

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LANGLEY**

**ELECTION AND POLITICAL SIGNS BYLAW NO. 6118**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Bylaw No. 6118 sets out the rules and regulations regarding the placement of election and political signs on both public and private property within the Township of Langley.

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF LANGLEY**  
**ELECTION AND POLITICAL SIGNS BYLAW NO. 6118**

The Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Township of Langley, in Open Meeting Assembled, ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

**PART 1        CITATION**

**1.0**    This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "Township of Langley Election and Political Signs Bylaw No. 6118".

**PART 2        DEFINITIONS**

**2.0**

Advanced Voting Day	means advance polling day under the Canada Elections Act or advance voting opportunity under the Local Government Act, School Act (BC) or Election Act (BC), whichever is applicable.
Boulevard	means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) where there is no curb, the area between the shoulder of the road and the adjacent property line</li><li>b) where there is curb but no sidewalk, the area from the back of the curb or gutter to the adjacent property line or</li><li>c) where there is curb and a sidewalk, the area from the back of the sidewalk to the adjacent property line.</li></ul>
Bylaw	means the Township of Langley Election and Political Signs Bylaw No. 5834, as amended or replaced.
Candidate	means a person who is a registered candidate for election pursuant to the <i>Local Government Act</i> , the <i>School Act</i> (BC), the <i>Election Act</i> (BC), or the <i>Canada Elections Act</i> , as amended or replaced.
Candidate Representative	means a person who is appointed by a Candidate as a candidate representative for the purposes of the <i>Local Government Act</i> , the <i>Election Act</i> (BC) or the <i>Canada Elections Act</i> .
Centre Median	means an area designated for the segregation of lanes of traffic on a roadway, designated either by lines or landscaping.
Chief Election Officer	means the person appointed by Council as the Chief Election Officer pursuant to the Local Government Act, or

	the Deputy Chief Election Officer in the absence of the Chief Election Officer.
Council	means the Council of the Township of Langley.
Election or Political Sign	means a temporary sign designed or intended to be displayed in connection with Federal, Provincial, Local Government or School District No. 35 (Langley) elections, by-elections, referendum, or plebiscites.
Engineer	means the Director of Engineering or their designate and is the person authorized by Council to carry out the power and duties outlined in this bylaw.
General Voting Day	means polling day under the Canada Elections Act or general voting day under the <i>Local Government Act</i> , <i>School Act</i> (BC) or <i>Election Act</i> (BC), whichever is applicable.
Highway	means a common and public highway, street, avenue, roadway, lane, road allowance, bridge, and viaduct, which is intended for or used by the public for the passage of vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists, but does not include a private right-of-way on private property.
Park	means Township-owned land or right-of-way used for passive or active recreation including open space, sports fields, pitch and putt golf courses, playgrounds, walkways, trails, nature reserves, natural areas, wildlife sanctuaries, greenbelts, conservation areas, buffers, nature interpretation areas, and similar land uses.
Person	includes a property owner, strata corporation, candidate, candidate representative, political organization, or any other person under the direction of such an individual or organization.
Place	means place, erect, affix or attach.
Political Organization	includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) an "elector organization" within the meaning established in the <i>Local Government Act</i></li><li>(b) a "authorized canvasser" within the meaning established in the <i>Local Government Act</i></li><li>(c) a "political party" within the meaning established in the <i>Election Act</i> (BC) or <i>Canada Elections Act</i></li><li>(d) any incorporated or unincorporated organization which promotes or opposes the election of a candidate</li><li>(e) any incorporated or unincorporated organization which approves or disapproves of a course of action advocated</li></ul>

	by a candidate or another political organization
	(f) any incorporated or unincorporated organization which promotes or opposes an issue that is the subject of a referendum or plebiscite and
	(g) any incorporated or unincorporated organization which promotes or opposes a recall or initiative campaign.
Public Property	means all property owned by the Township and School District No. 35, which are not occupied for residential purposes, excluding all highways.
Roadway Structure	means a bridge, overpass, guardrail, retaining wall, fence, concrete barrier, fire hydrant, street light pole, utility pole, and crosswalk pole.
Shoulder	means where there is no curb, the area between the edge of the road and a line two metres, fifty centimetres (2.5 m) parallel to the edge of the roadway.
Sign Face	means the display areas of a political sign on which letter, symbols or pictures appear.
Structure	means a construction of any kind whether fixed to or supported by or sunk into land or water.
Township	means the Corporation of the Township of Langley.
Traffic Control Device	means a sign, line, meter, marking, space, barrier, or device that is painted, placed or erected to guide, regulate, warn, direct, restrict, control or prohibit traffic.

### **PART 3 DURATION AND POLITICAL PROCESSES**

3.0 A person shall not place, or permit to be placed, an election or political sign on public or private property, except in relation to:

3.1 Federal elections and by-elections in the Township, from the time the writ of election is issued until four (4) days after general voting day, and provided that such election or political sign is made solely in respect of a candidate within the riding where the sign is placed or which is made solely for a national party leader or which is made for both a candidate within the riding where the sign is placed and a national party leader;

3.2 Provincial elections and by-elections within the Township, from the time the writ of election is issued until four (4) days after general voting day, and provided that such election or political sign is made solely in respect of a candidate within the riding where the sign is placed or which is made solely for a provincial party leader or which is made for both a candidate within the riding where the sign is placed and a provincial party leader;

- 3.3 Township of Langley Local Government and School District No. 35 (Langley) Elections and by-elections, from 9:00 am on the twenty-first (21st) day prior to general voting day until four (4) days after general voting day;
- 3.4 Federal or Provincial referendum or plebiscites, from the day that the text of the question is approved by the Federal Parliament or by the Provincial Legislature, as the case may be, until four (4) days after general voting day;
- 3.5 Local Government and School District No. 35 (Langley) referendum or plebiscites, from 9:00am on the twenty-first (21st) day prior to general voting day, until four (4) days after the general voting day; and
- 3.6 Provincial recall or initiative campaigns, from the day that an application for recall or initiative is approved by the Chief Electoral Officer for BC until four (4) days after the final disposition of the matter.

**PART 4 PLACEMENT OF ELECTION OR POLITICAL SIGNS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY**

**4.0** A person must not place, or permit to be placed, an election or political sign on:

- (a) a highway or right of way
- (b) a boulevard, centre median, island, or sidewalk
- (c) any roadway structure or traffic control device
- (d) a tree, bush, planter, waste or recycling receptacle, newspaper box, mailbox, signpost, bridge or overpass structure
- (e) any other public property including land, buildings, structures, parks, gardens or equipment or
- (f) overhanging public property

**PART 5 PLACEMENT ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

**5.0** Election or political signs may be placed on private property in all zones, including single family, two family, multi-family zones, institutional, commercial, and industrial, and any lot in a Rural zone, provided that:

- 5.1** signs must have the consent of the property owner, occupant, or strata corporation in the case of a parcel containing strata lots, prior to placement.
- 5.2** signs are self-supporting and are not affixed to any freestanding object, such as a fence, tree, or public utility infrastructure.

**PART 6 REQUIREMENTS/RESTRICTIONS FOR ELECTION OR POLITICAL SIGNS**

**6.0** Election and political signs do not require a sign permit, but all election or political signs must adhere to the following requirements and restrictions:

**6.1** must have no more than two sign faces:

**6.2** all election or political signs must:

- (i) being no larger than 1.5 square metres in area; and
- (ii) not exceeding a maximum height of 1.8 metres above grade
- (iii) not exceeding a maximum width of 1.25 meters

**6.3** must not use the Township of Langley or the School District No. 35 logos, heraldic emblems or similar corporate identifiers for the purpose of any candidate's campaign activities;

**6.4** must not be animated, illuminated, reflective, rotating, flashing or have moving lights or other electrical features, including machine readable optical labels;

**6.5** must not have attachments such as balloons, kites, an electronic message centre or inflatable devices;

**6.6** must not be placed on an existing sign;

**6.7** must not be located within 100 metres of a voting place, during Federal, Provincial, Local and School District voting days, including but not limited to advance, general, referendum, and plebiscite voting days;

**6.8** must not resemble traffic control devices;

**6.9** must not be placed within five (5) metres of a fire hydrant;

**6.10** must not be placed within five (5) metres of a highway where the property is adjacent to an intersection;

**6.11** must not be placed in such a way as to create a potential hazard to vehicular, pedestrian or cyclist traffic, and must not obstruct the view of any portion of a traffic control device, signal or intersection or movement of motor vehicles, pedestrians, cyclist or any other traffic.

**6.12** must not be of a negative nature with actual or inferred profanity, caricatures, or inferences to a candidates' character, appearance or ethnicity, or directing people to a location with the same.

## **PART 7            ENFORCEMENT OF ELECTION OR POLITICAL SIGN REGULATIONS**

**7.0** If, in the opinion of the Township Engineer, or designate, at his or her sole discretion, an election or political sign erected constitutes a hazard to the safe and efficient movement of vehicular or pedestrian traffic, or otherwise violates any of the requirements listed in Part 6 of the Bylaw, the Engineer or designate may, immediately and without notice, remove the sign.

- 7.1** Election or political signs removed pursuant to the Bylaw will be stored at a Township facility and may be claimed by a candidate or candidate representative, or a person authorized by a candidate or candidate representative, within the time period permitted under the Bylaw.
- 7.2** Election or political signs removed pursuant to the Bylaw, and not claimed within ten (10) days, or within four (4) days after general voting day, whichever is earlier, become the property of the Township and may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the Township in its sole discretion, without notice to any person or any compensation owing to any person or any liability to the Township.
- 7.3** No person shall deface, damage or pull down or remove election or political signs unless created or placed by that person or is otherwise authorized by the Engineer or designate.

**PART 8 OFFENCES AND PENALTIES**

- 8.0** A Person who violates a provision of this Bylaw commits an offence under this Bylaw.
- 8.1** A person who commits an offence under this Bylaw is subject to any remedies or penalties available to the Township under provincial law including, but not limited to:
- (a) a bylaw notice fine issued under the Bylaw Notice Enforcement Bylaw 2008 No. 4703 and
  - (b) A fine of up to \$10,000 or a term of imprisonment of up to 3 months upon summary conviction.

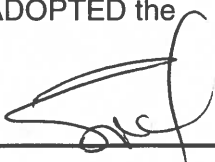

**PART 9 SEVERABILITY**

- 9.0** If any section, subsection or clause of this bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by the decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then the invalid portion must be severed and the remainder of this bylaw is deemed to have been adopted without the severed section, subsection or clause.

**PART 10 BYLAW NO. 5834 REPEALED**

- 10.0** "Township of Langley Election and Political Signs Bylaw No. 5834" is hereby repealed.

READ A FIRST TIME the	24	day of	March	, 2025
READ A SECOND TIME the	24	day of	March	, 2025
READ A THIRD TIME the	24	day of	March	, 2025
ADOPTED the	07	day of	April	, 2025

 \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  \_\_\_\_\_ Township Clerk

