

NEWS RELEASE

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Nanaimo Votes 2026: General Local Election information for interested candidates

Candidate information session taking place on August 12 with nomination packages available August 4

Summary

Individuals interested in running in the 2026 General Local Election are invited to attend an upcoming candidate information session being held in partnership with the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN).

The session will take place on Aug. 12, in-person only, at the Tigh-Na-Mara Seaside Spa Resort & Conference Centre (1155 Resort Drive, Parksville) in the Grand Strathcona Room. Attendance is drop-in and registration is not required.

Nomination packages will be available for those interested in running as a candidate in the 2026 General Local Election beginning Tuesday, Aug. 4. Packages can be picked up from the Legislative Services Office located on the first floor of City Hall (455 Wallace Street) or can be requested electronically by emailing elections@nanaimo.ca.

The nomination package contains important information for those interested in running in the election, including rules regarding election signage, required number of nominators, nomination deposits and other resources. There is no fee to pick up a nomination package; however, a \$100 nomination document filing fee will be charged when filing nomination documents in accordance with the City's General Election Bylaw.

To find more information on nominations including qualifications and deposit fees, visit www.nanaimo.ca/elections.

Strategic Link: n/a

Key Points

- A candidate information session will be held on Aug. 12. The session is being co-hosted by the City of Nanaimo and Regional District of Nanaimo.
- Nomination packages will be available beginning Tuesday, Aug. 4. Office hours are between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays.
- The period to file nomination documents is from 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 1 until 4 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 11, 2026. Documents may be submitted in-person or by email, fax or mail. Appointments for filing nomination documents are encouraged and will be available for booking mid-August.
- General Voting Day for the 2026 General Local Election is Saturday, Oct. 17.

Quotes

"We encourage anyone interested in running in the 2026 General Local Election to attend the candidate information session and review the nomination package. These resources offer an opportunity to learn more about the role of elected officials, navigate the nomination process and explore how serving in local government can make a positive impact in Nanaimo."

Sheila Gurrie
Chief Election Officer
City of Nanaimo

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