

2026 General Local Election

Questions from the Candidate Information Session

August 6, 2026



November 24 and 25, 2026 are scheduled for Council orientation and strategic planning. Will that take place in Harrison Hot Springs?

Yes.

What does LGLA stand for and what is it?

The Local Government Leadership Academy is an organization with board members “drawn from the Union of BC Municipalities, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing, the Local Government Management Association, and the Municipal Finance Authority, with representation from the First Nations sector and up to two directors at large appointed by the Board. The Municipal Insurance Association and BC Assessment also have the opportunity to sit on the LGLA Board.” (source: <https://lgla.ca/about/>). The LGLA provides resources and seminars on leadership and stewardship. The 2027 Elected Officials Seminar for lower mainland municipalities is scheduled for December 9-11, 2026 in Richmond. It is not mandatory for newly elected officials to attend, but it is highly recommended.

Does the Village pay for elected officials to attend conferences and cover other fees including per diems, mileage, and accommodation? What about electronics such as cell phones and computers?

Yes. Detailed information about this can be found in the [Village's Council Remuneration and Expense Allowance Policy 1.16](#) on our website. Expenses shall not exceed the budget allocation contained in the annual budget without the approval of Council.

The current remuneration numbers for the Mayor and Councillors, listed as \$41,691 and \$20,846 respectively, are from 2023. With the annual cost of living adjustment, what is the current remuneration?

The current 2026 remuneration is \$45,377 for the Mayor and \$22,688 for Councillors.

What is the current remuneration for a member of Harrison Hot Springs Council appointed to the Fraser Valley Regional District Board?

Remuneration for Fraser Valley Regional District Board directors are calculated as a percentage of the Fraser Valley Regional District regional representative from average wage of a full time worker as determined by Statistics Canada. Remuneration is addressed by a Fraser Valley Regional Bylaw and can vary depending on the roles of the director. Please contact the Fraser Valley Regional District for more information.

Are members of Council able to obtain health benefits and if so, does the Village pay for the benefits?

Extended health and dental benefits are available to members of Council, who may opt in or out of receiving those benefits. If a member of Council opts in, then those benefits are paid for by the Village.

Members of Council appointed to Council Committees are currently chairing those Committees. Who are the other members of the Committees?

Aside from the members of Council appointed to each Committee, the other members are community volunteers appointed by Council.

How many hours a week does a Mayor or Councillor spend on Council related duties?

It varies depending on the individual member of Council's external Committee appointments and responsibilities, or commitments to community events. It also depends on how much time a member of Council wishes to dedicate to preparing in advance, attending events, serving on other boards or Committees, etc. At a minimum, members of Council are expected to participate in meetings and carry out any duties assigned by Council.

Is there an age stipulation for running for Council?

The only age requirement for candidates is that they must be at least 18 years of age on general voting day.

How many resident and non-resident property electors are there and what is the voter turnout like?

In the 2024 by-election, 929 ballots were cast, representing a 58.76% voter turnout based on an estimate of 1,581 eligible voters from the Provincial Voter's List data. In the 2023 by-election, 564 ballots were cast. In the 2022 general local election, 775 ballots were cast. 1,540 Canadian citizens were living in Harrison Hot Springs when the 2021 census data was collected. The number of resident electors on the Provincial Voter's List was 1,679 as of February 2026. The estimated number of non-resident property electors based on BC Assessment Roll data was 387 as of February 2026.

How do you determine an elector's location of residence?

Section 67 of the Local Government Act outlines the rules for determining residence. Determining the address that appears on an elector's driver's licence and where they claim their BC Homeowner grant can be helpful if an elector is unsure as to their location of residence.

Can people who own property at a campground vote?

The Village's Zoning Bylaw No. 1115, 2017 requires that campgrounds and holiday parks in Harrison Hot Springs only provide Temporary Accommodation for up to 30 days. Resident electors must provide identification that proves identity and residency. Non-resident property electors are not eligible to vote in relation to a property that is owned in whole or in part by a corporation.

Does the Village maintain a voter's list in order to determine whether a nominator is eligible to nominate a candidate?

The Village does not maintain a voter's list as the General Election and Other Voting Procedures Bylaw No. 1121, 2018 states that the Village will only register electors at the time of voting. When nominators sign the nomination document, they must check a box indicating that they confirm that they are a qualified elector in Harrison Hot Springs.

The minimum number of nominators is two. What would be the purpose of having more?

Obtaining more than the minimum number of nominators is a candidate preference. Nomination forms are made available on the Village's website and at the front desk for public review. This means that the names of the nominators and the number of nominators for each candidate are publicly available once the nomination package is submitted.

Can the two nominators come from the same household?

Two nominators can come from the same household as each other and/or the candidate provided they are eligible electors. A nominator can nominate as many candidates as there are seats available for the given position.

Do candidates have to be a resident of Harrison Hot Springs?

No, there is no requirement for candidates to reside in Harrison Hot Springs.

Candidates are not able to place election signs within 100m of Memorial Hall. Is that just for voting days or is that for the entire campaign period?

Signs may not be placed within 100m of Memorial Hall during the entire campaign period. See section 5.12 of Sign Bylaw No. 1126, 2018.

Making a false or misleading statement is listed as an election offence. Does this mean that election officers will be monitoring candidate campaigns?

No. Division 18 of the Local Government Act sets out election offences in detail. The offence of providing a false or misleading statement, declaration or information is in relation to information required under that part of the Act. If election officers receive complaints of election offences, they are investigated on a case by case basis depending on the specific facts and with guidance from the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs and legal counsel if required.

What options are available for electors who are unable to drive, have accessibility concerns or are otherwise unable to attend the voting place?

There are volunteer drivers who are willing to provide transportation. Mail ballot voting is also available for all eligible electors. For electors who are able to get to the voting place but are unable to attend inside to cast their ballot, a mobile poll is available.

Is it recommended to open a separate bank account to track election expenses and campaign financing?

Refer to the Elections BC Guide to Campaign Financing for Elector Organizations and Financial Agents in BC

Why do the Regular Council Meetings start at 5:30 p.m. and is there a possibility that this could change in the future?

The regular meeting time is set by Council in Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1216, 2025. In order to change the start time, Council must amend the bylaw and provide the required notice to the public.

Have additional questions?

Connect with the Chief Election Officer:

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