



2026 Local Government Election Candidate Guide

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About the City of Campbell River

The City of Campbell River is a local government entity, governed by an elected council. The City provides services to more than 35,000 residents of Campbell River.

Like other municipalities in British Columbia, the City is guided by the [Community Charter](#) and the [Local Government Act](#), which establish the jurisdiction and governing powers of local governments.

Who We Are

Incorporated as a village in 1947 and later designated a municipal district, Campbell River became a city in 2005.

The citizens of Campbell River are represented by seven City Council members, including the Mayor.

City staff are organized into divisions and departments, which are guided by the overall leadership of the City Manager (the Chief Administrative Officer).

The City delivers a variety of day-to-day services such as water delivery, sewer, roads and parks maintenance, recreational programming, customer and financial services and much, much more. In all, the City delivers more than 100 services to the community!

The City also works to progress Council's strategic priorities. Current Council priorities are laid out in the 2023 to 2026 Strategic Plan. [Read Council's 2023 to 2026 Strategic Plan](#). They are:

- Healthy and Safe Community
- Housing
- Community Growth
- Collaboration
- Organizational Capacity

More information about how the City is working to support Campbell River and the community can be found in its financial plans and reports. [Read the City's Financial Plans and Annual Reports](#).

The City's motto is "*Enriched by Land and Sea*" and is reflected in Campbell River's Coat of Arms. To learn more about the Coat of Arms and other City symbols — such as the flag and City of Campbell River logo — go to the [City Crest, Logo, Flag webpage](#).

Get to Know Us Better

- Get the scoop on news and announcements in our online [newsroom](#).
- Keep up-to-date with what's happening in our online [Community Events Calendar](#).



Running For Council

Effective elected officials demonstrate leadership, professionalism, and a commitment to informed decision making.

Candidate Competencies

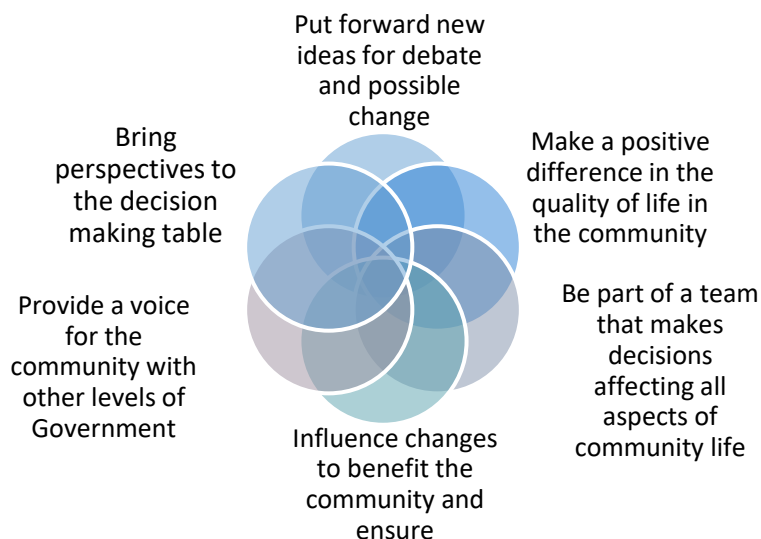
Knowledge & Abilities

The Mayor and Council represent the electorate in governing services within municipal boundaries. Council's role is to provide good governance, stewardship of public assets, local services, policy direction, and leadership for the current and future well-being of Campbell River.

There are no special occupational qualifications to be Mayor or Councillor. Helpful attributes include sound judgement, curiosity, respectful communication, commitment to learning, willingness to hear differing views, and the ability to make decisions in the public interest.

Key Competencies

Local government is the level of government closest to the day-to-day needs and expectations of residents. Council members have the opportunity to influence services, infrastructure, growth, land use, taxation, community partnerships and long-term priorities. The role can be demanding and rewarding.



Some competencies that are important in this role:

Leadership & Judgement

- Interest in community issues
- Commitment to learning
- Objective decision-making
- Prioritizing competing demands

Communication & Relationships

- Respectful relationships
- Clear communication
- Problem-solving
- Team participation

Professional Conduct

- Inspiring public trust
- Meeting deadlines
- Respecting differing opinions
- Accepting majority decisions

Knowledge & Technical Skills

- Procedure basics
- Familiarity with computers & internet is helpful
- Ongoing development

Eligibility and Nomination Requirements

A person is **qualified** to be nominated, elected, and to hold office as a member of local government if they meet the following criteria:

- Canadian citizen;
- 18 years of age or older on general voting day: Saturday, October 17, 2026;
- Resident of BC 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 being nominated for, being elected to or holding office, or being otherwise disqualified by law.

A person is **disqualified** as a candidate for office if they fall within any of the following categories:

- Are a Judge of the Provincial Court, Supreme Court or Court of Appeal;
- Are an employee of the City of Campbell River (unless a leave of absence is taken to run for office and agree to resign if elected);
- Are under sentence for an indictable offence and are in custody or in prison; or
- Are disqualified from candidacy under any law or enactment (i.e. failure to file a candidate disclosure statement in the previous election, not making an oath of office, etc.)

To become a candidate for this local government office, a person must be nominated by 2 qualified voters, either as a resident or a non-resident property elector in the electoral area for which the candidate is running. Any person who is entitled to make a nomination may sign as many nomination documents as there are offices to be filled. A candidate should be prepared to have additional nominators if one or more are ineligible to serve as nominators.

Nomination Period

The City's 2026 nomination period opens at **9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 1, 2026** and closes at **4:00 p.m. on Friday, September 11, 2026**.

Nomination packages are available starting **August 14, 2026** at City Hall reception during regular business hours or by email request to elections@campbellriver.ca.

Nomination packages generally include nomination documents, the required financial disclosure statement, candidate information, and appointment forms for financial agents, official agents and scrutineers, if applicable. Completed packages must be received by the Chief Election Officer before the deadline of Friday, September 11, 2026 at 4:00 pm. Late nominations cannot be accepted.

Candidates are encouraged to review the City candidate package, Elections BC materials, and applicable legislation carefully, and to seek independent legal advice where necessary.

Council Commitment

Elected Officials will serve a four-year term. The 2026 Council members will be sworn in at the Inaugural meeting held on November 2, 2026, at the Tidemark Theatre. Serious consideration should be given to the time commitment required to serve on Council, alongside personal life, work life, volunteer hours, and other priorities until October 2030.

Significant time is required to review materials in preparation for Council meetings, other meetings, and/or events. Serving on Council requires meaningful time for meetings, agenda review, public engagement, training, community events and committee or external appointments. Candidates should consider whether they have the time and flexibility to prepare, participate fully and respond respectfully to community needs.

Council members are expected to attend each meeting fully prepared to make informed decisions for the benefit of the community. Background work will be required to thoroughly read agenda packages, prepare questions, and be knowledgeable about the subject matter shared at a meeting. The Mayor, as chair, will also meet with the CAO to discuss strategic priorities, directions for bylaws, policies, programs and initiatives, as well as any ongoing problems, concerns, or questions.

Regular Meetings and Other Commitments

- Council members can expect two Regular Council meetings per month on average.
- Council members can expect two Committee of the Whole meetings per month on average.
- Other commitments may include strategic planning, special meetings, public hearings, community events, training, development sessions and conferences.
- Council members should expect a high volume of reading and preparation before meetings.

Special Meetings and Appointments

Special meetings may be scheduled in accordance with the City's procedures. Individual members of Council may also be appointed to represent the City on internal committees, external committees, boards or agencies. Meeting frequency varies by appointment.

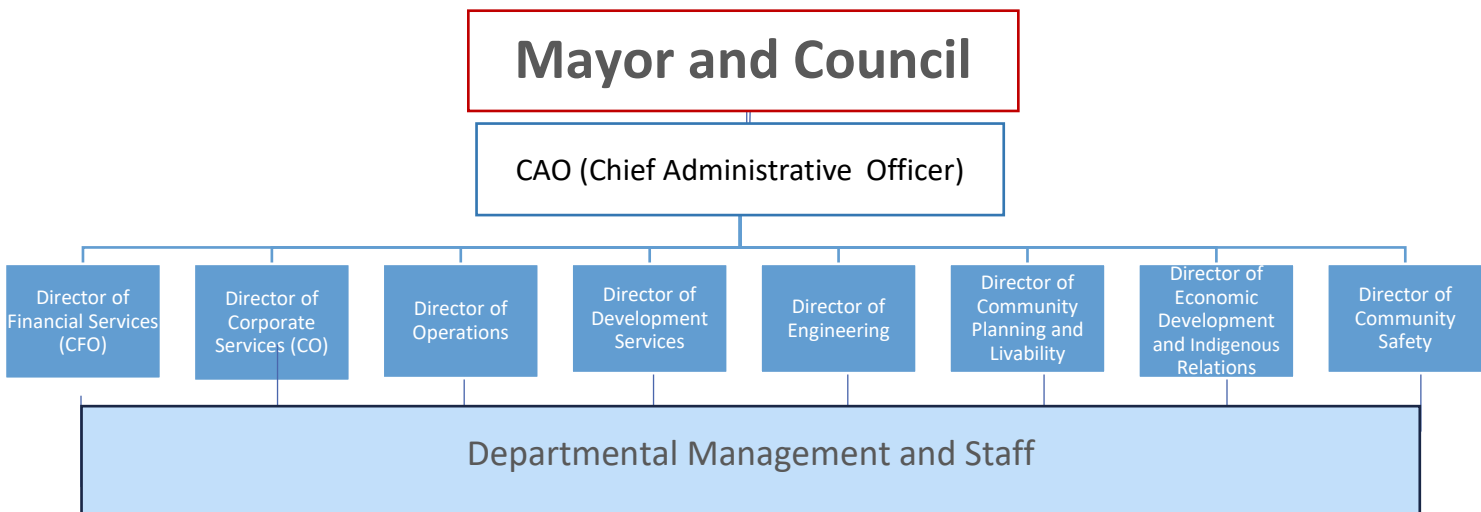
All Council members should anticipate annual travel to attend the different conferences and conventions.



City Governance

The Mayor and Council are responsible for setting a vision and priorities, developing strategies to achieve these, and providing policy direction. Council is comprised of seven elected officials: one (1) Mayor and six (6) Councillors.

Council is headed by the Chair, which is the Mayor. The CAO reports to Council and implements Council's policies and decisions and oversees all operations. The organizational chart below shows the basic governance structure, with the CAO serving as the conduit between Council and Staff.



Mayor and Council represent the needs and wishes of the residents within the city of Campbell River, to help ensure their perspectives are heard and considered.

Adopting Council Bylaws and Policy

Council directs staff to write, develop, and bring bylaws forward for consideration. Upon adoption, bylaws establish enforceable regulations and are a fundamental component of public policy. Some bylaws are mandatory and required by legislation, while others are discretionary to regulate specific community and service considerations.

Council policies shape our governance, strategic direction, and high-level decision-making, while Operational/Administrative policies that govern day-to-day activities are established by the CAO.



2026 Scheduled Meeting Dates

Committee of the Whole	Council
August 11	August 13
September 1	September 3
September 22	September 24
October 6	October 8
	October 22
November 2 (Inaugural Meeting)	
November 10 - Orientation	November 12
November 24 - Orientation	November 26
December 8 - Strategic Planning	December 10

Election Calendar

Election Period:

- *Thursday, January 1, 2026 – Friday, September 18, 2026*

Period beginning January 1 of election year until 29 days before General Voting Day. Campaigns must report all expenses incurred during the election.

Nomination Period:

- *Tuesday, September 1, 2026, 9:00 AM – 4 PM Friday, September 11, 2026.*

The period for candidates to submit their nominations to local election officials

Candidate packages can be picked up at the City Hall administration desk starting on August 14, 2026 at 8:30 AM

Candidates will be declared after 4:00 pm on September 11, 2026.

Pre-Campaign Period:

- *Monday, July 20 2026 – Friday, September 18, 2026*

At the beginning of this period, election advertising rules come into force and continue through General Voting Day.

Campaign Period:

- *Saturday, September 19, 2026 – Saturday, October 17 2026*

The period that begins on the 28th day before General Voting Day and ends at the close of voting on General Voting Day.

Candidate and third-party expense limits apply during this period.

Advance Voting Opportunity:

- *Wednesday, October 7, 2026, 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM*

Voting opportunity is held at the Community Centre (401 - 11 Avenue)

- *Wednesday, October 14, 2026, 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM*

Voting opportunity is held in the Sportsplex (1800 South Alder Street)

General Voting Day:

- *Saturday, October 17, 2026 @ 8:00 AM – 8:00 PM.*

Community Centre 401 - 11 Avenue

Sportsplex - 1800 South Alder Street

Official results will be announced no later than October 21 2026 at 4:00 PM

Campaign Financing Disclosure Statement Filing Deadline:

- *Friday, January 15, 2027*

Deadline to file campaign financing disclosure statements

Campaign Financing Disclosure Statement Late Filing Deadline:

- *Tuesday, February 16, 2026*

Final deadline to file campaign financing disclosure statements. Late filing – January 16 to February 16 incurs a \$500 late filing fee.

Review materials carefully

Watch key deadlines

Seek clarification early

If you require assistance or would like more information, please contact Brooke Raiqiso, Chief Election Officer, or Sheila Girvin, Deputy Chief Election Officer, at 250-286-5700 or elections@campbellriver.ca

City of Campbell River:

- [Candidate Information Session and Candidate Guide](#)
- [Code of Conduct](#)
- [Council and Committee of the Whole 2026 Meeting Scheule](#)
 - Agenda package Review – Agenda packages are to be reviewed in full prior to all meetings.
- Potential additional meetings: Public Hearings, Special Council meetings, Financial Planning deliberations, SRD Board monthly meetings, Comox Strathcona Waste Management (CSWM) Board meetings, Comox Strathcona Regional Hospital District (CSRHD) Board meetings, as required.
- Council members are frequently invited to civic functions and celebrations and receive a significant number of emails and phone calls from members of the public.
- [City of Campbell River Sign Bylaw No. 3309](#) – 6.8 Political Campaign Signs
 - a) Political Campaign Signs may have up to four (4) faces. The sign area of any one face shall not exceed 2.97m² (32 sq. ft.). The sign shall not exceed 2.13 m (7 ft) height.
 - b) Political Campaign Signs for the purposes of a local government or school district election shall not be erected prior to the start of the nomination period and shall be removed not later than seven (7) days following the date of the election.
 - c) Political Campaign Signs for the purposes of a federal or provincial election shall not be erected prior to an election writ being issued and shall be removed not later than seven (7) days following the date of the election.
 - d) Political Campaign Signs for the purposes of a federal, provincial, local government or school district referendum shall not be erected prior to thirty (30) days before the date of a referendum and shall be removed not later than seven (7) days following the date of the referendum.
 - e) Political Campaign Signs are not permitted on:
 - i) City or Provincial parks;
 - ii) Crown Lands;
 - iii) road right-of-way medians;
 - iv) on public property located along the east side of Highway 19A between 1st Avenue and Ocean Grove Road.
- The [Declaration of Candidates](#) will be posted on the City's website on September 11, 2026, after 4 p.m.
- Previous [Elections Results](#)
- [City of Campbell River Financial Plans and Reports](#)
- [City of Campbell River Strategic Plan](#)

Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs:

- [Thinking about running for Local Office](#)
- [What every Candidate Needs to Know](#)
- [Handbook for Local Candidates](#)

Elections BC:

- [2026 General Local Election Key Dates](#)
- [Guide to Campaign Financing for Local Candidates and Financial Agents in BC](#)
- [Guide to Campaign Financing for Elector Organizations and Financial Agents in BC](#)
- [Local Elections Campaign Financing Act](#)
- [Guide for Local Elections Third Party Sponsors in BC](#)
- [Forging the Path to Responsible Conduct](#)
- [Community Charter Conflict of Interest](#)
- [Local Government Act: Division 18 - Election Offences](#)



www.campbellriver.ca/elections

— *for more information* —



contact: elections@campbellriver.ca