

## WRITTEN DIRECTIVE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

TO: CANDIDATES, OFFICIAL AGENTS, ELECTIONS OFFICERS, and ELECTORS IN THE 2022 TU NEDHÉ-

WIILIEDEH BY-ELECTION

**RE:** BY-ELECTION PROCEDURES

Pursuant to sections 9 and 9.1 of the *Elections and Plebiscites Act* (the "Act"), given the ongoing COVID 19 public health emergency in the Northwest Territories and the Chief Public Health Officer's Orders including the Temporary Partial Suspension of Gatherings Order effective January 4 – 21, 2022, and as noted in the December 21, 2021 Elections NWT Press Release, the Chief Electoral Officer directs the following adaptations to carry out the intent of the Act:

- 1. The Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh by-election will be held by way of absentee (mail-in) ballot format.
- 2. All Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh electors who are registered on the voters list as of January 14, 2022 will be mailed a ballot package on January 17.
- 3. All electors are encouraged to confirm they are on the voters list as soon as possible. Anyone who registers on the list after January 14, 2022 must be registered by January 29, 2022 to ensure they receive a ballot in time to cast their vote.
- 4. We encourage all registered electors who wish to cast their ballot by mail to do so by January 28, 2022. Registered electors are all able to drop-off their completed mail-in ballot package to:
  - a. Office of the Returning Officer on the 1st floor of the Det'on Cho building, 900 Sikyea Tili in Ndılo;
  - b. Elections NWT, on the 3rd floor of YK Centre East, 4915 48th Street in Yellowknife; or
  - c. Additional Assistant Returning Officers ("AARO") Jeanette Lockhart (Łutselk'e) at (867) 785-0109 or Lorraine Villeneuve (Fort Resolution) at (867) 688 1705.

All ballot packages submitted to Elections Officials at these locations shall be kept securely until they are transmitted to the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer.

- 5. All ballots must be received by 8pm, February 8, 2022.
- 6. All ballots, whether mailed-in or submitted to Elections Officials as per above, will be counted in the same poll and at the same time. Accordingly, all ballot packages will be returned to the Office of the CEO for counting without delay after the close of polls, but because of this, unofficial results of the byelection will not be available until February 9 at the earliest.



If electors have any questions they can contact the Returning Officer, Amanda Mallon at <a href="mailto:RO\_TuNedheWiilideh@electionsnwt.ca">RO\_TuNedheWiilideh@electionsnwt.ca</a> or contact Elections NWT at (867) 767-9100 or (toll-free) 1-844-767-9100.

This written directive is made to ensure the health and safety of the public and of election workers, and to maintain the effective and efficient running of this by-election.

It is of the utmost importance for Elections NWT to ensure the Tu Nedhé-Willideh by-election is run in the safest manner possible, while staying in compliance with the *Elections and Plebiscites Act* and following the public health orders from the CPHO.