

## MINISTER'S ORDER RESCHEDULING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT GENERAL ELECTION DATES

WHEREAS the Province of Saskatchewan is under a winter storm warning that has the potential to disrupt general local government elections scheduled for November 9, 2020, as set out in *The Local Government Election Act, 2015* (the Act).

AND WHEREAS subsection 7(2) of the Act provides:

"7(2) If a thing required pursuant to this Act to be done at or within a set time cannot be or is not done, the minister may, by order, appoint a further or other time for doing the thing, whether the time within which it ought to have been done has or has not expired, and a thing done within the time appointed by the minister is deemed to have been done within the time set pursuant to this Act".

AND WHEREAS subsection 16(5) of the Act provides:

"16(5) If an election is not held in accordance with section 10, the minister may, by order, extend the term of the office of any member of council for a time sufficient for an election to be held in accordance with section 10".

## IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. If in the opinion of a Returning Officer appointed under the Act, the weather conditions on November 9, 2020 impede the ability for voters to attend the poll(s) in order to vote, including in situations where voting day polls have already opened, the Returning Officer may postpone the general election of the municipality, school division or ward, as the case may be, scheduled to take place on November 9, 2020 to a date on or before November 25, 2020.

2. On postponing a poll pursuant to clause 1, the Returning Officer shall post a notice in a conspicuous public location at the established polling place:

(a) advising that the poll has been postponed; and

(b) specifying the date of a new poll(s) that shall occur on or before Wednesday, November 25, 2020.

3. If a Returning Officer postpones an election, the terms of office of the existing council members shall be extended until the date of the first meeting after the date of the new poll(s).

4. The first meeting of council shall be held within 14 days after the date of the new election day poll(s).

5. The provisions set out in the Act shall continue to apply to votes taken at the new election day poll(s) and to the procedures to be followed after the poll(s) closes.

6. This Order is not intended to affect general elections, as defined in the Act:

(a) that have taken place prior to November 9, 2020; or

(b) with respect to which no polling is scheduled to take place for any office in accordance with sections 77 and 78 of the Act.

If a Returning Officer decides to postpone the election day poll(s) after the poll(s) have already opened, Returning Officers are strongly encouraged to treat election materials, including ballot boxes, election records, supplies and materials, and voters lists, if applicable, in accordance with sections 85, 86 and 87 of *The Local Government Election Act, 2015* with any necessary modification.

Dated at Regina, Saskatchewan, this <u>9th</u> day of November, 2020.

Honourable Lori Carr, CD

Minister of Government Relations and

Minister Responsible for First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs