

Municipal Affairs

Information Bulletin

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COLLECTION OF DATA FOR ENUMERATION

Municipalities are governed by the provisions of the *Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA)* if they want to establish a permanent electors register authorizing the collection of personal information. If a bylaw is enacted under Section 49(2) of the *LAEA*, then the municipality may enter into an agreement with the Chief Electoral Officer with Elections Alberta. The municipality then has the authority to disclose personal information to the Chief Electoral Officer pursuant to Section 40 of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP Act)*, and Section 49(2) of the *LAEA*.

The establishment of a permanent electors register does not necessarily obligate a municipality to enumerate before each local election. The permanent electors register is a database that may be used to establish a list of electors referred to in Section 49 of the *LAEA*. If an agreement is in place with Elections Alberta, the permanent electors register can also be updated with information from the Chief Electoral Officer. A provincial register of electors may be revised from time to time as the Chief Electoral Officer considers necessary, or as soon after the schedule of electoral division in the *Electoral Divisions Act* is amended or re-enacted.

The information collected for a permanent electors register cannot be used for the collection of data for a municipal census. According to Section 39 of the *FOIP Act*, the municipality may only use personal information for the purpose for which the information was collected or compiled.

The logo for the Government of Alberta, featuring the word "Alberta" in a stylized, cursive script font, followed by a small square icon.