



**Village of Rycroft
Request for Decision
Council Meeting Date: December 15, 2020**

TOPIC: Election 2021 Returning Officer Appointments

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That Council approve Peter Thomas as the Returning Officer and Lisa Shaykowski as the Substitute Returning Officer for the Municipal Election in October 2021.

BACKGROUND: Section 13(1) of the *Local Authorities Election Act* states that Council is to appoint a Returning Officer and Substitute Returning Officer for the purpose of conducting elections. A general municipal election is scheduled for Monday, October 18, 2021.

The reason Council needs a Returning Officer in place this early is a person may file a nomination to become a candidate beginning on January 1. The nomination period ends at 12 noon on nomination day September 20, which is 4 weeks prior to the election day in October (Section 25(2a)).

If Council does not appoint a Returning Officer, then the duty falls to the secretary (CAO) (Section 13(2)). However, Council can make the motion now and eliminate any questions as to who is responsible for what. Also, we need to name the Substitute Returning Officer.

Although it is not been formally announced it is expected that the Provincial Government will be having a province-wide vote for the Senate and also for a referendum. So even if all municipal positions are acclaimed, we will still have to have participate in the voting for those 2 items. We will wait to see what those requirements are before finalizing our election date details.

The Returning Officers must take and subscribe to the official oath in the prescribed form (Section 16(1)).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: As listed above.

POLICY AND/OR LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS: Council must follow the requirements of the *Local Authorities Election Act*.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS:

1. Council could appoint a different Returning Officer and substitute.

ATTACHMENTS: None

Peter Thomas
Chief Administrative Officer

December 3, 2020
Date