

Items noted in red font will be completed by RMA
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Resolution **?-17F**
2025 Municipal and Federal Election Dates
Rocky View County

*Three-fifths (3/5) Majority Required
Endorsed by Central District*

WHEREAS the *Local Authorities Election Act* provides for the conduct of municipal elections in Alberta, including the timing of municipal elections, and the *Canada Elections Act* provides for the conduct of federal elections in Canada, including the timing of federal elections;

AND WHEREAS the 2025 municipal election is scheduled for October 20, 2025 pursuant to section 11(1)(a) of the *Local Authorities Election Act*, which states:

“Election day for a local jurisdiction... in the case of a general election, if required, is to be the 3rd Monday in October”

AND WHEREAS the 2025 federal election is also tentatively scheduled for October 20, 2025 pursuant to section 56.1(2) of the *Canada Elections Act*, which states:

“... each general election must be held on the third Monday of October in the fourth calendar year following polling day for the last general election”

AND WHEREAS the simultaneous scheduling of the 2025 municipal and federal elections may lead to challenges for municipalities in securing suitable voting stations and sufficient election workers due to higher demand and availability being shared between both elections, potentially leading to unnecessary shortages and operational challenges;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) advocate that the Government of Alberta and Government of Canada collaborate, using the powers given to them in the *Local Authorities Election Act* and the *Canada Elections Act* respectively, on conducting either the 2025 municipal or federal election on an alternate and more appropriate day that would minimize conflicts with the administration and participation in the 2025 municipal and federal elections.

Member Background

The 2025 federal and municipal elections are scheduled for October 20, 2025 pursuant to the *Local Authorities Election Act* and *Canada Elections Act*. The overlapping scheduling of these elections may lead to operational challenges for municipalities due to increased competition in securing sufficient election workers and adequate voting stations.

Voter turnout, which is already low in municipal elections, may be negatively impacted even further due to the concurrent municipal and federal elections competing for the public’s time and attention. Voters may become fatigued by having to navigate between

two different election campaigns and voting in two different elections on the same day or may become discouraged from paying attention to or voting in either election.

Rescheduling either the 2025 municipal or federal election to an alternate and more appropriate date would result in improved availability of voting stations and election workers, as well as reduce voter fatigue associated with holding two different election campaigns simultaneously and holding two different elections on the same day.

Section 56.2(1) of the *Canada Elections Act* permits the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada to choose another day for conducting the 2025 federal election, including if the day of the federal election would conflict with the day of a provincial or municipal election.

Additionally, when the *Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment Act, 2024* (Bill 20) is proclaimed and comes into full force and effect, section 6.1 of the *Local Authorities Election Act* would permit the Minister of Municipal Affairs of Alberta to take action when unusual or unforeseen circumstances are likely to have a significant effect on the conduct of an election or the ability of electors to attend at a voting station in one or more local jurisdictions.

RMA Background

RMA will provide background after the resolution is endorsed at district level.