

2022 General Local Elections – Mail Ballot Guide

Eligibility

Mail ballot voting is available to all eligible voters in Delta. A person wishing to vote by mail ballot must apply between 8:00 a.m., September 24, 2022 and 4:00 p.m., October 13, 2022.

Mail ballot applications will be accepted

- Online – delta.ca/elections/mailballot
- Contact Delta Elections Office – 604-952-3481 or elections@delta.ca
- In person – at the Office of the City Clerk at Delta City Hall

Eligible voters applying to vote by mail must:

1. be 18 years of age or older on October 15, 2022;
2. be a Canadian citizen;
3. be a resident of the City of Delta in accordance with the *Local Government Act*, or a non-resident owner of real property in the City of Delta for at least the past 30 days;
4. be a resident of BC for at least the past 6 months; and
5. not be disqualified by law from voting in an election.

2022 Key Dates

First day to apply for a mail ballot	September 24 th at 8:00 a.m.
Last day to apply for a mail ballot	October 13 th at 4:00 p.m.
First day for a mail ballot package to be picked up or mailed	October 3 rd
Last day for a mail ballot package to be mailed	October 13 th
Deadline for a mail ballot to be received by the Chief Election Officer	October 15 th before 8:00 p.m. at Delta City Hall

Procedure

Extract from [General Local Government Election Procedures Bylaw No. 6667, 2008](#)

Mail Ballot Application Procedure

- 6.3 A person wishing to vote by mail ballot shall apply by giving their name and address to the Chief Election Officer or to the person designated by the Chief Election Officer for such purposes, during the period commencing 7 days before the first day of advance voting and ending at 4:00 pm on the Thursday two days before general voting day.
- 6.4 Upon receipt of a request for a mail ballot, the Chief Election Officer or designate shall, between the first day of advanced voting and 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday two days before general voting day:
- (a) make available to the applicant, a mail ballot package as specified in Section 110(7) of the *Local Government Act* together with a statement advising the elector that the elector must meet one or more of the mail ballot criteria specified in Section 6.2 of this bylaw, and that they must attest to such fact; and
 - (b) immediately record and, upon request, make available for inspection:
 - (i) the name and address of the elector to whom the mail ballot package was issued; and
 - (ii) the number of the voting division in which the person is registered as an elector, or “new elector”, if that person is not on the register of electors.

Mail Ballot Voting Procedure

- 6.5 To vote using a mail ballot, the elector shall mark the ballot in accordance with the instructions contained in the mail ballot package provided by the Chief Election Officer.
- 6.6 After marking the ballot, the elector shall:
- (a) place the ballot in the secrecy envelope provided and seal the secrecy envelope;
 - (b) place the secrecy envelope in the certification envelope, and complete and sign the certification printed on such envelope, and then seal the certification envelope;
 - (c) place the certification envelope, together with a completed elector registration application, if required, in the outer envelope, and then seal the outer envelope;
 - (d) mail, or have delivered, the outer envelope and its contents to the Chief Election Officer at the address specified so that it is received no later than the close of voting on general voting day.

Mail Ballot Acceptance or Rejection

6.7 Until 4:00 pm. on the Thursday two days before general voting day, upon receipt of the outer envelope and its contents, the Chief Election Officer or designate shall immediately record the date of such receipt and shall then open the outer envelope and remove and examine the certification envelope and the completed elector registration application, if applicable, and if satisfied as to:

- (a) the identity and entitlement to vote of the elector whose ballot is enclosed;
- (b) the completeness of the certification; and
- (c) the fulfilment of the requirements of Section 70 of the *Local Government Act* in the case of a person who is registering as a new elector;

the Chief Election Officer or designate shall mark the certification envelope as “accepted”, and shall retain in his custody all such certification envelopes in order to deal with any challenges.

6.8 The unopened certification envelopes shall remain in the custody of the Chief Election Officer or designate until 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday two days before general voting day, at which time the certification envelopes containing the secrecy envelopes shall be opened in the presence of at least one other person, including any scrutineers present.

6.9 At 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday two days before general voting day, the Chief Election Officer or designate shall place all secrecy envelopes received up until that time into a ballot box specified for such purpose, where such secrecy envelopes were received from persons whose right to vote using a mail ballot has not been challenged, or where such challenge has been resolved and the challenged person permitted to vote.

6.10 Where an outer envelope and its contents are received by the Chief Election Officer or designate between 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday two days before general voting day and the close of voting on general voting day, the provisions of Section 6.7 with regard to ballot acceptance shall apply and the Chief Election Officer or designate shall retain such envelopes in their possession until the close of voting and at that time shall open such certification envelopes in the presence of at least one other person, including any scrutineers present, and place the secrecy envelope containing the ballot into the ballot box containing the other unopened secrecy envelopes.

6.11 As soon as possible after all of the secrecy envelopes have been placed in the ballot box designated for that purpose, the ballot box shall be opened under the supervision of the Chief Election Officer or designate, and in the presence of at least

one other person and any scrutineers present, the secrecy envelopes shall be opened and the ballots contained therein counted in accordance with the provisions Sections 7.20 and 7.21 of this bylaw.

6.12 Where:

- (a) upon receipt of an outer envelope, the Chief Election Officer is not satisfied as to the identity of the elector whose ballot is enclosed; or
- (b) in the case of a person required to complete an application for registration as an elector, such application has not been completed in accordance with Section 70 of the *Local Government Act*; or
- (c) the outer envelope is received by the Chief Election Officer or designate after the close of voting on general voting day,

the certification envelope shall remain unopened and the Chief Election Officer shall mark such envelope as “rejected”, and shall note the reasons therefore, and the ballot contained therein shall not be counted in the election.

6.13 Any certification envelopes and their contents rejected in accordance with Section 6.12 of the bylaw shall remain unopened and shall be subject to the provisions of section 160(2) of the *Local Government Act* with regard to their destruction.

What is in a mail ballot package?

The mail ballot package includes the following:

- Instructions on how to complete the mail ballot application
- A mail ballot application form
- A 200M form to register as an elector if required*
- A list of acceptable identification to register as an elector
- A form to register as a non-resident property elector
- A non-resident property elector consent form
- An envelope to return the complete documents

*If you are not on the Delta Voters List, you must complete an [Application for Registration as a Local Government Resident Elector](#) form. Submit the completed registration form (200M) and a copy of two pieces of [acceptable identification](#).

The deadline for mail ballots to be received by the Chief Election Officer is before 8:00 p.m. on October 15, 2022 – General Voting Day. **It is the responsibility of the voter to ensure that their completed mail ballot is received before 8:00 p.m. on October 15, 2022.**

A sample of the instructions included in the Mail Ballot Package is attached for your reference.