
REPORT NAME

Bylaw 04-25 2025 Municipal Election, Counting Specific Ballot Boxes and provision of special ballots

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council gives first reading to Bylaw 04-25 2025 Municipal Election, Counting Specific Ballot Boxes, as presented.
2. That Council gives second reading to Bylaw 04-25.
3. That Bylaw 04-25 be given third reading by unanimous consent of the Council members present.
4. That Council gives third and final reading to Bylaw 04-25.
5. That Council authorizes the returning officer to provide for special ballots and provide that the application for special ballots may be submitted in person, by email or by regular mail to the Leduc County returning officer for the 2025 municipal election.

IMPLICATIONS

Reason: To provide for the returning officer to count specific ballot boxes prior to the close of a voting station.

Authority: (MGA section/bylaw/policy number): *Municipal Government Act (MGA), Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA), section 85.1(4).*

Amount of funding required: n/a

Funding source: n/a

BACKGROUND

The LAEA, section 85.1(4), provides that a municipality may, by bylaw, allow for the returning officer “... to count the special ballot box, advance vote ballot box and institutional ballot box no earlier than 7:30 p.m. on election day.” In previous elections, this provision has been provided so that counting of the advance vote ballots can begin prior to the close of voting stations.

Special ballots provide an elector whose name is on the permanent elector register the opportunity to vote if they are unable to vote at an advance vote or at the voting station on election day. In accordance with section 77.1, an elector may apply for a special ballot using the prescribed form and providing copies of identification as required under section 53(1)(b). Historically, the County has not provided the option of special ballots, however, this option will be made available for the 2025 election.

Administration has updated the bylaw to reflect the changes in legislation and it is presented for Council consideration for all three readings at this meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Bylaw 04-25 2025 Municipal Election, Counting Specific Ballot Boxes
2. Bylaw 04-25 2025 Municipal Election, Counting Specific Ballot Boxes – redline version
3. Local Authorities Election Act, section 85.1(4)