



# Media Release

September 22, 2026  
For immediate release

## RDCK voters set to go to the polls in eight electoral areas 2026 Local General Election

Nelson, BC: The local general election for the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is less than a month away. The RDCK will hold elections in eight of its 11 electoral areas. Every four years, local general elections are held across British Columbia and include elections for regional district electoral areas, municipal councils, and boards of education. General voting day in the RDCK is Saturday, October 17.

Three RDCK Regional Directors were officially elected by acclamation:

|                                               |                          |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Office of Director of Electoral Area D</b> | Aimee Watson (incumbent) |
| <b>Office of Director of Electoral Area F</b> | Tom Newell (incumbent)   |
| <b>Office of Director of Electoral Area I</b> | Chris Popoff             |

The RDCK will hold elections in Electoral Areas A, B, C, E, G, H, J and K. Here are the candidates for each Electoral Area:

|                         |                                               |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Electoral Area A</b> | Forrest Demman<br>Garry Jackman (incumbent)   |
| <b>Electoral Area B</b> | Roger Tierney (incumbent)<br>Danny Turner     |
| <b>Electoral Area C</b> | Mike Martel<br>Kelly Vandenberghe (incumbent) |
| <b>Electoral Area E</b> | Erin Fitchett<br>Landon Veregin               |

**Electoral Area G**

Anna Bundschuh  
Susan Chew  
Nathen Rushforth

**Electoral Area H**

Jae Hamilton  
Will Parker  
Kevin Shaw

**Electoral Area J**

Henny Hanegraaf (incumbent)  
Gordon Zaitsoff

**Electoral Area K**

Tina Knooihuizen  
Teresa Weatherhead (incumbent)

**[Declaration of Election by Voting and Acclamation](#)**

While the general voting day is Saturday, October 17 (8:00 am to 8:00 pm), there will be advance voting opportunities on Wednesday, October 7 and Wednesday, October 14 (Area H only) (8:00 am to 8:00 pm). [Click here for the complete list of voting locations for both the general voting day and advance voting day.](#)

The RDCK also has the ability to vote by mail ballot. As a registered voter you may request a ballot up until October 14, 2026. To request a mail order ballot please do so by contacting the Chief Elections Officer at 250.352.8173 or email [elections@rdck.bc.ca](mailto:elections@rdck.bc.ca).

For more information on the 2026 general local election, including voter registration go to [www.rdck.bc.ca/elections](http://www.rdck.bc.ca/elections).

*Incorporated in 1965, the Regional District of Central Kootenay (RDCK) is a local government that serves 60,000 residents in 11 electoral areas and nine member municipalities. The RDCK provides more than 160 services, including community facilities, fire protection and emergency services, grants, planning and land use, regional parks, resource recovery and handling, transit, water services and much more. For more information about the RDCK, visit [www.rdck.ca](http://www.rdck.ca).*

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