

Municipality of North Cowichan

Notice to Electors of an Alternative Approval Process

This notice is the first of two notices to advise electors in the Municipality of North Cowichan of the intention to adopt "North Cowichan / Duncan Integrated RCMP Facility Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 3787, 2020". The purpose of the bylaw is to borrow an amount, not to exceed \$48,000,000 (48 Million Dollars), to finance the cost to construct a new North Cowichan Integrated Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) facility located on the corner of Drinkwater and Ford Roads that will be repaid over a period not to exceed 20 (twenty) years. It is estimated that the borrowing will result in a tax increase for the average residential property of \$71 per year.

The Council proposes to borrow the money and undertake the construction of the new RCMP facility unless, by the deadline, at least 10 percent of the electors in the whole of the Municipality of North Cowichan sign an "Elector Response Form" opposing the borrowing, indicating that Council must obtain the assent of the electors (referendum) before proceeding. For the purpose of conducting this elector response opportunity, the number of eligible electors is determined to be 26,916. A report respecting the basis on which this determination was made is available upon request. If less than 10% (2,692) of eligible electors sign and submit an Elector Response Form by the deadline, Council may proceed to adopt Bylaw No. 3787, 2020. If 2,692 or more electors return signed Elector Response Forms by the deadline, the Bylaw cannot be adopted without obtaining the assent of the electors.

Elector responses are required to be submitted in the form established by Council and can be obtained during regular business hours from the Municipality of North Cowichan's Municipal Hall, located at 7030 Trans-Canada Highway, Duncan, BC, beginning June 15, 2020. The form can also be downloaded from the Municipality of North Cowichan's website at: www.northcowichan.ca. The only Elector Response Forms that will be accepted are the ones provided by the Municipality of North Cowichan, or an accurate copy of the form.

Deadline: signed Elector Response Forms must be received by the Manager of Legislative Services (Corporate Officer) at the Municipality of North Cowichan's Municipal Hall, 7030 Trans-Canada Highway, Duncan, BC, V9L 6A1 by **4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 14, 2020** in order to be counted. The Elector Response Form may be submitted in person or by mail to the above noted address, by email to: legislativeservices@northcowichan.ca or by fax to: 250-746-3133 on or before the deadline.

To be eligible to sign the Elector Response Form, you must be either a "resident" or "non-resident property" elector of the Municipality of North Cowichan.

- A resident elector is an individual who is qualified to vote in a jurisdiction by virtue of living (residing) within the jurisdiction. To sign an elector response form as a resident elector, a person must: be 18 years of age or older; be a Canadian citizen; have lived in British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before signing the Elector Response Form; be a resident within the municipal boundaries of North Cowichan for at least 30 days before signing the Elector Response Form; and not be disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law.
- A non-resident property elector is an individual who does not live (reside) within the municipal boundary of North Cowichan but is entitled to vote by virtue of owning a real property in that jurisdiction. To sign an Elector Response Form as a non-resident property elector a person must: not be entitled to register as a "resident elector" in the Municipality of North Cowichan; be 18 years of age or older; be a Canadian citizen; have lived in British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before signing the Elector Response Form; not be disqualified by any enactment from voting in an election or otherwise disqualified by law; be the only person(s) who are registered owners of the real property, either as joint tenants or tenants in common, are individuals who are not holding the property in trust for a corporation or another trust; and be a registered owner of real property within the municipal boundaries of North Cowichan for at least 30 days before signing the Elector Response Form. If a property is owned by *more than one* individual, only *one* of them may sign an Elector Response Form (with the written consent of the majority of the owners). A person may register as a non-resident property elector in relation to *one* parcel of real property in the Municipality of North Cowichan.

A copy of the Bylaw, staff reports summarizing this project, and Elector Response Forms are available on our website at www.northcowichan.ca immediately. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, they will not be available at the Municipal Hall until the Financial Services front counter reopens to the public on Monday, June 15, 2020; at which time they will be available Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. until July 2, 2020 and from Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. July 3, 2020 to July 14, 2020, excluding statutory holidays.

An informational brochure which shall include an Elector Response Form will be mailed out during the week of June 8, 2020.

For further information on this process contact: Michelle Martineau, Manager, Legislative Services, Municipality of North Cowichan, 7030 Trans-Canada Highway, Duncan, BC, V9L 6A1; 250-746-3203; legislativeservices@northcowichan.ca

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