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## Instructions of the Chief Electoral Officer

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**DATE:** 23 October 2023

**TO:** ELECTION OFFICERS – ALL NWT ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

**FROM:** Chief Electoral Officer

**RE:** Use of cell phones in polling places

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This instruction is issued pursuant to sections 8(2) and 122(3) of the  *Elections and Plebiscites Act* (the “Act”).

This instruction serves to clarify the use of cell phones in a polling station or other place where voting is conducted.

Election officers may use cell phones in a polling station or other place where voting is conducted to check the time or to message by text or email. Phone calls must be placed outside of the polling station.

An elector may use a cell phone in a polling station or other place where voting is conducted to retrieve digital data for the purpose of proving his or her identity or residence to an election officer.

The recording of an image is strictly prohibited for all persons present in a polling station or other place where voting is conducted. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, taking a photograph or video of a marked ballot.