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Office of the Election Commissioner
News Release

Election Commissioner to Enforce Local Government Election Laws

Beginning August 1st, Alberta's Election Commissioner will be charged with receiving and investigating complaints and allegations relating to campaign finance and third party rules contained in the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

This new responsibility of the Election Commissioner applies to all elections held for councilor positions in 341 municipal government structures and trustee positions in 61 school boards across Alberta.

Elections for board members of 13 irrigation districts and the councilors of eight Métis Settlements in the province must also be conducted in accordance with the *Local Authorities Election Act*, but the legislation excludes campaign finance rules for these positions.

The expansion of the mandate of the Election Commissioner was part of *An Act to Renew Local Democracy in Alberta* (Bill 23) which was introduced following a public consultation process conducted by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.

Although Bill 23 was passed into law in December 2018, the introduction of the new Part 9 of the *Local Authorities Election Act* was delayed until August 1, 2019. This gave the Office of the Election Commissioner time to prepare for its expanded role immediately following the provincial general election that was held in April 2019.

Additional information about the role of the Office of the Election Commissioner with regard to both provincial and local authority election laws is available at: albertaelectioncommissioner.ca/