



2026 All Candidates Meeting

Candidate Information & Meeting Format

Sunday, October 4, 2026 | 1:00–3:00 p.m.

Lions Bay Community School Gymnasium – 250 Bayview Road

The Village of Lions Bay is hosting an All Candidates Meeting to provide electors with an opportunity to hear directly from candidates seeking election as Mayor and Councillor. All-candidate forums are a recognized means through which local governments and community organizations provide candidates an opportunity to communicate their positions to electors.

The meeting will be conducted by an independent facilitator and structured to provide candidates seeking the same office with an equal and fair opportunity to participate.

Meeting Format

The meeting will run for approximately two hours and will include:

Welcome and Meeting Guidelines

The facilitator will open the meeting, introduce the candidates and briefly review the format and expectations for the afternoon.

1. Opening Statements

Each candidate will have an opportunity to make a brief opening statement.

- Councillor candidates - **1 minute**
- Mayoral candidates - **1½ minutes**

2. Questions to Councillor Candidates

All eight candidates for Councillor will be asked the **same questions** and provided the **same amount of time** to respond.

Responses will generally be limited to **1 minute per candidate**.

3. Questions to Mayoral Candidates

Both candidates for Mayor will be asked the **same questions** and provided the **same amount of time** to respond.

Responses will generally be limited to **2 minutes per candidate**.

4. Community Questions

A portion of the meeting will be dedicated to questions submitted by members of the



community. Questions may be consolidated or neutrally reworded where appropriate to avoid duplication and allow a range of municipal issues to be addressed.

Questions will be selected and presented by the facilitator. There will not be an open microphone.

5. Closing Statements

Each candidate will have an opportunity to make a brief closing statement.

- Councillor candidates - **1 minute**
- Mayoral candidates - **1½ minutes**

Speaking Order and Fairness

Speaking order will rotate throughout the meeting so that candidates have opportunities to respond at different points in the sequence. For the two mayoral candidates, the candidate responding first will alternate between questions.

The order will be established in advance and administered by the facilitator. This approach is intended to avoid systematically advantaging or disadvantaging any candidate based on speaking position.

A timer will be used and the same time limits will apply to all candidates seeking the same office.

Meeting Conduct

The meeting is intended to be a **moderated question-and-answer forum, not a candidate-to-candidate debate.**

Candidates are welcome to express different views and to disagree with the positions, proposals or public records of other candidates within their allotted response time.

There will, however, be no formal rebuttals, candidate-to-candidate questioning or additional rights of reply.

Candidates are asked to focus their comments on municipal issues, decisions, policies, priorities and matters relevant to the office they are seeking. Personal attacks, interruptions, harassment or comments directed at individual municipal employees will not be permitted.

The facilitator will apply the meeting guidelines consistently to all candidates.

Questions and Candidate Statements

Questions will not be provided to candidates in advance.

Candidates are responsible for the content and accuracy of their own statements. The facilitator will not adjudicate disputed facts or determine which candidate's interpretation



of an issue is correct. Municipal staff will not participate in the political discussion or respond to statements made by candidates during the meeting.

Audience Conduct

Members of the audience will be asked to allow each candidate to speak without interruption. Heckling, calling out, booing or other disruptive behaviour will not be permitted.

To ensure candidates are able to respond under comparable conditions, the audience will also be asked to hold applause and other reactions until the conclusion of each section.

Purpose

The Municipality's role is to provide a fair, orderly and informative opportunity for electors to hear directly from the candidates. The Municipality does not endorse or oppose any candidate or position.

Candidates are asked to **arrive sufficiently in advance of the 1:00 p.m. start** to allow for seating and final organizational matters.

Ross Blackwell, Chief Elections Officer
Village of Lions Bay