



## INFORMATION FOR VOTERS

### RESIDENCE

A person's residence is the permanent lodging place to which, whenever absent, he or she intends to return.

The following rules apply in determining a person's residence:

1. A person may only have one residence at a time;
2. The place where a person's family resides is also his or her residence, unless he or she moves elsewhere with the intention of changing his or her permanent lodging place;
3. If a person has no other permanent lodging place, the place where he or she occupies a room or part of a room as a regular lodger to which he or she habitually returns is his or her residence.

### RESIDENT ELECTOR

A resident elector is where a person lives and is eligible to vote in that municipality's election. A person is only allowed to have one residence.

### NON-RESIDENT ELECTOR

If a person lives in one municipality but owns or rents property in another municipality, then they are a non-resident elector and able to vote in that municipality's election.

### SPOUSE OF NON-RESIDENT ELECTOR

If a person lives in one municipality and qualifies as a spouse of a non-resident elector, then they are able to vote in that municipality's election.

### HOMELESS PERSONS

Persons without a permanent residence may also qualify to be added to the Voter's List during the revision period by submitting an application to the Clerk. If a person has no permanent residence or lodging place, the following rules apply in determining his or her residence:

1. The place to which the person most frequently returned to sleep or eat during the five weeks preceding the determination is his or her residence.
2. If the person returns with equal frequency to one place to sleep and to another to eat, the place to which he or she returns to sleep is his or her residence.
3. Multiple returns to the same place during a single day whether to eat or to sleep shall be considered one return.
4. A person's affidavit regarding the places to which he or she returned to eat or sleep during a given time period is conclusive, in the absence of evidence to the contrary.

MPAC is not required to include a homeless person's name on the Preliminary List of Electors. As homeless persons are entitled to electors, they are also eligible to be candidates provided they meet the citizenship, age requirements or are not otherwise prohibited by law.

### **STUDENTS**

A person may have residences in two local municipalities at the same time if the person lives in one of the local municipalities in order to attend an education institution but not with the intention of changing his or her permanent lodging place and the person's permanent lodging place is in the other local municipality.

Therefore, students can vote in the municipality where they attend school and they can also vote in the municipality where they live.

### **TRAILER OWNERS – CAMPGROUNDS**

Trailer owners in campgrounds are tenants of the campground – therefore, they are potentially eligible electors. Under a timeshare contract, to be eligible, the person must be entitled to use the land on Voting day or for a period of six weeks or more during the calendar year in which the election is held.

### **ELECTORAL STATUS FOR SCHOOL BOARDS**

The electoral status for school purposes is shown on the Voter's List. A voter may apply for correction to the list during the revision period (*Tuesday, September 4, 2018 up to and including Voting Day – Monday, October 22, 2018*). Therefore, a person may apply to change their school support up to and including Voting Day. Qualifications for and definitions of the categories of school electors are found in the *Education Act* and the *Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedom*:

- Voters must be Roman Catholic and be otherwise qualified as electors to be separate school electors.
- Voters must have French Language Education Rights to be supporters for a French Language school board (*where children attend school does not have any bearing on voting qualifications*).

- Non-resident owners or tenants, or spouses of owners or tenants of commercially and industrially assessed lands are not eligible to vote for school board purposes.

English language public school board is the “default” for a voter unless they are qualified to be a separate or French school board supporter. To be an English language separate school board supporter a voter must be Roman Catholic and a separate school board supporter or the spouse of a separate school board supporter. However, if the spouse is Roman Catholic and the voter is not, then that voter is not eligible to be a separate school board supporter.

To be a French language public school board supporter, a voter must be a French language rights holder and must be a supporter or the spouse of a supporter of the French language public school board.

To be a French language separate school board supporter, a voter must be a Roman Catholic and a French language rights holder and must be a supporter or the spouse of a supporter of the French language separate school board. If the spouse is Roman Catholic, but the voter is not, the voter is not eligible to be a French language separate school board voter.

“**Supporter**” means which school board the school portion of the property taxes goes to.

“**French language rights holder**” is set out in s. 23 of the Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms and refers to the right of citizens whose first language is French to receive educational instruction in French.