

ADVERTISING BLACKOUT PERIOD

Please be advised that under the *Canada Elections Act*, Section 323(1), no person shall knowingly transmit election advertising to the public in an Electoral Area on voting day before the close of all the voting places in the Electoral Area.

No Provincial legislation has been enacted to vary the provisions of the *Canada Elections Act* as it relates to a local government election and, therefore, no election promotional broadcasts will be permitted on Election Day.

ELECTION SIGNS

Signs erected in conjunction with Federal, Provincial or Local Government elections and/or referenda are permitted in accordance with the applicable legislation, provided they are removed no later than seven days after General Election Day. Such signs are not permitted on public property.

Should signs be erected on public property (ie, Regional District of Nanaimo property, etc.) they will be removed and disposed of by the Regional District of Nanaimo.

Under Section 163 (4) of the *Local Government Act*, a person must not do any of the following **at or within 100 meters** of a building, structure or other place where voting proceedings are being conducted at that time:

- a) Canvas or solicit votes or otherwise attempt to influence how an elector votes;
- b) Display, distribute, post or openly leave a representation of a ballot marked for a particular result in the voting;
- c) Post, display or distribute election advertising, or any material that identifies a candidate or elector organization, unless this is done with the authorization of the chief election officer;
- d) Carry, wear or supply a flag, badge, or other thing indicating that the person using it is a supporter of a particular candidate, elector organization or result in the voting.

ELECTION SIGNS ON HIGHWAY RIGHT-OF-WAYS

The Ministry of Transportation (Ministry) and Infrastructure conditionally allows election posters or signs on highway rights-of-way, with the exception of freeways or any major highway structures. Election posters or signs:

- a) Must not be attached to, obstruct or simulate any traffic control device;
- b) Must not be positioned closer to the traveled lanes than standard traffic signs;
- c) Must not be placed and/or constructed in any fashion that may cause a traffic hazard;
- d) Are not allowed until election writ has been dropped.

The sign policy of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure allows the placement of election campaign signs along most provincial highways on a first-come, first-served basis. There are, however, some exceptions. Election campaign signs are not allowed to be placed on some freeways.

Signs or posters contravening the conditions described above will be taken down by the Ministry.

The next working day after an election, the election signs should be taken down by those who installed them.

NOTICES OR POSTERS ON UTILITY POLES

We have been requested by both BC Hydro and Telus to advise all candidates that placing notices or posters of any kind on hydro or telephone poles is illegal and that both companies are prepared to prosecute offenders. Nails, staples and notices cause an extremely dangerous hazards when workers have to climb the poles to make repairs. We would appreciate your cooperation in making sure that all your workers adhere to the legislation prohibiting the placing of notices, posters and signage.