

Virtual Information Session for Aspiring Candidates

Nominations and Financing Updates



**Edmonton
Elections**

Welcome

- Introductions
- Land acknowledgement
- Agenda overview
- Staying updated

Recap *Key Information*



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Key dates

Nomination Period: January 4, 2021 to noon, September 20, 2021

Campaign Period: January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021

Final day to withdraw nominations: Noon, September 21, 2021

Election Day: October 18, 2021

Campaign Disclosure Statement Deadline: March 1, 2022

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- Focuses on three themes:
 - Vote
 - Run
 - Work
- Follows five principles:
 - Accessible
 - Inclusive
 - Equitable
 - Ethical
 - Safe (new)

Nomination Process *Updates*



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Eligibility as a candidate

To register as a candidate, you must be **an eligible voter**:

- At least 18 years old
- A Canadian citizen, and
- A resident of Edmonton for the six consecutive months prior to Nomination Day (September 20, 2021)

Refer to Sections 21-24 of the Local Authorities Election Act or LAEA

When am I an official candidate?

Nomination period runs from Jan 4, 2021 to Sep 20, 2021

Candidates must:

- Meet eligibility requirements
- Complete and submit the required form
- Collect signatures from residents
- Pay a deposit
- Have their forms accepted by the Returning Officer

Nominations process updates

Submitting the forms

- Courier or mail-in option (must have forms commissioned)

Paying the deposit

- Debit and credit card payments

At the appointment, if in-person

- Livestream via Edmonton Elections YouTube Channel

Following the appointment

- Processing times
- Confirmation

Nominations tips

Obtaining signatures from residents

- Exceed the minimum of signatures required
- Complete and legible addresses from the right ward

During your appointment

- Review the supporting materials
- Bring government issued ID, just in case

New supporting materials

- Edmonton Elections video
- Municipal Affairs Guides for Candidates

Financing



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Contributions and limits

A contribution is something given to a candidate to support their campaign. This could be money, use of property or a service.

Individuals

- Can contribute up to **\$5,000** to a candidate (in campaign period)
- Individuals can support an unlimited number of candidates
- **Must** be eligible to make a contribution

Candidates

- Can self-fund up to **\$10,000**

Responsibilities

Decide if you want to accept the contribution

Know your contributors

Candidates must make *every reasonable effort* to advise prospective contributors of the financing regulations described in the LAEA

Candidates can only accept contributions from individuals

Candidates **may not** accept:

- Anonymous contributions
- Contributions made by individuals who are not residents Alberta
- Contributions from prohibited organizations

Dos and Don'ts of contributions

- Before the campaign period
 - **Don't** collect contributions of over \$5,000.
 - We are now into Campaign Period
- Once the campaign period has started
 - **Only** accept contributions from individuals once your nomination papers have been accepted by Edmonton Elections.
 - **Do** keep track of your contributions even if they are not money. This will make the campaign disclosure steps easier.
 - **You can** self-fund your campaign but don't exceed \$10,000.

Campaign financing

Campaign Bank Accounts

- Must be used exclusively for campaign purposes
- May be a personal bank account

Completing Form 5

- Requires to list addresses where campaign records will be kept
- Identifies who else has signing authority
- Let us know of any changes

Expense update

- No expense limit for 2021

Campaign Disclosure Statement

Form 26: Campaign Disclosure Statement and Financial Statement

- Provides information on all contributions and expenses, including outside of campaign period
- Required of all candidates, including self-funded
- All candidates must submit to Edmonton Elections, including School Trustee.

Deadline: March 1, 2022

Tip: Begin to track your contributions and expenses as soon as possible

Campaigning



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Campaigning reminders

- During campaign period, **only official candidates** can receive contributions and incur campaign expenses.
- You are only considered an official candidate after Form 4: Nomination Paper and Candidate's Acceptance and deposit have been received by the Returning Officer.
- Only official candidates may represent themselves as such
- Refer to Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA) for more details

Campaigning and the LAEA

- It is important to note the LAEA does not provide guidelines on *how* to campaign.
- Follow public health measures and advice of the Chief Medical Officer.
- LAEA provides direction on activities not permitted such as bribery and undue influence.

Signage

Election signage on public property

- No signs until after Nomination Day (noon, September 20, 2021)
- Traffic Bylaw 5590

Signage on private property

- Zoning Bylaw 12800
- Permission from property owner

Questions



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Who to contact

Edmonton Elections

- Nomination process
- Campaigning regulations
- Election Day and post election services
- Contact: elections@edmonton.ca

Municipal Affairs

- Candidate and voter eligibility
- Contact: lgsmail@gov.ab.ca

Elections Alberta

- Financing and contributions
- Contact: complaints@elections.ab.ca

Stay updated

- Edmonton.ca/elections
- Twitter **@edmelections**
- E-newsletter
- Upcoming virtual information sessions
 - Monthly



Thank you



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