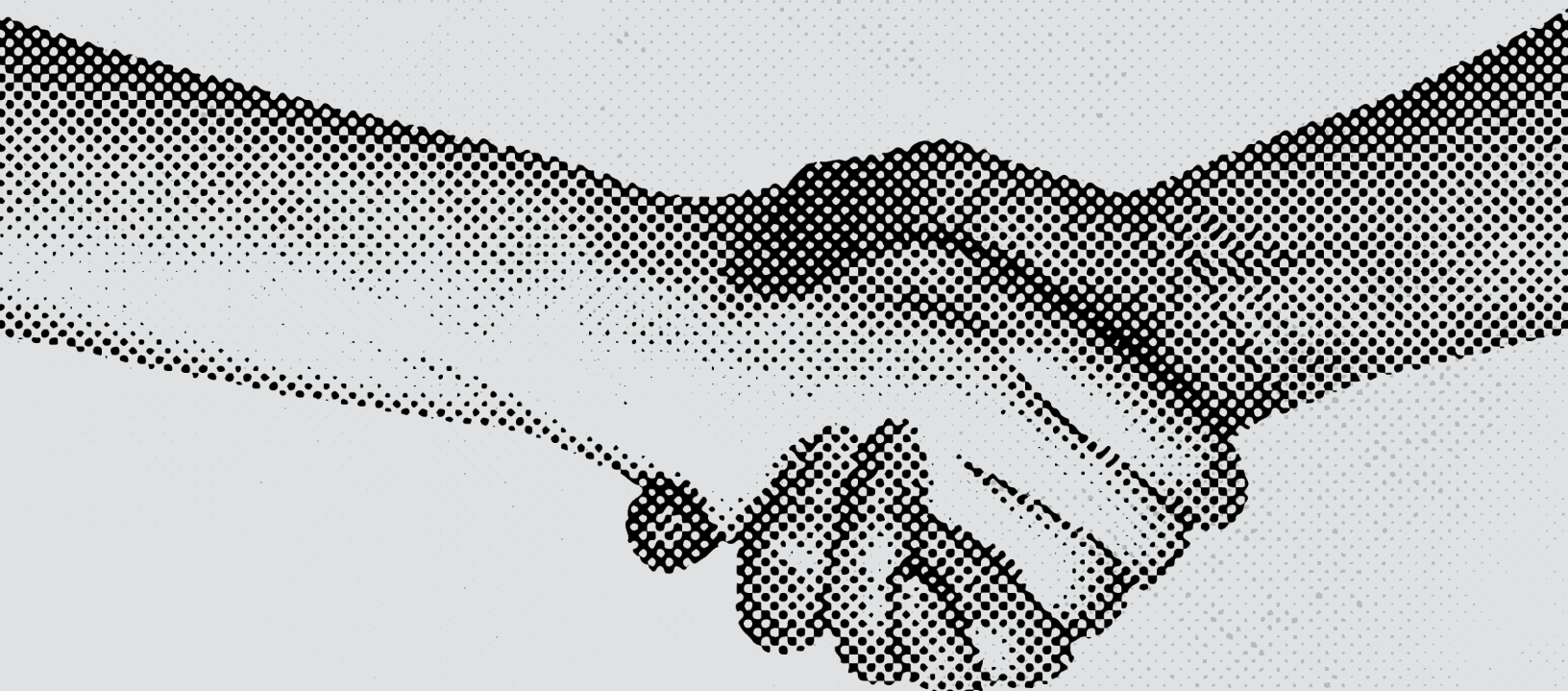


2025

Elections
RED DEER

Candidate Inquiries & Responses



For the Offices of Mayor, Councillor, Public School Trustee and Catholic School Trustee



Candidate Information Requests

Official election candidates and those with intent to become official candidates frequently pose questions to The City, these questions may inform their campaigns or their understanding of the local jurisdiction. To promote transparency and equal access to information for all, all responses are shared with all candidates through this document. This ensures that all candidates are equally informed and able to engage in the electoral process on an even playing field.

The Returning Officer, to ensure all candidates receive all information, will respond to all election information requests and ensure that all candidates receive the response provided. This document is updated regularly. Responses provided relate to information that is deemed to be routinely releasable.

Information requests that relate to non-routinely releasable information or that would require more than two hours in research and response development will be forwarded to the Access and Privacy Analyst and applicable fees for the retrieval of such information will apply. Responses handled by the Access and Privacy Analyst will only be provided to the individual who requested the information and paid the applicable fees. For further information please visit [City of Red Deer - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy](#).

As information is added to this document it will be in order of received questions, with newest questions being at the end, and any identifying information to whom requested the information removed.

Once a candidate's Notice of Intent has been submitted, they will be automatically added to the email list for this document and will receive an email whenever it is updated. Candidates can unsubscribe at any time by following the instructions provided in the email.

If you have specific election related questions that are not answered on the website elections.reddeer.ca or in this document, please email elections@reddeer.ca.

Note: The information in this document is current only as of the date it was provided

Candidate Inquiries

March 10, 2025

1. Does anything need to be done with Form 4 before starting to collect signatures of support?

Answer - In regards to Form 4, you do not need to do anything before collecting signatures.

March 13, 2025

2. When running for Red Deer Catholic school division, where do electors need to reside to sign Form 4?

Answer - Electors need to reside in the ward/subdivision you are running for. There is a [Candidate Handbook](#) that may be helpful.

April 23, 2025

3. There seems to be some confusion as to the allowable characters in the bio and platform for the city candidate site. Please can you clarify this.

Answer - The character limit for the candidate site is as follows:

- biography information - 500 characters,
- priority title - 50 characters,
- description of priority - 250 characters.
 - Characters are considered letters, spaces, and punctuation.

Also, please note that it does need to be in paragraph form as bullet points will not be displayed.

May 2, 2025

4. Can fundraising examples be provided?

Answer - I cannot provide any examples of fundraising to a candidate, as that might look like the election office is being biased.

Candidate Inquiries**May 2, 2025****5. How is campaign surplus dealt with?**

Answer – Options below:

Section **147.5**

(1) If a candidate's disclosure statement in respect of the year in which a general election was held or in the case of a by-election shows a surplus, the candidate, within 60 days after filing the disclosure statement with the local jurisdiction,

(a) shall, with respect to any amount that is \$1000 or more, donate an amount to a registered charity that results in the surplus being less than \$1000, and

(b) may, with respect to any amount that is less than \$1000,

(i) retain all or any portion of that amount, and

(ii) donate all or any portion of that amount to a registered charity.

(2) A candidate who donates an amount to a registered charity in accordance with subsection (1)(a) or (b)(ii) shall, within 30 days after the expiration of the 60-day period referred to in subsection (1), file an amended disclosure statement showing that the surplus has been dealt with in accordance with this section.

May 2, 2025**6. Can a corporate contribute to a candidate's campaign?**

Answer – Yes:

Section **147.2**

(3) Contributions by a corporation other than a prohibited organization, by an Alberta trade union or by an Alberta employee organization shall not exceed during the campaign period

(a) \$5000 in the aggregate to all candidates for election as a councillor in a particular municipality,

(b) \$5000 in the aggregate to all candidates for election as a school board trustee of a particular public school division under the Education Act, and

(c) \$5000 in the aggregate to all candidates for election as a school board trustee of a particular separate school division under the Education Act.

Candidate Inquiries**May 2, 2025****7. Can a non-profit contribute to a candidate if they have received funds since the last election?**

Answer - No:

Section **147.1****(f)** “prohibited organization” means**(i)** a municipality,**(ii)** a corporation that is controlled by a municipality and meets the test set out in section 1(2) of the Municipal Government Act,**(iii)** a non-profit organization that has received since the last general election any of the following from the municipality in which the election will be held:**(A)** a grant;**(B)** real property;**(C)** personal property,**May 2, 2025****8. Are receipts required for campaign contributions?**

Answer – Yes:

Section **147.3****(1)** A candidate shall ensure that**(a)** a campaign account in the name of the candidate or the candidate’s election campaign is opened at a financial institution for the purposes of the election campaign at the time the candidate gives a written notice under section 147.22 or as soon as possible after the total amount of contributions first exceeds \$1000 in the aggregate,**(b)** if a campaign account has been opened in accordance with clause (a), all contributions of money are deposited into the campaign account,**(c)** money in the campaign account shall only be used for the payment of campaign expenses,

Candidate Inquiries

- (d) contributions of real property, personal property and services are valued,
- (e) receipts are issued for every contribution and obtained for every expense,
- (f) records are kept of contributions and campaign expenses and are retained by the candidate for a period of 3 years following the day of the election to which they relate, and
- (g) proper direction is given to the candidate's official agent and any other person who is authorized to incur campaign expenses and accept or solicit contributions on behalf of the candidate.

There is no legislated template for the type of receipt that a candidate issues; however, the following information should be included on the receipt:

- date,
- name of candidate or campaign,
- name of contributor who contributed to the candidate
- amount of value of contribution or if the contribution was an in-kind service, then a value amount must be assigned to that,
- lastly the type of contribution that it was (in-kind service, catering, signs, etc.).

May 3, 2025**9. Say the Red Deer Public Library has received any grant since the last election, they cannot offer a room nor space to host a town hall or Q and A while campaigning?**

Answer - That is the Election Office's understanding of the legislation.

However, you might want to reach out to Alberta Municipalities hello@abmunis.ca. They might be able to provide some helpful information on this or by visiting [Running for Municipal Office: Alberta Municipalities](#).

May 6, 2025**10. Please consider adding a specific person to the Red Deer Horseshoe Club – Name has been removed**

Answer - Please send an email to marketing@reddeer.ca with the following information:

- Name of organization

Candidate Inquiries

- Maximum 20 word general listing (these stay up year round, so no firm dates)
- Contact website

May 12, 2025

11. Could you provide copies of the agreement that came from the subcommittee that was formed from this meeting and any subsequent meeting notes.

Answer - As speed skating has relocated and lawn bowling has become inactive, it would appear that the sub-committee has dissolved naturally over time or perhaps never got going if there are no records following this meeting.

May 12, 2025

12. Do you have extra keys for the Community Shelter as the Golden Circle was only able to provide us with one

Answer - As the operating organization of this building, access (keys) is granted at the Golden Circle's discretion. Restricting the number of keys to a property is not an uncommon practice for security purposes.

May 12, 2025

13. The large cork board that used to be affixed to the south inside wall of the Community Shelter was removed a few years ago when painting was done. It has gone missing. Could a similar be put back in that spot?

Answer - FAM indicates that there was a small corkboard in the skate shack portion that was removed, this is the area that the piano is now situated on the South Wall. As the tenant the Golden Circle did not request it to be reinstalled.

May 12, 2025

14. I would also like you to look at what is inside the shed attached to the no longer in use Lawn Bowling Field if you can locate the key.

Answer - This shed has become property of the City. We will try to locate the key.

Candidate Inquiries**May 22, 2025**

15. Do you consider the corner of Gaetz Ave. and 32nd street where the current dynamic sign is located, City or private property as far as election sign placement is concerned?

Answer - As per Inspections and Licensing this appears to be the Red Deer Resort and Casino, which is a private property.

May 29, 2025

16. Please explain in full what has led to changes in operations at Heritage Ranch?

Answer - The City of Red Deer has made the decision to terminate its contract with the current operator of Heritage Ranch. This decision was made after it became clear that the operator was unable to meet the obligations outlined in the service agreement. In the interest of protecting public service standards and ensuring the long-term success of the facility, The City will now move forward in securing a new operator. As a result, Heritage Ranch will temporarily close while this transition occurs.

May 29, 2025

17. Is it possible that a sub committee was indeed formed and provided input for the Golden Circle Resource Centre Expansion Feasibility Study May 16, 2000?

Answer – It is possible that a sub-committee was formed at the time to provide input. However, after a thorough search, we have not been able to locate a copy of the study or any related records.

Candidate Inquiries**May 29, 2025****18. What does "identified partner" mean?**

Answer - In the context of The City of Red Deer, this refers to a group that has a formal agreement in place with the City, outlining mutual responsibilities and terms for facility use or partnership.

May 29, 2025**19. Is the Red Deer Horseshoe Club still considered an "identified partner."**

Answer - At this time, there is no agreement in place that would designate the Club as an identified partner under the City's current definitions.

May 29, 2025**20. If the Red Deer Horseshoe Club is still considered an "identified partner" why were we not notified of or involved in discussions of adding a door through the coat room from the main building into the Community Shelter?**

Answer - Access requests and key distribution are managed by Golden Circle staff.

May 29, 2025**21. Who decided to keep the storage room in the Community Shelter unlocked?**

Answer - Decisions such as these would be at the discretion of Golden Circle Management.

May 29, 2025**22. What was the cost of the Golden Circle Resource Centre Expansion Feasibility Study May 16, 2000?**

Answer - In December 1999 the Golden Circle Resource Centre Expansion Feasibility Study was undertaken by the Golden Circle Expansion Committee. A team of consultants was hired to look at the feasibility of adding on to the Golden Circle and provided a report back to the Golden Circle May 2000.

Candidate Inquiries**May 29, 2025****23. What recommendations were adopted and what date(s).**

Answer - Any terminology utilized in the Feasibility Study “identified partner” would have been defined by the consultants for the purpose of that report. The study was then presented to the Golden Circle Board was accepted with the understanding there was still a lot of work to be done. It appears that this work culminated in the 2008 Golden Circle Renovation and Revitalization Project that was support through capital budget and Major Community Facilities Program Funding.

May 29, 2025**24. Why was the Golden Circle building not renovated and expanded during the Pandemic lockdown?**

Answer - The City’s capital funding priorities did not include renovations or expansion to the Golder Circle at the time of the pandemic. Decisions regarding capital projects are made through the City’s internal planning and budget approval processes, which take into account infrastructure conditions, operational needs, available funding, and direction from City Council.

May 29, 2025**25. Why was money spent on renovating City Hall during the Pandemic lockdown instead?**

Answer - City Hall renovations did proceed during that time. It was part of a broader capital planning process.

May 29, 2025**26. How much was spent on renovating City Hall During the Pandemic lockdown?**

Answer - Information may be available in the City’s published budget documents or related council reports.

Candidate Inquiries**May 29, 2025****27. Why were the goals of Vision 2020 for the Golden Circle not achieved?**

Answer - We were unable to find a publicly available document by that or similar title in the City's archives, council minutes, or capital summaries. As such, we are unable to confirm what goals may have been outlined or achieved under that plan.

June 10, 2025**28. I would like to Withdrawal my Notice of Intent; can I do that?**

Answer - You need to fill out and submit the Withdrawal of Notice of Intent for the office you are running for.

Electronic submissions are accepted, please return the completed forms at your earliest convenience. Once we receive the signed withdrawal, your name will be removed from our website within 48 hours.

June 23, 2025**29. Do the International Association of Fire Fighters signs meet the definition of being a third party advertiser?**

Answer - A Third Party Advertiser can be individuals, corporations, or groups—excluding candidates—and are defined as those who promote or oppose the election of a candidate or take a position on an issue that is the subject of a vote on a bylaw or question during the election advertising period.

Since the IAFF lawn signs do not promote or oppose any candidate in the upcoming election, and no bylaw or ballot question is involved, they are not considered third party advertising at this time.

July 4, 2025**30. How does a candidate acquire the candidate profile form?**

Answer - Candidate profiles are available once we receive nomination forms.

Candidate Inquiries**July 6, 2025**

31. Shelter agreement 1994 4620 47a Ave, Red Deer, AB T4N 3R4 the City of Red Deer paid the Circle of Red Deer Seniors' Society \$3,000 that year. What did the City of Red Deer pay the Circle of Red Deer Seniors' Society in 2024?

Answer - The City of Red Deer administers Family and Community Support Services (FCSS) for Central Alberta, providing three-year funding to organizations like the Golden Circle, which currently receives \$352,862 annually for senior's programs in Red Deer and \$95,122 for rural outreach. This funding cycle began in 2024 and supports the Golden Circle's extensive Outreach Program, which has served older adults since 1977. The program offers a wide range of non-medical community supports including system navigation, transportation, grocery services, home maintenance, social activities, wellness checks, elder abuse support, and fitness programs. These services aim to promote social inclusion, healthy aging, and functional mobility, helping seniors remain in their homes and communities while reducing strain on Alberta's healthcare system.

July 11, 2025

32. Can a photo be added to the notice of intent?

Answer - When potential candidates submit their Notice of Intent, we do not put up photos or contact information. This happens when Nomination Papers are submitted.

July 14, 2025

33. How do I obtain a voter's lists?

Answer - Voter's list is not available for access or use.

For your reference, section 49(8) of the *Local Authorities Election Act* states: For greater certainty, a candidate, official agent or scrutineer shall not access or use the permanent electors register, including, without limitation, taking a photograph or making a copy of the register.

Candidate Inquiries**July 16, 2025****34. Are shelter agreements legally binding?**

Answer - The City manages the contract with the Golden Circle. Any lease/ rental agreements the Golden Circle has beyond the City would be managed by them. We cannot speak on behalf of the Golden Circle regarding legal implications related to contracts they manage.

July 16, 2025**35. Who approved putting in the door from the coat room to the main building at 4620 47a Ave, Red Deer, AB T4N 3R4 into the community shelter?**

Answer - The Golden Circle submitted a requires to add the door with Community Services Division in 2018 and they received the Horizon Grant and used the grant for the installation of the door.

July 16, 2025**36. What date was the approval for the door in the coat room to the main building approval made at 4620 47a Ave, Red Deer, AB T4N 3R4?**

Answer - The approval of the door was in 2018.

July 16, 2025**37. What date was the door put in the coat room to the main building at 4620 47a Ave, Red Deer, AB T4N 3R4?**

Answer - The door was installed I 2019/ 2020.

Candidate Inquiries**July 28, 2025**

38. I have sent in my candidate profile, but missed adding a profile photo. Can I still upload one?

Answer - Yes, a photo can be added to your profile. Please note that our web team can make minor changes to profiles which have been submitted, within reason but the timeline for these changes may vary dependent on staff capacity and may not fall within the two business days as promised for initial profile publishing. We would ask that candidates limit any changes to their profiles to respect City staffing resources.

July 28, 2025

39. I see there are a few others running for Red Deer Catholic. Are any of these ward 2 (Innisfail, Olds).

Answer - We have updated our [Election Website](#) to clarify which Ward's Catholic Separate Candidates are running in.

July 29, 2025

40. Can a candidate advertise on a bus bench or public bus shelters?

Answer - In accordance with Council Policy EL-B 2.3, the city does not permit candidates or political parties to rent advertising space on transit buses, shelters, or related infrastructure.

August 19, 2025

41. Can a business now donate to a campaign, if yes could one business donate up to \$5,000 total to a candidate or candidates?

Answer - Contributions to a candidate from a corporation, trade union or employee organization shall not exceed \$5,000 in the aggregate to all candidates during the campaign period.

More detailed information can be found on the document from Municipal Affairs that has a section on campaign contributions which can be found here: [A candidate's guide : running for local elected office in Alberta](#)

Candidate Inquiries**August 20, 2025****42. Do paperwork campaign disclosure statements need to be submitted in person or electronically?**

Answer - The paperwork can be filed in person or electronically. For electronic submissions it can be printed, signed and scanned back to us or through the use of a document signing software such as adobe.

August 28, 2025**43. Thank you for stopping by City Hall last week with your questions regarding GoFundMe, receipts, and tax-related matters.**

Answer - For guidance on these topics, we recommend reviewing Section 147.3 of the Local Authorities Election Act, which may provide helpful information. Additionally, Municipal Affairs is a great resource for candidates seeking clarification on matters that fall outside the scope of the election office.

August 29, 2025**44. Is there also a financial disclosure form for election activities before July 31st? t exactly are the election sign rules?**

Answer - the updated legislation now includes **two separate filing deadlines** for the 2025 election year:

1. **October 1, 2025** – for contributions and expenses incurred between **January 1 and July 31, 2025**
2. **March 2, 2026** – for contributions and expenses incurred between **January 1 and December 31, 2025**

All disclosure statements must be submitted using [Form 26 – Campaign Disclosure Statement and Financial Statement](#).

Candidate Inquiries**September 02, 2025****45. What exactly are the election sign rules?**

Answer - For the 2025 municipal election, Election signs on public property are only permitted between Nomination Day and Election Day. (September 22 – October 20, 2025) Election signs can be displayed on private property before September 22, 2025. Candidates are reminded to obtain owner permission before erecting signs on private property.

September 04, 2025**46. Are candidates permitted to place campaign signs on designated public property any time on Nomination Day, or does it have to be after the 12:00 p.m. nomination deadline?**

Answer – Signs can be placed on designated public property starting at 12:00 p.m. on September 22nd, 2025.

September 04, 2025**47. What is the proper documentation required for campaign workers?**

Answer - As per section 68.1 of the LAEA, if you are assigning an elector as an official agent, this does need to be included in your Nomination Papers. If an elector is helping as a general campaign worker, no office paperwork is required.

September 7, 2025**48. I would like to inquire if during this election on Oct 20th there will be voting stations set up at retirement living complexes and if so which ones will those be?**

Answer - We will be setting up Institutional Polling Stations. Details are still being finalized around locations and dates.

Candidate Inquiries**September 8, 2025**

49. What I am reaching out to confirm the process of filing the campaign expense financial disclosure for October 1. Do I make an appointment to come in with these documents, or do I email?

Answer - They can either be dropped off at City Hall or emailed to elections@reddeer.ca.

September 12, 2025

50. Do campaign contributions under \$50 need to be itemized?

Answer - No they do not. The *Local Authorities Election Act* says.

Campaign disclosure statements

147.4(1) (4) A disclosure statement referred to in subsection (1), (2) or (3) must

(a) be in the prescribed form,

(b) be filed with the secretary of the candidate's local jurisdiction, and

(c) include the following information for the applicable period:

(i) the total amount of all contributions received that did not exceed \$50 in the aggregate from any single contributor;

(ii) in respect of each contributor that made contributions exceeding \$50 in the aggregate, the total amount contributed and the contributor's name and address;

September 12, 2025

51. Should names of people who contributed to a campaign be redacted in disclosure forms?

Answer - No, they do not need to be. Only this address, and any other contact information. The *Local Authorities Election Act* says.

Campaign disclosure statements

147.4(7) A local jurisdiction must ensure that all documents filed under this section are made publicly available on the local jurisdiction's website as soon as practicable in a partial or redacted form as necessary to ensure that the following information is not disclosed:

Candidate Inquiries

- (a) the mailing address of the candidate and of the candidate's official agent;
- (b) an address provided for a contributor, except the portion of the address that names a municipality or a province;
- (c) any other contact information not required by this section but included on a document filed with a local jurisdiction.