



HOLYROOD VOTES 2025

Candidate Guide

Town of Holyrood
2025 Municipal General Election

MUNICIPAL ELECTION 2025

The next municipal election in the Town of Holyrood is October 2, 2025 where casting a ballot for a Mayor and a ballot for six Councillors allows residents to participate in electing officials who will make decisions on their behalf.

- The Returning Officer is Marjorie Gibbons, the Town Clerk/CAO, and is responsible for coordinating all aspects of the Municipal Election and is the key contact. The Returning Officer can be reached by email at: marjorie.gibbons@holyrood.ca
- The Alternate Returning Officer is Marie Searle, Director of Financial Operations who will perform the duties of a Returning Officer in the event the Returning Officer cannot perform those duties. The Alternate Returning Office can be reached by email at: marie.searle@holyrood.ca

The Town of Holyrood Council is comprised of a Mayor and six Councillors. The vote for Mayor is held on a separate ballot from the Councillors ballot on Election Day.

Time Commitment of a Councillor

- Council holds a Regular Public Council Meeting every four weeks. Public meetings are held on Tuesdays from 6:00pm – 7:00pm . They are live streamed from the Chamber.
- Each Councillor is assigned to be on committees by the Mayor. Committees meet once per month in advance of the Public Meeting.
- Council meets as a group for several working sessions during the month pending need of items to be discussed. These meetings are held on Tuesdays from approximately 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm.

Nomination

Nomination Day will be held on September 9, 2025 & September 10, 2025 from 9:00am to 4:00 pm at the Hubert A. Keough Municipal Building 34 Salmonier Line.

Candidate Qualification

A resident is qualified to be nominated as a candidate for Council who:

- (a) is eligible to vote in an election held under the Municipal Elections Act in the municipality in which he or she is nominated to serve as a Councillor;
- (b) is not in arrears of taxes or other charges payable to the municipality; and
- (c) is ordinarily a resident for a period of 30 days before the commencement of the nomination period either in the municipality

Nomination procedure

- A candidate for the office of Holyrood Councillor shall be nominated by residents who are eligible to vote. A nomination shall be in writing; shall state the name and civic address of the candidate; be signed by the proposer and seconder, both of whom shall be present together with the candidate who shall also sign signifying his or her acceptance.
- A candidate for mayor of Holyrood shall be nominated in the same manner as a Councillor but shall run as a candidate for mayor only.
- A candidate at the time of his or her nomination shall deposit a sum of \$10 with the Returning Officer and that sum is not refundable.
- The Returning Officer will provide a Candidate Information booklet to take home for reference.
- The Returning Officer shall give notice of the names of the candidates, the time of the election and the location of polling booths, by publishing in our local newspaper, in the town hall and in other public places.



Before Running For Office

- To better understand and prepare for the election and potentially the position of Councillor a candidate may wish to consider:
- Listen in to the Regular Public Council Meetings which are currently held virtually via zoom and see how they operate.
- Review a copy of Council's annual budget.
- Speak to past Mayors, Councillors, and Staff.
- Research areas of importance and become more involved in the activities of the community.
- Develop a platform to run on. A platform consists of the ideas, goals and beliefs a candidate is campaigning for. It lets the voters know what position they have on issues.

When developing a platform, you can:

- Do research on prevalent issues.
- Talk and listen to the residents including youth and seniors.
- Make only factual statements that you believe in.
- Take a stand on issues, but do not make promises.
- Do not limit yourself to one issue.
- Commit to standing behind certain community projects and issues.

Candidates are responsible for understanding all legislation concerning elections, including nomination, eligibility, campaigning restrictions, campaign finance and disclosure, election offences and prohibitions at voting stations.

Campaigning

Campaigning is an opportunity to convince voters that you are the best candidate. A campaign usually involves talking and listening to residents, distributing promotional materials, using websites and social media.

- Election signs may be erected on or after nomination day on public property only; or on private property with the expressed written consent of the owner.
- On election day, a candidate shall not campaign or distribute campaign materials in an area that is less than 30 metres from the entrance to a polling station.
- All campaign signs shall be removed immediately within two (2) days following an election.
- Signs that, in the opinion of council, are dilapidated or unkempt may be removed by the Town at the owner's expense.
- The limit for a financial contribution considered a donation is \$ 100.00
- Any and all corporate and union donations are prohibited.
- Disclosure of campaign contributions must be submitted to the Returning Officer no later than 30 days after the election

Successful Candidates

The votes are counted and shared on election night in the Town's Council Chambers.

If a recount is held, the notice must not be more than 3 days after the date of the election and the Returning Officer shall commence the requested recount not more than 3 days after receiving that request.

A candidate elected shall, not more than 90 days after the election, file with the Returning Officer a statement with the total amount of the contributions received by him or her and the amount of the contributions donated to his or her campaign by contributors that exceed \$100 and the contributors of those amounts.



Voters

A Canadian citizen who is 18 years of age or older is qualified to vote at an election where he or she has been ordinarily resident for the 30 days immediately before election day in Holyrood.

Note: The following rules shall determine the residency of a person:

- (a) a person shall be a resident of the place where he or she lives and sleeps and to which, when absent, he or she intends to return.
- (b) residency is not lost by a person who leaves that residence for temporary purposes only.
- (c) the place where a person's family resides shall be his or her residence unless that person commences and continues to live at some other place with the intention of remaining there, in which case, the person shall be considered to be a resident in the place in which he or she intends to reside.
- (d) A person shall have only one place of residency.

Voters List

On or about August 25, 2025 residents can contact the Returning Officer, Marjorie Gibbons at 229-7252, marjorie.gibbons@holyrood.ca to confirm they are on the Voters List. Where the name of a qualified voter does not appear on the list of voters, the Returning Officer shall, upon satisfactory proof being provided to him/her, correct that error by inserting the name.

On election day, a resident whose name does not appear upon the voters list and is qualified to vote may vote upon taking an oath or affirmation in the required form with satisfactory proof of I.D.

For the 2025 election, only in person ballot options and/or proxy vote will be available for residents.

Newly Elected Council Members

Council meetings and Committee meetings will be scheduled by the Mayor, with each Councillor's schedule in mind, and commence within two weeks of the election. The Town Clerk will provide an information package for each Councillor to take home for reference. Training will be provided by the town, as well as by the Department of Municipal and Provincial Affairs.

A successful candidate shall:

- Sign an Oath of Office
- Sign a Conflict-of-Interest Statement
- Sign a Campaign Contribution Form
- Complete the Municipal Training Modules through Municipal Affairs
- Complete Code of Conduct Training

