

## Eligibility

Scrutineers represent candidates at the voting station, to ensure fairness and transparency; and, to observe election procedures and the counting of ballots.

Scrutineers must:

- Be 18 years of age or over on election day
- Be appointed by the candidate – in writing and signed through a completed Scrutineer Appointment Form
- Sign a Statement of Scrutineer (Form 16RSE) at each voting station observed
- Not have been convicted of an offense under the *Local Authorities Election Act*, the *Alberta Elections Act* or the *Canada Elections Act* within the past 10 years

Candidates may appoint a scrutineer to more than one voting station as the candidate's representative. Only ONE candidate's representative (official agent, scrutineer or the candidate themselves) may be at the voting station at any given time.

Before beginning observing at the voting station, the scrutineer must present the Scrutineer Appointment Form to the Voting Station Supervisor (PDRO) and sign a Statement of Scrutineer (Form 16RSE).

Scrutineers may leave and return to a voting station multiple times a day and do not need to sign multiple Statement of Scrutineer if it has already been signed and retained by the PDRO.

Candidates may change scrutineers throughout the day at each voting station.

## Observing Election Procedures

The PDRO at the voting station will designate the place from where a scrutineer may observe. The PDRO is mandated by law to maintain the peace and can ask a scrutineer to leave.

Scrutineers may:

- Verify the ballot box is empty prior to the voting station opening
- Observe the election process
- View the Special Ballot (mail-in ballot) Voter Registry
- Challenge an elector if the Scrutineer believes the elector is not eligible to vote
- Use cell phones while observing the election process, if:
  - o No audio or video recording occurs;
  - o No pictures are taken;
  - o No phone calls take place; and
  - o No audible sounds are played.

Note: The information on this website is provided for the convenience of reference only. Candidates are subject to further requirements in the *Local Authorities Election Act*. Candidates are advised to refer to the LAEA and obtain legal advice regarding the full extent of their obligations.



# Scrutineer Information

## At the Close of Vote

At the close of the voting station, the Scrutineer may observe the results being tabulated at the voting station (election day only) or at the Count Centre (located at City Hall - 400 Main Street SE) processing Advance, Institutional and Special ballots.

Scrutineers who leave the voting station at the close of vote at 8:00 PM or the Count Centre at 7:30 PM will NOT be able to re-enter the voting station.

Upon completion of the unofficial count, Scrutineers may request a copy of the tabulator results ballot account, which is a record of the unofficial count.

If concerns arise, Scrutineers may report their concerns to the Voting Station Supervisor (PDRO). If the supervisor is unable to resolve the concern, the Scrutineer may escalate their concerns to their candidate, who can address it with the Returning Officer.

The candidate and their official agent or scrutineer are not permitted to be in the voting station at the same time during voting hours or ballot counting. If a candidate or their agent wishes to speak with the scrutineer, it must be OUTSIDE of the voting station.

Scrutineers are:

- NOT permitted to view or interfere with the process of an elector marking a ballot.
- NOT allowed to vouch for an elector.
- NOT allowed to act as a friend of an elector requiring assistance marking their ballot
- NOT allowed to disturb the voting process to share their concerns.
- NOT allowed touch any voting station materials, equipment ballots or forms.
- NOT allowed to have campaign material (buttons, t-shirts, pamphlets) on voting station property and inside the voting station

If you have any further questions, please contact the elections office at [elections@airdrie.ca](mailto:elections@airdrie.ca)

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