

# 2022 GENERAL ELECTION

May 25, 2022



# Election Officials Training ~Pre-Election~

May 25, 2022

# Presentation Overview

- ▶ School Board Elections
  - ▶ SEO and other Election Officers
  - ▶ Working with Media
  - ▶ Voters List
  - ▶ Establishing Voting Stations
  - ▶ Nominations
  - ▶ Candidate Qualifications
  - ▶ Official Agents and Scrutineers
  - ▶ Calling an Election
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# School Board Elections

- ▶ Elections for the office of school trustee are held every four years.
  - ▶ The next general school trustee election will be held on October 26, 2022.
  - ▶ Differences between the conduct of school board and municipal elections are the result of specific provisions in *The Public Schools Act*.
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# Senior Elections Officer (SEO)

## ▶ Role

- exercises general direction and supervision over the conduct of elections

## ▶ Responsibilities

- ensures that election officials carry out their duties with fairness and impartiality
- gives election officials any guidance necessary to administer the Act

# Other Election Officials

## ▶ Roles

- persons appointed to administer any aspect of the election

## ▶ Responsibilities

- **Assistant SEO**: An election official that is appointed by the SEO to assist in the overall running of the election. The assistant SEO may act in place of the SEO if, for some reason, the SEO cannot perform their duties.

# Other Election Officials ~continued~

## ▶ Responsibilities

- **Voting Official:** is generally responsible for the conduct of voting at the voting station. This person must be appointed by the SEO. They are responsible for a number of tasks related to the voting process, such as opening the voting station, adding voters to the voters list, and counting the votes after the voting place closes.

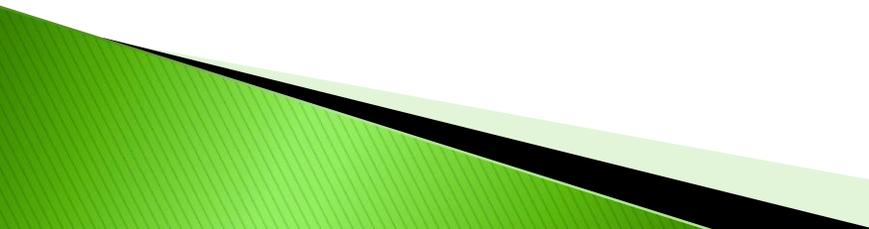
# Oath of Election Officials

- ▶ The oath ensures that election officials:
    - will faithfully and impartially fulfill the duties and responsibilities under the Act that are assigned and delegated to him/her;
    - have not received and will not accept any inducement to perform those duties and responsibilities other than faithfully, impartially, and in accordance with the law;
    - will preserve the secrecy of the ballot; and
    - are not ineligible to be an election official, according to the Act.
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# Working with Media

- ▶ Municipal elections are important local events, and as such, attract media attention.
  - ▶ The media needs accurate information about the election to inform the public. The public should be able to rely on election officials to provide this information.
  - ▶ Communication is 90% advance preparation. It is easier to be proactive than reactive.
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# Voters List

- ▶ An accurate and up-to-date voters list is key to a smooth Election Day.
  - ▶ The voters list should be updated immediately when any new voter information becomes available.
  - ▶ However, no revisions to the list can be made between the close of the nomination period and Election Day.
  - ▶ The voters list includes resident voters, non-resident voters and person with no ordinary residence in the local authority
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# Preparing the Voters List

- ▶ The voters list must contain:
  - name of the voter;
  - residential address / mailing address
- ▶ Voting subdivisions:
  - the voters list must contain a separate division for each subdivision.

# Updating and Revising Voters List

- ▶ Updating and revising the voters list
  - Enumeration
  - Elections Canada/Elections Manitoba
    - Contact Elections Manitoba by phone at 204-945-5755 or by email at [mvr@elections.mb.ca](mailto:mvr@elections.mb.ca) to request a copy of the voters' list.
  - Municipal sources of information
  - Another local authority e.g. municipality

# Changes to the Voters List

- ▶ Except for adding voters at the time of voting or providing a sealed envelope ballot package, the voters list **must not** be revised between the close of nominations and Election Day.
  - ▶ An eligible voter whose name is not on the voters list is entitled to be added to the list at the time of voting.
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# Public Notice of Voters List

- ▶ The voters list must be updated in each general election year.
- ▶ The SEO must give public notice during the general election year that a person wishing to have their name added to the voters list, or have their information corrected, may do so by contacting the SEO.

# Public Notice Personal Security Protection

- ▶ The SEO must give public notice that voters may apply to have their name, address and all other information omitted or obscured from the voters' list.
  - ▶ If a voter wishes to have his/her information obscured from the list, they may file an application with the SEO.
  - ▶ A person who is given a personal security certificate may only vote by sealed envelope ballot.
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# Access/Distribution of Voters List

- ▶ Information contained on the voters list must be used for election purposes only.
  - ▶ A candidate who receives a copy of the list may use it for campaign purposes – including soliciting contributions – during an election period.
  - ▶ A voter is entitled to see their own information on the voters list, to determine if it is accurate.
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# Establishing Voting Stations

- ▶ A voting place must be in a convenient location for the majority of voters it serves.
  - ▶ The SEO must take all necessary steps to ensure the voting place is accessible to persons with disabilities.
  - ▶ The SEO can combine multiple voting stations into a central voting place, or have several voting stations located in voting places spread throughout the local authority.
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# Establishing Voting Stations

- ▶ A mobile voting station must be established to serve patients/residents of a health care facility
  - ▶ If a voting station needs to be moved, the SEO must notify the candidates of the change and the reason. At minimum, notice must be posted at the old voting place, stating the location of the new voting place.
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# Candidate Qualifications

- ▶ Section 22 of *The Public Schools Act* outlines the qualifications of a candidate for the office of school trustee. This includes being:
  - a Canadian citizen;
  - the full age of 18 years, or will be at the date of the election;
  - an actual resident in the school division or school district, and will have been so for a period of at least six months at the date of the election; and
  - is not disqualified under any other provisions

# Nominations

- ▶ The nomination period begins on the 42<sup>nd</sup> day before Election Day and ends on the 36<sup>th</sup> day before Election Day.
  - ▶ All nominations must be supported by a number of eligible voters whose names appear on the voters list.
  - ▶ Nomination papers must be filed with the SEO before the nomination period ends, and at the place specified in the notice of nominations.
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# Official Agent and Scrutineers

- ▶ Once nominated, a candidate may appoint an official agent to represent them during the election.
  - ▶ A candidate may act as their own scrutineer, or may appoint another person to act as scrutineer.
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# Calling an Election

- ▶ If, at the end of the nomination period, there *are more* nominations than vacancies for office, the SEO must give the public an election notice as soon as reasonably possible.
  - ▶ If, at the end of the nomination period, there are the same number or fewer nominations as there are vacancies for office, the SEO declares the nominated candidate(s) elected by acclamation.
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# Election Officials Training

- ✓ Pre-Election (complete)
- ▶ Election
- ▶ Post Election