

**Subject: Land Use Bylaw Amendment – Election Sign Provisions –
Bylaw No. 15/021**

APPROVALS:

Bradley Evanson, Director
Brian Moore, Executive Director
Marcel Ulliac, Chief Administrative Officer

Administrative Recommendations:

THAT Bylaw No. 15/021, being an amendment to Land Use Bylaw No. 99/059 specific to Election Sign Provisions, be read a first time, and

THAT the required public hearing for Bylaw No. 15/021 be held on September 15, 2015.

Summary:

The proposed amendment to the Election Sign provisions within the Land Use Bylaw (Bylaw 99/059, Part 7A, Sec 150 inclusive and Part 7B, Sec 180 inclusive) would eliminate all current standards and references to election signage within the Bylaw, except for Sec 150.1/180.1 (election signs are permitted in all districts, and no Development Permit is required) and Sec 150.2/180.2 (time period election signs may be displayed).

Background:

The Sign Bylaw was originally enacted in 1996 in the Urban Service Area with the adoption of Bylaw 96/050. This bylaw was repealed and replaced in 2001 with the adoption of Bylaw 01/068, which amended the Land Use Bylaw to establish election sign provisions for both the Rural and Urban Service Areas.

The Election Sign provisions within the Land Use Bylaw were further amended when Bylaw 01/068 was ultimately repealed and replaced in early 2012 with the adoption of Bylaw 12/004. This bylaw established very specific criteria in the Land Use Bylaw for sign size, placement, and content within both the Rural and Urban Service Areas. The election sign standards were amended again in July 2013, to provide additional criteria for size and placement of signs on Municipal property and rights of way (Bylaw 13/018).

During the recent Provincial election, questions were raised regarding several of these restrictions contained within Land Use Bylaw (LUB). Specifically, these differences between how election signs are regulated and how signs generally are regulated and likely did not comply with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Rationale for Recommendation:

Legal counsel has indicated that the current election sign provisions may exceed the limits established under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. The revised language has been reviewed by legal counsel to ensure consistency with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Attachment:

1. Bylaw No. 15/021