

BACKGROUND

The Village of Lumby is considering whether to pursue the development of a Provincial Correctional Centre within the Village. A poll will be held for those citizens residing within the boundaries of the Village posing the question: *“Do you support pursuing the development of a Provincial Correctional Centre within the Village of Lumby?”*

Much concern has been expressed by residents of Electoral Area “D” with respect to the fact that only Village residents are, by legislation, able to vote on this matter as the proposed property is located within boundaries of the Village of Lumby.

LEGISLATION

What exactly is the "legislation" restricting the choice to Lumby's taxpayers?

Section 161 (1) of the *Local Government Act* states that in order to vote at other voting, a person must meet the qualification of Section 50 as a resident and Section 51 as a non-resident property elector in relation to the voting area as follows:

Section 50 - RESIDENT ELECTOR ELIGIBILITY

To register as a Resident Elector, you will be required to make a declaration that you meet all of the following requirements on the day of voter registration:

- You are 18 years of age;
- You are a Canadian citizen;
- You have been a resident of BC for at least 6 months immediately preceding the day of registration;
- You have been a resident **of the jurisdiction** for at least 30 days immediately preceding the day of registration; and
- You are not otherwise disqualified by law from voting.

Section 51 - NON-RESIDENT PROPERTY ELECTOR VOTER ELIGIBILITY

To register as a Non-resident Property Elector, you will be required to make a declaration that you meet all of the following requirements on the day of voter registration:

- You are 18 years of age;
- You are a Canadian citizen;
- You have been a resident of BC for at least 6 months immediately preceding the day of registration;
- You have been a registered owner of real property **in the jurisdiction** for at least 30 days immediately before the day of registration;
- You are not entitled to register as a resident elector of the jurisdiction;
- You are not otherwise disqualified by law from voting.

OPINION POLL

Although the legislation restricts voting to residents and registered property owners **in the jurisdiction** (Village of Lumby), Electoral Area “D” Director, Rick Fairbairn, has requested that an opinion poll be conducted for Electoral Area “D” residents. Accordingly, a ballot poll which mirrors the Village of Lumby’s process will occur, recognizing that the process cannot influence the legal process within the legislation. This opinion poll will be conducted in the same manner as a referendum, however, the results will be non-binding. As the poll results will be presented to the Village of Lumby for their consideration; it is hoped that it will provide an avenue for those residents of Electoral Area “D” to express their opinion either for or against the proposal.

Look for more information on this Opinion Poll in the coming weeks at www.rdno.ca