

Voter Eligibility Identification Requirements

1. What kinds of elector identification are valid for proving eligibility to vote?
 - a. For a local authority that does not prepare a list of electors, or where the person's name does not appear on the list of electors, section 53(1)(b)(i) establishes the general basic requirement for verification of the person's identity and current residence as stated in the signed voting register (Form 8). Under this basic requirement, the voter must produce (A) one piece of photo identification with name and address that is issued by a Canadian government (federal, provincial, local, or an agency thereof), or (B) one piece of identification authorized by the Chief Electoral Officer under the Election Act with name and address.
 - b. Types of government –issued identification allowed under (A) must show the name, address and a photo of the elector and so examples of appropriate ID include:
 - i. Operator/Driver's license
 - ii. Government photo identification card (for non-drivers)
 - c. Types of Chief Electoral Officer-approved identification allowed under (B) must show the name and address of the elector and so examples of appropriate ID include:
 - i. Attestation of Identity and Residence issued by the authorized representative of a correctional institution;
 - ii. Attestation of Identity and Residence issued by the authorized representative of a shelter or soup kitchen.
 - iii. Attestation of Residence issued by the authorized representative (landlord) of a commercial property management company;
 - iv. Attestation of Residence issued by the responsible authority of a Supportive Living Facility;
 - v. Bank/Credit card statement or personal cheque;
 - vi. Correspondence issued by a school, college or university;
 - vii. Government cheque or cheque hub;
 - viii. Income/property tax assessment notice;
 - ix. Insurance policy or coverage card;
 - x. Letter from a public curator, public guardian or public trustee;
 - xi. One of the following, issued by the responsible authority of a shelter or soup kitchen:
 1. Attestation of residence, letter of stay, admission form or statement of benefits;
 - xii. Pension Plan statement of benefits, contributions or participation;
 - xiii. Residential lease or mortgage statement;
 - xiv. Statement of government benefits, e.g. employment insurance, old-age security, social assistance, disability support or child tax benefit;
 - xv. Utility bill, e.g. telephone, public utilities commission, television, hydro, gas or water; and
 - xvi. Vehicle ownership or insurance certificate.

A bylaw under section 53(3) is not required, but if the municipality wishes to pass a voter identification bylaw, they may do so in order to:

1. Expand on the list of types of identification that the returning officer can accept for purposes of the basic identification requirement set out in Section 53(1)(b)(i) (A) and (B), or

2. Require more than the basic requirement of one piece of identification as set out in Section 53(1)(b)(i) (A) and (B), or
3. Specify the types of identification that the returning officer can accept for purposes of the additional identification that the municipality requires to verify name, current address or age of an elector.

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