are available
at the Office of the Clerk

Municipal Office
2 Fifth Street
Balmertown, Ontario

FILING OF NOMINATIONS – 2010 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

This notice is for anyone proposing to be a candidate in the Municipal Election on Monday, October 25, 2010.

Section 33(1) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, provides that a person may be nominated for an office by filing a Nomination Form with the Returning Officer in the Municipal Clerk's Office in person or by an agent, at Municipal Office, 2 Fifth Street, Balmertown, Ontario.

The Nomination Form shall be in the prescribed Form 1 (Nomination Paper); the nomination fee is to be paid in cash, debit card, certified cheque or money order; the fee is \$200.00 for the Office of Mayor and \$100.00 for Councillor and all other Offices. Facsimile signatures are not acceptable.

The Nomination Form may be filed with the Clerk at any time during normal office hours beginning Monday, January 4, 2010, up to and including Thursday, September 9, 2010 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., and on **Nomination Day – Friday, September 10, 2010**, between the prescribed hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Nominations will be accepted for the offices of:

Mayor

One (1) to be elected

Council

Six (6) to be elected

Keewatin-Patricia District School Board (English Public Trustee)

One (1) to be elected

Kenora Catholic District School Board (English Separate Trustee)

One (1) to be elected

Conseil Scolaire de district Catholique des Aurores Boreales (French Language Separate Trustee)

One (1) to be elected

Conseil Scolaire de Destrict du Grand Nord de L'Ontario (French Language Public Trustee)

One (1) to be elected

The four year term of office is December 1, 2010, to November 30, 2014.

Under Section 29 (1) of the Municipal Elections Act – "A person may only be nominated for an office if, as of the day the person is nominated:

- (i) he or she is qualified to hold that office under the Act that creates it;
- (ii) he or she is not ineligible under this or any other Act or otherwise prohibited by law to be nominated for or to hold the office."

All Candidates must provide the following at the time of submitting a Nomination:

- Prescribed Nomination form
- Declaration of Qualification Form – Council or School Board
- The prescribed filing fee (as noted above)
- Candidate's Identification (driver's license or other government issued photo identification)

Note:

- (i) No person who proposes to be a candidate may solicit or accept contributions for election purposes, or incur campaign expenses, until that person has filed a Nomination form with the Municipal Clerk.
- (ii) Any person, who was in default from the 2006 Election by failing to file a financial statement in the prescribed form, shall be ineligible to be nominated in the 2010 election.

Shelly L. Kocis
Municipal Clerk/Returning Officer
807-735-2096, Ext. 232

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**When is the Election?**

Monday, October 25th, 2010.

What are we voting for?

Overall we are voting to establish a new municipal council and the school boards. Each voter is entitled to vote for:

- One (1) vote for a candidate for Mayor
- Six (6) votes for a candidates for Councillors At Large
- Trustees for only one (1) school board
 - English-Public supporter you may vote for one (1) trustee
 - English-Separate supporter you may vote for one (1) trustee
 - French-Public supporter you may vote for one (1) trustee
 - French-Separate supporter you may vote for one (1) trustee

How do I find out who is running in the Election?

Registered candidates will have their name listed on the “Unofficial List of Candidates”. You may view the list which will be posted in the Office of the Clerk, Municipal Office. You may also contact the Office of the Clerk at 735-2096, Ext. 232.

Who is eligible to vote? A person is entitled to vote in the Municipality of Red Lake Municipal Election if he or she is:

- A Canadian Citizen.
- At least 18 years of age.
- A resident of the Municipality of Red Lake or the owner or tenant of property in the Municipality of Red Lake, or the spouse or same-sex partner of the owner or tenant who does not live elsewhere in the Municipality of Red Lake.
- Not prohibited from voting under any law.

Why should I vote?

Municipal government is involved in many aspects of our daily lives - from fixing roads, providing water and electricity, collecting garbage, caring for children and the elderly and protecting our Municipality’s citizens.

Voting is a fundamental part of democracy. When you vote, you are choosing how you want to be governed. You are selecting representatives who will make the laws and policies that determine how we live together.

How our Municipality is governed, is ultimately up to you. Become informed and vote on **Monday, October 25, 2010.**

Is my name on the Voters’ List?

The Voters’ List is available for viewing during election revision periods only. For information about the Voters’ List during a non-election time period, please call the Clerk’s Office at 735-2096, Ext. 232.

What is my name is not on the Voters’ List or the information is incorrect?

If you find that when you check the Voters’ List there are errors that need to be corrected or you find you need to add or delete a voter, please contact the Office of the Clerk immediately.

Corrections to the Voters’ List can only be made in person at the Municipal Office, up to and including voting day. To make a change to the Voters’ List you need to complete a form we provide and have with you the necessary identification.

Acceptable forms of identification include one (1) of the following:

- Ontario Driver’s License
- Birth Certificate
- Canadian Passport
- Canadian Citizenship Card with Photo
- Federal Native Status Card
- Proof of Residency as shown on a utility bill

**If I own more than one piece of property in the Municipality of Red Lake, can I vote more than once?
Can I vote if I live in the Unincorporated Territory or am I a Non-Resident?**

The only way you are eligible to vote is if you are a non-resident and own property within the Municipality of Red Lake. This could be either vacant land, or other property such as a house you rent, in which case you are a property owner and will receive a ballot kit to vote.

Please remember to check the Voters' List to ensure we have your correct mailing address.

Can I vote if I have no fixed address or no home at all?

Eligible voters who are homeless, or without a permanent home or fixed address, can still vote. Their qualifying address will be determined by:

- The location to which they most frequently returned to sleep or eat during the five weeks prior to the election, since this is considered to be their residence.
- The location where they returned to sleep, if they returned with equal frequency to one place to sleep and another to eat.

Why did the Municipality of Red Lake choose Vote by Mail?

The biggest challenge for the Elections – 2010 was to ensure that all areas are accessible to voters with disabilities. The *Municipal Elections Act* states that the Clerk shall ensure that each voting place is accessible to electors with disabilities.

The *Municipal Elections Act* provides for *alternate voting methods*. Accessibility formed a large part of the decision for Vote by Mail, as polling stations shall be held in locations that are fully accessible. This accessibility extends beyond physical barriers to include items such as assisted hearing devices and magnifying sheets. These accessibility issues would be eliminated with vote by mail, as the voter would be casting a ballot from their residence. Vote by mail makes it easy for everyone to participate in the democratic process.

What are the advantages?

"One-stop shopping" for all eligible voters – an elector may attend the Revision Centre (Municipal Office) to check the List of Electors, pick-up a ballot package if they do not receive one in the mail, vote at the Revision Centre, or drop their package off instead of mailing. There is no need for setting up polling places throughout the Municipality, or for proxy voting.

"Convenient/easy voting" for everyone – you can vote from home and just mail or deliver your ballot package to the Municipal Office any time after you have received it!

"Less upfront administrative work/costs" for the Municipality to prepare for the election. A ballot kit will be mailed to everyone who appears on final List of Electors that will be posted in early September, 2010.

How does Vote by Mail work?

Each elector will receive a ballot kit in the mail from Canada Post (replacement kits will be issued from the Revision Centre). Follow the instructions included in the kit, complete the ballot, and place it in the secrecy envelope. Sign the Declaration Form and place both pieces into the larger outer envelope, and mail in the self-addressed, stamped envelope to the Municipal Office. Or, you may wish to personally drop it off at the Revision Centre (Municipal Office).

When do ballot packages have to reach the Revision Centre (Municipal Office)?

Canada Post will be asking voters to mail or drop off their packages one (1) week prior to the October 25th election day. Of course we will still accept your package right up to 8:00 p.m. that day, but the earlier the better to ensure your ballot package reaches us in good time.

When will the results be tallied?

Results will be tallied at the close of polls at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, October 25th, 2010, and will be processed by voting tabulators, and it is hoped results will be known by 9:30 p.m. that evening.

Official results will be finalized and made available on Tuesday, October 26th, by 4:00 p.m.

Message from the Returning Officer – Shelly L. Kocis

It is the responsibility of the Municipal Clerk, as the Returning Officer for the election, to administer the municipal and school board elections and it is my pledge to you that my office will be taking every step necessary to make sure that the election is conducted with the utmost integrity and with consideration for electors and candidates alike.

Municipal government affects your everyday life. Municipal government is responsible for the maintenance of roads, the supply of drinking water, recreation opportunities and facilities, child care, home for the aged, etc. to name a few. These services are managed by the Municipality of Red Lake on behalf of its residents and businesses.

Your Municipal Council sets the direction and funding for these services; this is your chance to help make sure it works for you. **So get informed, understand when and how to vote, and on election day be sure to vote!**

The Office of the Clerk is always available to answer any questions you may have about the election, I can be reached by phoning 735-2096, Ext. 232, or by e-mail at shelly@red-lake.com.

Are you interested in running for office in the 2010 Municipal or School Elections?

Election Candidate - Information Session

Thursday, September 2nd, 2010

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Red Lake Community Centre

Anyone interested in running or is already running for office in the 2010 Municipal and School Elections is encouraged to attend this information session. The last date to file a nomination for office is Friday, September 10th, 2010, @ 2:00 p.m.

This session, being hosted in partnership with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) will provide attendees with information on topics such as:

- Role of council and staff
- Nomination process
- Financial filing
- Campaign period
- Candidate duties and responsibilities

This session will be a presentation from the MMAH followed by a "Question and Answer" period.

To register for this session, please contact Shelly L. Kocis, Clerk, at 735-2095, Ext. 232.

A minimum of 7 participants must be registered by August 31st, 2010, in order for the session to be held.