

Non-Resident Property Electors

Frequently Asked Questions



Who is eligible to vote as a non-resident property elector?

If you own property in the Electoral Area in which you wish to vote and live elsewhere in BC, you may be eligible to vote as non-resident property elector. To vote in Local Government Elections as a non-resident property elector, you must meet ALL of the following requirements:

- you are not disqualified by law from voting
- you are not entitled to register as a resident elector of the Electoral Area
- you will be age 18 or older on general voting day;
- you are a Canadian citizen
- you have been a resident of B.C. for at least 6 months immediately before the day you vote (advance or general voting)
- you have been a registered owner of property in the Electoral Area for at least 30 days immediately before the day you vote (advance or general voting)
- the only persons who are registered owners of the property are individuals who are not holding the property in trust for a corporation or other trust
- If there is more than one registered owner on title, you have received the written consent of a majority of the other owners, authorizing you to be registered as the non-resident property elector
- you have not registered as a non-resident property elector in relation to any other parcel of property in the Electoral Area

What does “registered owner of property” mean?

This means whichever of the following is applicable:

- a) the owner of a registered estate in fee simple of the property, unless another person holds an interest in the property referred to in paragraphs (b) to (d);
- b) the holder of the last registered agreement for sale, unless another person holds an interest in the property referred to in paragraph (c) or (d);
- c) the tenant for life under a registered life interest in the property, unless another person holds an interest in the property referred to in paragraph (d);
- d) the holder of a registered lease of the property for a term of at least 99 years.

What if the property is registered in my company’s name?

You are not eligible to vote as a non-resident property elector if the property is registered in your company’s name. You are also not eligible to vote if you are holding the property in trust for a corporation or another trust. In other words, corporations cannot vote.

What if I own more than one piece of property?

You may only vote as a non-resident property elector in relation to one piece of property in any jurisdiction. In other words, even if you own two pieces of property in the Electoral Area, you may only vote once.

What if I own more than one piece of property?

You may only vote as a non-resident property elector in relation to one piece in any jurisdiction.

In other words, even if you own two pieces of property in the Electoral Area, you may only vote once.

Non-Resident Property Electors Frequently Asked Questions



What if I own property with other people?

If there is more than one property owner on title, only one may register as the non-resident property elector.

- The person registering must have the written consent of that number of owners who, together with the person registering, constitute a majority.
- Where there is more than one owner on title, a consent form completed by the other owner (s) must be submitted at the time of registration.

In other words, if two individuals own a single piece of property, the other owner, together with the person registering, must consent. If five individuals own a single piece of property, at least two of the other property owners, together with the person registering, must consent.

What if I own property with someone else, and that person lives at the property?

The person living on the property may qualify as a resident elector because he or she resides in the Electoral Area. As a non-resident property owner, you are also eligible to vote as a non-resident property elector, but you will need the written consent of the majority of owners.

How do non-resident property electors register?

The RDOS does not maintain a Voter's List, you must register at the time of voting by completing an application form. You will be asked to provide two pieces of identification that prove who you are. One of them must have your signature on it. You will also need to prove that you are entitled to register in relation to the property by providing a copy of the Property Tax Notice, Land Title Registration or BC Assessment Notice. If there is more than one registered owner on title, you will also need to submit a consent form.

What are acceptable documents for voter registration?

- BC Driver's Licence, BC Services Card or BC ID card (issued by the Motor Vehicle Branch)
- Ministry of Housing and Social Development Security Request for Continued Assistance (form SDES8)
- Social Insurance card
- Citizenship Card
- property tax notice
- credit card or debit card
- utility bill (electricity, natural gas, water, telephone or cable services)
- ICBC Owner's Certificate of Insurance and Vehicle Licence

If you are applying for registration as a non-resident property elector, you must also show proof of ownership of property in the Electoral Area. The following documents are examples of acceptable proof of property ownership:

- Property Tax Notice
- Land Title Registration
- BC Assessment Notice

