

## Appointment of Chief and Deputy Chief Election Officer

**Recommendation:**

**THAT Carolyn Mushata be appointed as the Chief Election Officer for the 2026 City of Maple Ridge Local Government General Election;**

**AND THAT Tonya Polz be appointed as Deputy Chief Election Officer for the 2026 City of Maple Ridge Local Government General Election.**

<b>Report Purpose and Summary Statement:</b>	Council is required to appoint a Chief Election Officer and a Deputy Chief Election Officer to conduct the 2026 General Local Election.
<b>Previous Council Action:</b>	Nil
<b>Financial Impact:</b>	Deputy Chief Election Officer wages
<b>Funding Source:</b>	Addressed in the 2026 Financial Plan bylaw
<b>Strategic Alignment:</b>	Governance & Corporate Excellence
<b>Applicable Legislation/ Bylaw/Policy:</b>	<i>Local Government Act</i>

## **Appointment of Chief and Deputy Chief Election Officer**

### **ANALYSIS:**

#### **Discussion:**

Under section 52 of the *Local Government Act*, general local elections for the offices of Mayor and Councillor are held every four years on the third Saturday in October. The last general election was held in 2022, and the next is scheduled for Saturday, October 17, 2026.

Section 58 of the *Local Government Act* requires local governments to appoint a Chief Election Officer and a Deputy Chief Election Officer to administer and conduct the election.

Early appointment of election officials supports effective planning and transparent administration. This enables timely preparation activities, including securing voting locations, recruiting election workers, reviewing election procedures, and developing public education materials.

Legislative Services is responsible for the administration of local government elections. Both individuals have held these election officer positions for many elections both in other municipalities and with the City of Maple Ridge. Council is therefore requested to appoint Carolyn Mushata to the position of Chief Election Officer and Tonya Polz to the position of Deputy Chief Election Officer for the 2026 general local election.

#### **Strategic Alignment:**

Governance & Corporate Excellence

#### **Financial Impact:**

Deputy Chief Election Officer wages addressed through the 2026 Financial Plan bylaw.

#### **Applicable Legislation/Bylaw/Policy:**

*Local Government Act*

### **OPTIONS & IMPLICATIONS:**

- 1) Appoint Carolyn Mushata to the position of Chief Election Officer and Tonya Polz to the position of Deputy Chief Election Officer for the 2026 general local election. (recommended)
- 2) Appoint others to the positions.

**CONCLUSION:**

Appointing the Chief Election Officer and Deputy Chief Election Officer at this time will support the timely and orderly administration of the City's 2026 general local election scheduled for Saturday, October 17, 2026, and will ensure the City meets its statutory obligations under the *Local Government Act*.

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Director of Legislative Services

## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Appointment of Chief and Deputy Chief Election Officer - 2026.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Mar 24, 2026

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Scott Hartman, Chief Administrative Officer