

2026 GENERAL LOCAL ELECTION KEY DATES

ACTION OR DEADLINE	ACT/S.#	DATE
Start of Election Period	LECFA: s.10(1)(a)(i)	January 1, 2026
Candidate B.C. Residency Deadline	LGA: s.81(1)(c)	March 10, 2026
Elector Residency Deadline	LGA: s.65(1)(c) & s.66(1)(d)	April 16, 2026
Election Bylaw Adoption Deadline	LGA: s.56(2)(a)	July 6, 2026
Last Day to Apply to Minister Requesting an Advance Voting Exemption Order – Boards of Education	SA: s.45(5)	July 7, 2026
Start of Pre-Campaign Period	LECFA: s. 10(1.1)(a)	July 20, 2026
Suggested Last Day to Adopt Bylaw Identifying Public Notice Posting Places – Boards of Education	SA: s. 45(2.1)	July 24, 2026
Start of Period for Notice of End of Advance Elector Registration	LGA: s.50, 71(5)	July 27, 2026
Start of Period for Notice of List of Registered Electors	LGA: s.77(6)	August 4, 2026
Start of Period for Notice of Nominations	LGA: s.85(1)	August 4, 2026
Election Bylaw Adoption Deadline – Board of Education	SA: s.45(6)	August 4, 2026
End of Period for Notice of Close of Advance Elector Registration	LGA: s.71(5)	August 18, 2026
End of Period for Notice of Nominations	LGA: s.85(1)	August 25, 2026
End of Period for Notice of List of Registered Electors	LGA: s.85(1) & s.77(6)	August 25, 2026
End of Advance Elector Registration	LGA: s.71(4)	August 25, 2026
Adoption of Provincial Voters List	LGA: s.76	August 26, 2026
Start of Nomination Period	LGA: s.84(1)	September 1, 2026
Start of Challenge to Nomination and Endorsement Period	LGA: s.91	September 1, 2026
Start of Inspection of List of Registered Electors Period	LGA: s.77(3)	September 1, 2026
Start of Objections to Elector Registration Period	LGA: s.79(2)	September 1, 2026
Start of Period for Notice of Required Advance Voting	LGA: s.107(5)	September 8, 2026
End of Nomination Period	LGA: s.84(1)	September 11, 2026
Declaration of Candidates	LGA: s.97(1) & s.97(2)	September 11, 2026
End of Period of Objections to Elector Registrations	LGA: s.79(2)	September 11, 2026
End of Extended Nomination Period	LGA: s.97(2)	September 14, 2026
End of Challenge to Nomination and Endorsement Period	LGA: s.91	September 15, 2026
Non-Resident Property Elector Local Ownership Deadline	LGA: s.66(1)(e)	September 16, 2026

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Start of Period for Notice of Election	LGA: s.99(1)	September 17, 2026
Court Decision on Challenge of Nomination	LGA: s.91(9)	September 18, 2026
Candidate Nomination Withdrawal Deadline	LGA: s.101(1)	September 18, 2026
Elector Organization Endorsement Withdrawal Deadline	LGA s. 95	September 18, 2026
End of Pre-Campaign Period	LECFA: s. 10(1.1)(b)	September 18, 2026
End of Election Period (12:00 Midnight)	LECFA: s.10(1)(b)	September 18, 2026
Start of Campaign Period (12:01 am)	LECFA: s.10(2)	September 19, 2026
Declaration of Election by Voting or Acclamation	LGA: s.98(2) & s.98(3)	September 21, 2026
End of Period for Notice of Required Advance Voting	LGA: s.107(5)	September 30, 2026
Required Advance Voting Opportunity	LGA: s.107(1)	October 7, 2026
End of Period for Notice of Election	LGA: s.99(1)	October 9, 2026
General Voting Day	LGA: s.52	October 17, 2026
Mail Ballot Voting Deadline	LGA: s.110(9)	October 17, 2026
Announcement of Preliminary Election Results	LGA: s.144(1)	October 17, 2026
End of Period for Inspection of List of Electors	LGA: s.77(3)	October 17, 2026
End of Campaign Period	LECFA: s.10(1) and (2)	October 17, 2026
Start of Advance Registration for Next Election	LGA: s.71(4)	October 19, 2026
Last Day for Chief Election Officer to Submit Election Report (Acclamation)	LGA: s.158(1)	October 20, 2026
Last Day for Declaration of Official Election Results by Voting	LGA: s.146(1)	October 21, 2026
Start of Period to Apply for Judicial Recount	LGA: s.148(3)	October 21, 2026
Start of Public Inspection of Voting Day Materials	LGA: s.160(3)	October 21, 2026
End of Period to Apply for Judicial Recount	LGA: s.148(3)	October 26, 2026
Start of Period to Make Oath of Office	LGA: s.147(1)	October 27, 2026
Deadline for Completion of Judicial Recount	LGA: s.149(1)	October 30, 2026
First Day to Hold Runoff Election	LGA: s.152(4)	October 31, 2026
Start of Period to Hold First Council or Board Meeting	CC: s.124(2)(g); LGA: s.215	November 1, 2026
Elected School Trustees Take Office (if Oath Taken)	SA: s.49 (a) and s.50 (3)	November 2, 2026
End of Period to Hold First Council Meeting	CC: s.124(2)(g)	November 10, 2026

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Last Day for Chief Election Officer to Submit Election Report (Voting)*	LGA: s.158(1)	November 19, 2026
End of Period for Public Inspection of Nomination Documents*	LGA: s.89(7)	November 20, 2026
End of Public Inspection of Voting Day Materials*	LGA: s.160(3)	November 20, 2026
End of Period for Application to the Supreme Court to Invalidate Election*	LGA: s.153(3)	November 20, 2026
Last Day for Designated Local Officer to Submit Names of Elected Officials to the Gazette for Publication**	LGA: s.159(1)	December 2, 2026
End of Period to Make Oath of Office (Voting* & Acclamation)	LGA: s.202(1)(a) & (b); CC: s.120(1)(a) & (b)	December 4, 2026
End of Period to Make Oath of Office for School Trustees (Voting*)	SA: s.50(1)(b)	December 5, 2026
End of Period to Make Oath of Office for School Trustees (Acclamation)	SA: s. 50(1) (a)	December 7, 2026
Start of Period to Destroy Election Material*	LGA: s.160(8)	December 17, 2026
End of Period for Runoff Election	LGA: s.152(5)	December 19, 2026
End of Period to File Campaign Financing Disclosure Statement with Elections BC	LECFA: s.47(1), s.56 & s.90	January 15, 2027
Start of Period for Late Filing of Campaign Financing Disclosure Statement with Elections BC (with late filing fee)	LECFA: s.47(2) & s.56	January 16, 2027
End of Period for Late Filing of Campaign Financing Disclosure Statement with Elections BC (with late filing fee)	LECFA: s.47(2) & s.56	February 16, 2027

*Deadline depends on when official election results declared

**Deadline depends on when the elected official takes office – this can vary based on when first meeting is and when the person takes their oath

Acronyms:

- a) CC – means *Community Charter*
- b) LGA – means *Local Government Act*
- c) LECFA – means *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*
- d) SA – means *School Act*

Note: These key dates are taken from the LGMA 2026 BC Local Elections Calendar and the School Trustee Election Procedures in British Columbia Guide. This document does not substitute for legal advice.