



Stage 3 water restrictions in effect for Comox Valley water system

Updated: July 2, 2026 - 8:48am



Local government elections

Local government elections in British Columbia are held every four years. This includes elections for mayors, councillors, regional district electoral area directors, school trustees, Islands Trust trustees, local community commissioners and park board commissioners.

The next general local elections will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2026.

On election day, eligible voters in Courtenay will elect:

- one mayor
- six councillors
- school district trustees for School District No. 71

To learn more about how local elections work in B.C., visit the [general local elections page](#) on the Province of B.C. website.

Candidate and election worker information

Nomination
period

The nomination period for mayor, councillor and school trustee opens **Tuesday, September 1, 2026, at 9 a.m.** and closes **Friday, September 11, 2026, at 4 p.m.**

Nomination packages

Nomination packages for the 2026 general local election are now available.

- [Mayor and Councillor nomination package \[PDF/1.3MB\]](#)
- [School Trustee – Trustee Electoral Area 1 nomination package](#)

Printed copies are also available at Courtenay City Hall, 830 Cliffe Avenue, during regular business hours.

Pre-candidate information session

A pre-candidate information session will be held on August 13, 2026, at 6 p.m. for individuals considering running for local government.

- **Attend in person:** CVRD Civic Room, 770 Harmston Avenue, Courtenay. Advance registration is not required for in-person attendance.
- **Attend online:** Virtual participation is available by Zoom webinar. Advance registration is required to attend online. [Link to register](#) .
- Jointly hosted by the Comox Valley Regional District, City of Courtenay and Village of Cumberland.
- Featuring presentations by former elected officials and local government consultants Allison Habkirk and Christina Benty.
- A recording will be posted on this page following the event.
- [A recording of the 2022 pre-candidate information session](#)  is available for reference. Information may differ for the 2026 election.

Declared candidates

Candidates for mayor, councillor and school trustee will be listed on this page after the nomination period closes at **4 p.m. on September 11, 2026**.

Election worker opportunities

Election official recruitment information and opportunities [have been posted](#).

Applications are due by **August 4, 2026**.

Other resources

Additional resources for prospective candidates:

- [Elections BC](#) 
- [Province of British Columbia](#) 
- [Council code of conduct bylaw \[PDF/1MB\]](#)
- [Local government fact sheet](#) 
- [LGLA resources](#) 
- [Elect Respect pledge](#) : Council supports the Elect Respect pledge to promote respectful conduct during local elections.

Key dates and new campaign financing and advertising rules for the 2026 general local elections are available from [Elections BC](#) .

For more information, call 1-800-661-8683 or email electionsbc@elections.bc.ca.

FAQs

How many nominators are required?

Two nominators are required. Your candidacy can be challenged if your nominators are not eligible. Therefore, we recommend you have more than two nominators.

Can I submit my nomination forms remotely?

Yes and no. You do not need to appear in person to submit your nomination forms, but you must sign the form in person (a "wet" signature), in front of the Deputy/Chief Election Officer or a BC Commissioner for Taking Affidavits.

For more information, contact election@courtenay.ca.

How to vote

There are several ways to vote in the 2026 local government election. Choose the option that works best for you.

Advance voting (in person)

- **Wednesday, October 7, 2026**
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Florence Filberg Centre, 411 Anderton Ave
- **Wednesday, October 14, 2026**
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Florence Filberg Centre, 411 Anderton Ave

General voting day (in person)

- **Saturday, October 17, 2026**
8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
 - Queneesh Elementary School, 2345 Mission Rd
 - Florence Filberg Centre, 411 Anderton Ave

Voters may attend either location. All voters are welcome to vote early at advance voting opportunities. The City of Courtenay does not mail voter information cards.

Voting by mail

All eligible electors may apply to vote by mail.

- Electors must meet voter qualifications and submit a mail ballot application form.
- Mail ballot applications will be available online by September 2026.
- Mail ballot packages will be mailed or available for pickup at City Hall once ballots are available in late September 2026.
- Mail ballots must be received by the Chief Election Officer no later than 8 p.m. on October 17, 2026, to be counted.

Accessibility and voting assistance

Services are available to support voters with accessibility needs:

- All advance and general voting locations are wheelchair accessible.
- All eligible voters may vote by mail ballot.
- Assistance is available for voters unable to mark a ballot due to a physical disability or difficulty with reading or writing.
- Voters may bring a friend to assist, or request assistance from an election official.
- ASL interpretation will be available at the Florence Filberg Centre on general voting day.

Who can vote?

Resident electors

To vote as a resident elector, you must:

- Be a Canadian citizen.

- Be 18 years of age or older on general voting day (October 17, 2026).
- Be a resident of the City of Courtenay on the day of registration.
- Have been a resident of British Columbia for at least six months before registration.
- Not be disqualified from voting.

There is no corporate or business vote in local elections.

Non-resident property electors

To vote as a non-resident property elector, you must:

- Be a Canadian citizen.
- Be 18 years of age or older on general voting day.
- Have owned real property in the City of Courtenay for at least 30 days immediately before registration.
- Have been a resident of British Columbia for at least six months immediately before registration.
- Not be entitled to register as a resident elector.
- Not be disqualified under the Local Government Act or any other enactment.

If there is more than one registered owner of a property, only one owner may register to vote, designated in writing by the majority of owners. Businesses or corporations cannot vote.

Registering to vote

The City of Courtenay uses the most current provincial list of voters prepared by Elections BC.

- Visit the [Elections BC website](#)  to check eligibility, update voter information or register to vote.

- To register as a non-resident property elector, complete the [Non-resident Property Elector registration form. \[PDF/324KB\]](#) 
- Advance registration closes on **August 25, 2026**.
- Registrations will not be accepted from **August 26 to October 18, 2026**, but will be accepted on voting days.

Acceptable identification

New registrations require two pieces of identification that show identity and place of residence, with at least one containing a signature.

Accepted identification includes, but is not limited to:

- Driver's licence
- B.C. Identification Card (issued by ICBC)
- Photo B.C. Services Card (CareCard)
- Non-photo B.C. Services Card (CareCard)
- Certificate of Indian Status (issued by the Government of Canada)
- Citizenship or membership card issued by a First Nation
- Citizenship card issued by Métis Nation British Columbia
- ICBC car insurance papers
- Provincial Social Assistance Form SDES8
- Statement of employment insurance benefits
- B.C. government cheque
- Canadian Forces identification
- Firearms licence (issued by the Government of Canada)
- Social Insurance Number card

- Canadian citizenship card
- B.C. property tax notice
- Credit card, debit card or statement
- Utility bill (such as cable, electricity, gas, telephone or water services in B.C.)
- Valid current passport
- Birth certificate

Election notices, legislation and bylaws

Election notices

- [Advance non-resident property elector registration and list of registered electors](#)
- [Notice of nomination — 2026 general local elections](#)

Legislation and resources

- [Elections BC](#)  – campaign financing, advertising rules, and elector organization registration
- [Ministry of Municipal Affairs](#)  – election legislation and administration

Relevant election legislation includes:

- [Local Government Act](#)  (Part 3)
- [Local Elections Campaign Financing Act](#) 
- [Local Government Elections Regulation](#) 
- [School Act](#)  (Part 4)

City election bylaw

- [City of Courtenay election bylaw](#)  – establishes procedures for the 2026 local government election

Council appoints a Chief Election Officer to ensure the process is run in accordance with the Local Government Act Part 3 and the City of Courtenay Election Bylaw No. 3073.

Contact information

Chief Election Officer
Kate O'Connell

Deputy Chief Election Officer
Adriana Proton

Phone: 250-334-4441
Email: election@courtenay.ca

Polling Places

Advance

[Advance voting \(in person\) Florence Filberg Centre](#)

Wed, Oct 7 2026, 8am - 8pm

[Get Driving Directions](#) 

[Advance voting \(in person\) Florence Filberg Centre](#)

Wed, Oct 14 2026, 8am - 8pm

[Get Driving Directions](#) 

General

General voting day (in person)

Sat, Oct 17 2026, 8am - 8pm

General voting day (in person) Florence Filberg Centre

Sat, Oct 17 2026, 8am - 8pm

[Get Driving Directions](#) 

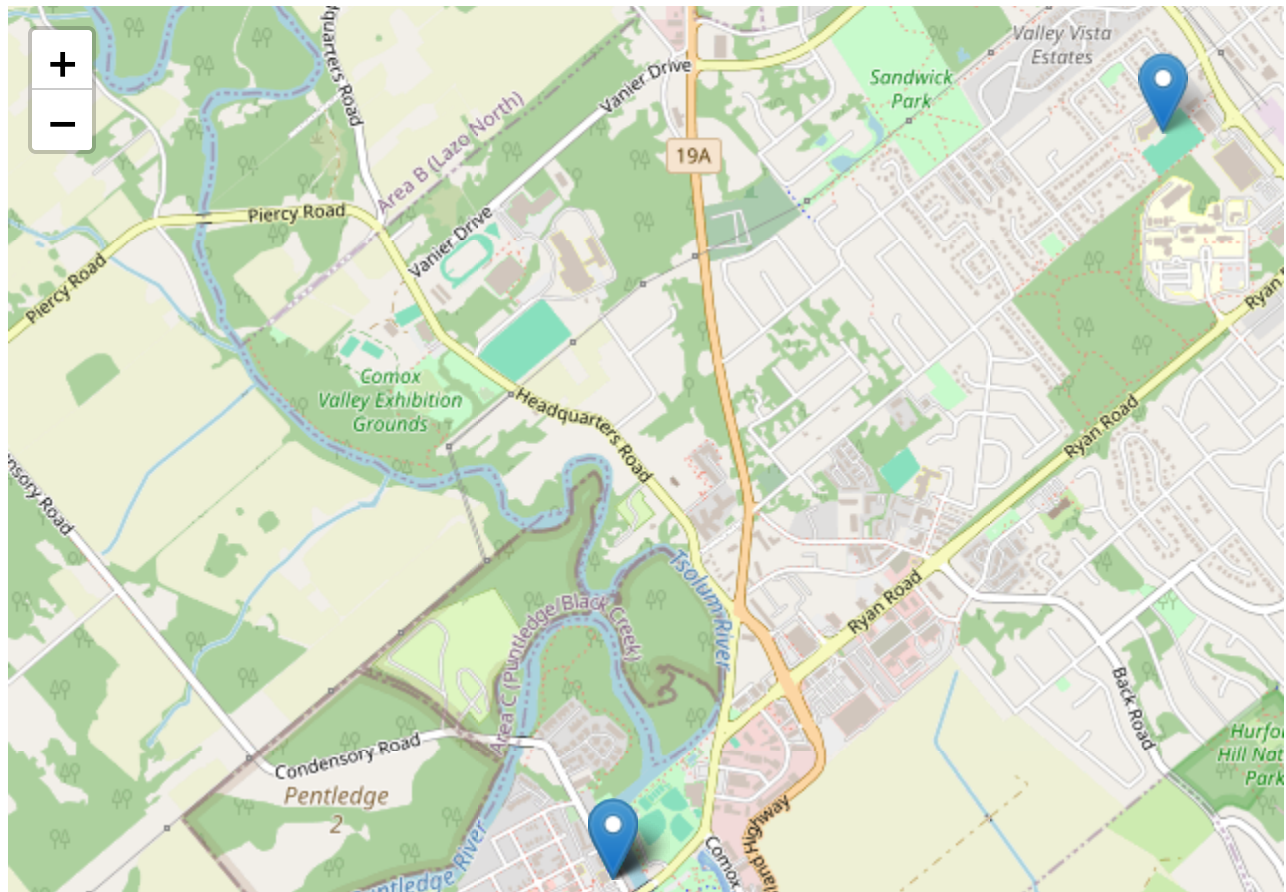
General voting day (in person) Queneesh Elementary School

Sat, Oct 17 2026, 8am - 8pm

[Get Driving Directions](#) 

Pre-candidate information session

Thu, Aug 13 2026, 6 - 7:30pm





Past election results

Official results from the 2022 local government election are available on a separate page.

[View 2022 local government election results](#)

Last updated: Aug 21, 2026 - 10:59am