2026 GENERAL LOCAL ELECTION

NOTICE OF NOMINATION

Public Notice is given to the electors of the City of Merritt that nominations for the office of:

- **Mayor – one (1)**
- **Councillor – six (6)**
- **School Trustee – three (3)**

to be elected for the four-year term ending in November 2030 will be received by the Chief Election Officer:

By hand, mail or other delivery service to:
City of Merritt Municipal Hall
PO Box 189, 2185 Voght Street, Merritt, BC V1K 1B8
or by email to: corporate@merritt.ca

From 9 am, Tuesday, September 1, 2026 to 4 pm Friday, September 11, 2026 (excluding statutory holidays and weekends)

Nomination packages are available at **www.merritt.ca** and at the City of Merritt Municipal Hall during regular office hours from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Candidates should call 250.378.8634 to make an appointment with the Chief Election Officer to submit your nomination papers.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE

A person is qualified to be nominated, elected, and to hold office as a member of the City of Merritt Council or School Board if they meet the following criteria:

- 18 years of age or older on general voting day (October 17, 2026);
- Canadian citizen;
- resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day nomination papers are filed; and,
- not disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or any other enactment from voting in an election in BC or from being nominated for, being elected to, or holding the office, or be otherwise disqualified by law.

CAMPAIGN PERIOD CANDIDATE & THIRD PARTY ADVERTISING EXPENSE LIMITS

In accordance with the *Local Elections Campaign Financing Act*, for the 2026 general local election, the following expense limits apply in the City of Merritt election area during the campaign period September 19, 2026 to close of voting on October 17, 2026 for:

APPLIES TO	MAYOR	COUNCILLOR	SCHOOL TRUSTEE
Candidates	$12,323.78	$6,161.89	$6,161.89
Third Party Advertising Sponsors	$924.28	$924.28	$924.28

For further information on campaign period expense limits and third party advertising limits, contact Elections BC: 1.800.661.8683
Email: Electoral.finance@elections.bc.ca Website: elections.bc.ca

LIST OF REGISTERED VOTERS

Beginning Tuesday, September 1, 2026 until the close of general voting for the general local election on Saturday, October 17, 2026, a copy of the list of registered electors will be available for public inspection during regular office hours at the City of Merritt Municipal Hall, 2185 Voght Street from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday, excluding statutory holidays. Before inspecting the list, a person must sign a statement that they will not inspect the list or use the information except for the purposes of Part 3 – Electors and Elections of the *Local Government Act*.

OBJECTION TO REGISTRATION OF AN ELECTOR

Any objection to the registration of a person whose name appears on the list of registered electors must be made in writing by a person eligible to be registered as an elector and submitted to the Chief Election Officer before 4 pm on Friday, September 11, 2026. Objections can only be made on the basis that the person whose name appears on the list of electors has died or is not qualified to be registered as an elector of the City of Merritt.

REQUEST TO OMIT OR OBSCURE PERSONAL INFORMATION

An elector may request that their address or other information about them be omitted from, or obscured on, the list of electors. Upon request, the Chief Election Officer will amend the list, which is available to the public and candidates. Submit your written request to the Chief Election Officer before September 1, 2026.

MAIL BALLOT VOTING

Mail ballot voting will be available to voters. In order to receive a mail ballot package you must first complete a Mail Ballot Application available online at merritt.ca or in person at the City of Merritt Municipal Hall. If you are not able to pick up a mail ballot package, please have your application to the Chief Election Officer by September 18, 2026 to allow sufficient time for a package to be mailed. Mail ballot packages must be sent out on or about September 25, 2026. To be counted, mail ballots must be received by the Chief Election Officer **no later than 8 pm on Saturday, October 17, 2026.**

ADVANCE ELECTOR REGISTRATION

Is your name on the current list of electors? Voters listed on the Elections BC Voters List as Merritt residents do not need to re-register. Visit elections.bc.ca to check or update your registration, or to register as a new voter in BC. Advance elector registrations will be accepted at the City of Merritt Municipal Hall until 4 pm, Tuesday, August 25, 2026. Except for new registrations in conjunction with voting, elector registrations will not be accepted during the period of August 25, 2026, to October 19, 2026. Electors wishing to register for the first time must do so at time of voting and produce two pieces of identification that provide evidence of the applicant's identity and place of residence, one of which must include the applicant's signature or alternately, provide two pieces of identification verifying identity in addition to making a solemn declaration as to the applicant's place of residence. Visit merritt.ca for a complete list of acceptable identification. Additional documentation (evidence of ownership) is required to register as a Non-resident Property Elector.

ELECTOR QUALIFICATIONS

Are you eligible to vote in the October Election?

RESIDENT ELECTORS:

- 18 years of age or older on general voting day (October 17, 2026);
- Canadian citizen;
- resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration;
- resident of the City of Merritt; and,
- not disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or any other enactment from voting in an election or be otherwise disqualified by law.

NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTORS:

- not entitled to register as a resident elector of the City of Merritt;
- 18 years of age or older on general voting day;
- Canadian citizen;
- a resident of British Columbia for at least 6 months immediately before the day of registration;
- a registered owner of real property in the City of Merritt for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration;
- not holding the property in trust for a corporation or any other trust; and,
- not disqualified under the *Local Government Act* or any other enactment from voting in an election or be otherwise disqualified by law.

If there is more than one registered owner of the property, you must be the owner who has the written consent of the majority of owners to register as the non-resident property elector (only one permitted per property).

Note: Registration and Consent forms are available at the Municipal Hall. A Non-resident Property Elector may only vote once in the City of Merritt, regardless of the number of properties that they may own.

Non-resident property owners are strongly encouraged to register in advance due to the specific information required for a complete registration. Please contact the Chief Election Officer for detailed information.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US:

Linda Brick, Chief Election Officer (250.378.8634)
Holly Ferris, Deputy Chief Election Officer (250.378.4224)
Email: corporate@merritt.ca