



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

MEMORANDUM

TO: Will Pearce, Chief Administrative Officer **FILE:** 4200-03
PC: K. Poole, Director, Community Safety, Lands and Administration **DATE:** March 23, 2022
D. Law, Director, Financial Services
FROM: K. Austin, Manager, Legislative Services
SUBJECT: GENERAL LOCAL ELECTIONS BUDGET

Administration will be conducting the general local elections on October 15, 2022. The City allocates funding of \$25,000 annually to an election reserve to pay for the costs of conducting the elections. The current balance in the reserve for 2022 is \$101,500.

In 2021 the City conducted a by-election and expenses for election personnel were reviewed as some of the hourly rates fell below the BC Provincial minimum wage rate, therefore remuneration for 2022 versus 2018 will increase. It is also unknown what, if any, COVID safety protocols may be required. If physical distancing and extra cleaning protocols are required, this will increase the need for additional staffing. Finally, costs for election supplies have increased and may continue to rise. Supplies include legislated advertising, facility rental contracts, printing and shipping costs (ballots) to name a few.

Administration is recommending that \$30,000 be allocated to the election reserve, funded from the 2021 Unexpended Uncommitted balance to ensure that sufficient funds are available to conduct the 2022 general local elections.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council receives the memorandum titled "General Local Elections Budget" dated March 23, 2022 and respectfully submitted by the Manager, Legislative Services;

AND FURTHER, that Council direct Administration to allocate \$30,000 to the Election Reserve, source of funds 2021 Unexpended Uncommitted balance.

Respectfully submitted: