



North Oyster Fire Protection Service Area Referendum

Referendum question:

Are you in favour of the Board of the CVRD adopting "CVRD Bylaw No. 3542 – North Oyster Fire Halls Debt Repayment Service Establishment Bylaw, 2011" and "CVRD Bylaw No. 3543 – North Oyster Fire Halls Construction Loan Authorization Bylaw, 2011", which would authorize the CVRD to create a debt repayment service and borrow up to \$3,030,000 for a 20 year period to finance the design and construction of two Fire Halls to serve the North Oyster Fire Halls Debt Repayment Service Area within a portion of Electoral Area H – North Oyster/Diamond with a maximum requisition amount of \$240,000 per year, which corresponds to an annual parcel tax of no more than \$248.96."?

YES or NO?

Where/When Do I Vote?

Voting day is November 19 from 8am – 8pm. Eligible Electors of the proposed North Oyster Fire Halls Debt Repayment Service Area, within a portion of Electoral Area H, can vote at:

Area H – North Oyster Elementary School

13470 Cedar Road, Ladysmith, BC

Can I Vote Before General Voting Day?

If you are unable to vote on General Voting Day, you may vote in advance on November 9 & 15 from 8am – 8pm at:

Islands Savings Centre

2687 James Street, Duncan, BC

Can I Vote By Mail?

You may be eligible to register and vote by mail if you have a physical disability, illness or injury that prevents you from attending a voting place at any of the voting opportunities. You may also be eligible if you expect to be absent on general voting day and all advance voting days. For more detailed information about mail voting procedures, contact the Legislative Services Division at 250-746-2503 or 1-800-665-3955.

You may vote in the North Oyster Fire Halls Debt Repayment Service Referendum as either a **resident elector** or as a **non-resident property elector** – someone who owns property in the service area but lives somewhere else in BC – provided that you meet all qualifications.

Qualifications - Resident Elector

You may vote as a resident elector if you:

- are a Canadian citizen;
- are 18 years of age or older on voting day;
- have lived in BC for at least 6 months before you register to vote; and
- have lived in the proposed North Oyster Debt Repayment Service Area within a portion of Electoral Area H for at least 30 days before registering.

All North Oyster Fire Halls Debt Repayment Service Area residents who meet these qualifications can vote. It doesn't matter whether you rent or own your home.

Qualifications - Non-Resident Property Elector

You may vote as a non-resident property elector if you:

- have owned property in the proposed North Oyster Fire Halls Debt Repayment Service Area within a portion of Electoral Area H for at least 30 days before registering;
- are **not** a resident elector in the proposed North Oyster Fire Halls Repayment Service Area, within a portion of Electoral Area H;
- are a Canadian citizen;
- are 18 years of age or older on voting day; and
- have lived in BC for at least 6 months before you register to vote.

You may only vote as a non-resident property elector once in the referendum, regardless of the number of properties you own within the North Oyster Fire Halls Debt Repayment Service Area. If two or more non-resident property owners own a single piece of property, the majority of owners must designate - in writing - only one owner as the non-resident property elector for that property.

How Do I Vote?

To vote in the North Oyster Fire Halls Debt Repayment Service Referendum, you must be **registered** as an elector (resident or non-resident). If your name does not appear on the **List of Electors** for that portion of Electoral Area H (North Oyster) that encompasses the proposed service area, you are **not** a registered elector. If you qualify to vote, you may register at the time of voting.

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Am I on the Voters' List?

The Cowichan Valley Regional District uses the Provincial Voters' List as its List of Resident Electors. If you were registered by August 2011 as a provincial voter, you will automatically be registered as an elector. If you have previously registered as a non-resident property elector, you will continue to be registered as an elector. To find out if you are on the List of Electors, please contact the Legislative Services Division at 250-746-2503 or 1-800-665-3955.

How Do I Register to Vote on Voting Day?

If you are **not** on the List of Electors, but qualify to vote, you may **register on voting day** at your designated voting place.

To register at the voting place, you must provide election staff with two pieces of identification (ID). The ID must prove who you are and where you live. At least one piece must have your signature on it. If your ID doesn't show your residential address, you can make what is called a "solemn declaration" as to your residency.

Acceptable forms of identification include:

- BC Driver's License
- Social Insurance Card
- ICBC Vehicle Insurance Documents
- BC Identification Card
- BC CareCard or Gold CareCard
- Citizenship Card
- Credit Card
- Utility Bill
- Property Tax Notice

Do Non-Resident Property Owners Register the Same Way?

Non-resident property owners may also register at the time of voting. However, you must also provide election staff with proof of your eligibility to register as a **Non-Resident Property Elector**.

You can apply to register as a **Non-Resident Property Elector prior to voting day** at the Regional District Office, located at 175 Ingram Street in Duncan, during regular office hours, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays. You will be asked to provide two pieces of identification and proof that you are the registered owner of the property. If the property is owned jointly with other individuals, you must also demonstrate - in writing - that you have the consent of the majority of all the owners to vote as the non-resident property elector. Application and consent forms for CVRD Electoral Areas or the Thetis Island Local Trust Area can be downloaded from the CVRD web site (<http://www.cvr.bc.ca/index.aspx?NID=988&ART=2581&admin=1>). For more detailed information about registration procedures, contact the Legislative Services Division at 250-746-2503 or 1-800-665-3955.

