Becoming a candidate in municipal elections

Municipalities with a population of under 5,000

DGE-1141-VA (25-02)

élections Québec

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Word from the Chief Electoral Officer

Are you thinking of running as a candidate in your municipality's upcoming election? This guide will help you determine whether you are eligible to be a candidate, fill out your declaration form, and understand the main rules governing the election and political financing. Your involvement in the democratic process is an important step, and this guide contains the information you need to make it rewarding and successful.

The provisions and rules to be respected during a municipal election are set out in the *Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities* (CQLR, c. E-2.2). Feel free to consult it.

During a municipal election, the reference person is the returning officer of your municipality. This person is usually the clerk or the clerk-treasurer. Since this person is responsible for ensuring the election runs smoothly, you can contact them if you have any questions. They use the *Act* to answer your questions and guide you.

However, before you officially become a candidate, you have certain responsibilities. Make sure you understand the eligibility criteria and that you meet all the necessary requirements.

Remember that your campaign needs to be respectful of all stakeholders.

Thank you for your involvement in municipal democracy, and I hope you have a successful election campaign.

The Chief Electoral Officer

Jean-François Blanchet

Introduction

This guide is designed to help you with the responsibilities you must fulfill before becoming a candidate.

These responsibilities are as follows:

- Make sure you are eligible to run as a candidate.
- Choose the seat you will be running for.
- Choose to associate with a recognized ticket or run as an independent candidate.
- Fill out your nomination paper, including collecting supporting signatures and confirming your eligibility with an oath.
- File your completed nomination paper at your returning officer's office.

CHAPTER 1 Knowing the requirements for filing a nomination paper

Your first responsibility is to make sure that you are eligible, meaning that you have the right to run as a candidate. You must do this before swearing an oath in your nomination paper.

The returning officer cannot give their opinion on your eligibility. To confirm if you are eligible to run as a candidate, you can consult the sections of the *Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities* (AERM) or contact an attorney.

1.1 Eligibility requirements

Eligibility means the right to run as a candidate for a seat on the municipal council.

In order to be eligible[1], you must:

- ☑ **be eligible to be registered on the list of electors** of the municipality by meeting all of the following criteria on polling day:
  - be at least **18 years** of age;
  - have Canadian citizenship;
  - not have lost your right to vote because of tutorship;
  - not have been convicted of a corrupt electoral practice within the previous five years;
  - be in one of the following situations:
    - be domiciled in the territory of the municipality and have been domiciled in Québec for at least six months;
    - own a building or occupy a business establishment located on the territory of the municipality for at least 45 days on polling day;
- ☑ **reside** in the territory of municipality when filing your nomination paper;
- ☑ not be in a situation of ineligibility.

These conditions apply to both general elections and by-elections.

1. *Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities* (AERM), ss. 47, 54, and 61.

* Highlighted words are defined in the glossary on page 22.

If you meet the criteria above, you have the right to be registered on the list of electors of the municipality. There is, however, one exception: if your domicile is not in the municipality, but the residence that makes you eligible is co-owned or constitutes a business establishment of which you are a co-occupant, you must take additional steps before you are eligible and have the right to be registered on the list of electors (see section 1.1.2).

You do not need to be registered on the list of electors to be eligible; you simply need to have the right to be registered on it.

1.1.1 Are you domiciled in the municipality?

BEING DOMICILED IN THE TERRITORY OF THE MUNICIPALITY

A domicile is distinct from a residence. A person can have several residences, but only one domicile.

A residence is the place where you usually live. If you have only one residence, that residence is deemed to be your domicile. However, if you have several residences, your domicile is the place you consider to be your principal residence, meaning the address you use to exercise your civil rights[2].

There are a number of ways you can show your intention to establish your domicile: by using this address on your various identity cards (driver's license, etc.), to receive your personal mail or file your income tax return, for example.

2. *Civil Code of Québec*, art. 75 et seq.

1.1.2 Do you own a cottage or live in a secondary residence (non-domiciled elector)?

The AERM states that a person may run as a candidate "if he resides in the territory of the municipality."[3]. Therefore, you do not need to have your domicile in the municipality; you can simply have a secondary residence there in a building you own or occupy a business establishment. For example, if you own a cottage in a municipality, you can run as a candidate there. In this case, you are a non-domiciled elector.

RESIDING IN THE TERRITORY OF THE MUNICIPALITY

The notion of residence implies a certain stability. It is a place where a person ordinarily resides, without having to live there continuously[4].

Although a person can only have one domicile, they may have multiple residences. A secondary dwelling that you own and use on a regular basis, such as a summer cottage, can be a residence.

On the other hand, an inn or hotel where you are just passing through is not a residence. Likewise, having a business at a certain address does not make that place a residence, even if you spend some nights there.

A person may therefore reside in a municipality without having established domicile there.

Example

General elections, polling day: November 2, 2025

→ Eric has been domiciled in Québec City for over 20 years. He has a job in Beaumont since July 2024. To avoid the daily commute between these two cities, he owns a cottage in Beaumont since September 6, 2024. He lives there from Sunday evening to Friday. However, he considers his domicile to be in Québec City, since his family lives there. His Québec City address appears on his driver's license.

- Eric is of full age.
- He is a Canadian citizen.
- He has not lost the right to vote because of tutorship.
- He has not been convicted of a corrupt electoral practice in the previous five years.

Conclusion: Eric is eligible in Beaumont.
He resides in the municipality when he files his nomination paper and meets the other eligibility criteria. He may also be entered on the list of electors if he submits an application for entry to the returning officer.

3. AERM, section 61.
4. *Civil Code of Québec*, art. 77.

BEING ELIGIBLE TO BE ENTERED ON THE LIST OF ELECTORS

If you are the sole owner of a building or occupant of a business establishment, you do not need to take any steps to run as a candidate. However, if there are several owners or occupants, only the person mandated among them will have the right to be entered on the list of electors and to stand as a candidate[5]. Contact the returning officer to get the form you need to fill out.

Example

→ Johanne has been domiciled in Lévis for three years. She has been an accountant at a business establishment in Portneuf for over 10 years. Her co-worker, Jonathan, was mandated through power of attorney as co-occupant of the business.

- Johanne is of full age.
- She is a Canadian citizen.
- She has not lost the right to vote because of tutorship.
- She has not been convicted of a corrupt electoral practice in the previous five years.

Conclusion: Johanne is not eligible in Portneuf.
In this situation, she cannot be registered on the list of electors of Portneuf and is therefore ineligible. To become eligible, the power of attorney would have to designate her as an elector instead of Jonathan.

1.1.3 Is your municipality divided into districts or wards?

If your municipality is divided into districts or wards, you can run for the seat of your choice, regardless of where your residence or domicile is located. However, you will not be able to vote for yourself if your residence is in a district or ward other than the one in which you are running as a candidate.

5. AERM, section 55.1.

1.2 Ineligibility situations[6]

In certain situations, you do not have the right to run as a candidate; these are ineligibility situations. The main situations are below; you will find a complete list in the appendix.

YOU HAVE AN INCOMPATIBLE JOB OR DUTIES

Certain jobs and duties are considered incompatible with a seat on the municipal council. The people who occupy them are therefore ineligible to run as a candidate.

You cannot run as a candidate if you:

- work for the municipality (some exceptions apply, including volunteer firefighters and other first responders);
- are a member of the council of this municipality (except during general elections);
- are a member of the council of another municipality (except during general elections);
- have already run for a seat in this or another municipality in the same election.

To become eligible, you must no longer have the incompatible job or duties when you file your nomitation paper.

Examples

General elections

→ Farah is a councillor of the municipality in Seat 5. She hopes to run for mayor in the 2025 general elections. Since all seats are up for election, she does not have to resign her seat before running for mayor.

By-election

→ Lorraine is a councillor in Seat 4. The mayor of her municipality has just resigned, so a by-election is called. Lorraine wants to run for mayor, but since she is a councillor, she is ineligible. She must therefore resign from her seat as councillor before filing her nomination paper for mayor.

→ Tom is the assistant city manager of a municipality. Councillor Seat 6 has just been vacated following the councillor's death. Tom wishes to run as a candidate. In order not to be ineligible, he must resign from his position as assistant city manager before running for a seat on the municipal council.

6. AERM, sections 62 to 67, 301 to 307 and, in the case of a by-election, section.

YOU DID NOT COMPLY WITH ELECTION RULES DURING PREVIOUS ELECTIONS

If you have been found guilty of a corrupt electoral practice within the last five years, you are ineligible. Only at the end of this period can you run for a seat on a municipal council.

NOTE You are responsible for ensuring you are eligible before running as a candidate. The returning officer cannot give their opinion on the matter. You must confirm under oath that you are eligible in your nomination paper. If necessary, consult a legal advisor.

1.3 Consequences of running as an ineligible candidate

You are committing an offence if you run as a candidate knowing that you are ineligible and you may be subject to legal proceedings. If you are found guilty, you will have to pay a fine and you will not be allowed to be a member of a municipal council or run for a seat on a municipal council for five years[7].

7. AERM, sections 66, 632 (1), 639, and 301.

CHAPTER 2 Having a ticket recognized

In general elections, several candidates may form a ticket[8]. If this ticket is recognized, its name will appear on the ballot paper and on the notice of election, under the names of the candidates who are part of it. This ticket's name will be protected; no other ticket will be able to use it.

A recognized ticket must have a leader. This person is often a candidate for mayor, but does not have to be. In fact, they are under no obligation to run for a seat in the election.

The ticket may also include one or more other people running for different seats.

For a ticket to be recognized, its leader must apply in writing to the returning officer during the nomination period, between the 44th day and the 30th day before polling day. They must comply with the days and times indicated on the notice of election.

The application must include the following:

- The name of the ticket
- The address at which the ticket can receive written communications
- The name, address, and telephone number of the leader of the ticket
- The given name, surname, address, and signature of at least 10 electors in the municipality who support the creation of the ticket. These may be candidates running under this banner[9].

The ticket name must not contain the word "independent." Furthermore, to avoid misleading electors, it must not resemble the name of another ticket[10].

The returning officer will grant recognition to any ticket that submits a complete application and whose name meets these criteria.

This recognition will be valid for the current general election and for all by-elections held between then and the next general elections[11]. If the ticket wishes to continue to be recognized after this period, it will have to submit a new application for recognition.

8. AERM, section 147.
9. AERM, section 149.
10. AERM, sections 150 and 151.
11. AERM, section 150.

CHAPTER 3 Completing and filing a nomination paper

3.1 Obtaining the nomination paper

To become a candidate, you must fill out the nomination paper (SM-29) provided by the returning officer.

3.2 Filing period for nomination papers

You may file a nomination paper between the 44th day and the 30th day before polling day, in accordance with the schedule set by the returning officer. On the 30th day before polling day (which is a Friday), the returning officer will be available to receive nomination papers between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., without interruption. After 4:30 p.m. on that day, no papers may be filed. On other days, the schedule varies[12].

To find out the schedule for filing nomination papers in your municipality, consult the public notice of election before going to the municipality.

3.3 Persons authorized to file your nomination paper

You can file your nomination paper yourself. If you are unable to do so, someone else can file it on your behalf. In this case, you must ensure that the form is properly completed, that you have taken your oath before a person authorized to administer it, and that the person has all the required documents, including an original piece of identification (see page 11 to find out which document to present).

3.4 The person who receives your nomination paper

In most cases, the returning officer will receive your nomination paper. However, they may delegate this responsibility to another person, such as the **election clerk** or the **assistant authorized to receive nomination papers**. The names of these persons appear on the notice of election[13].

12. AERM, section 153.
13. AERM, sections 73 and 153.

3.5 Nomination papers

Be sure to fill out all sections of your nomination paper.

Header

Enter the name of the municipality and the polling date.

Leave the section reserved for election officers blank. The person who greets you when you file your declaration enters the date and time to confirm the time of filing. They must be included within the schedule provided for in the election notice.

SECTIONS 1 TO 8 must all be filled out for the returning officer to accept your filed nomination paper.

SECTION 1: PERSON WISHING TO BE A CANDIDATE

Surname, given name

Enter your given name and surname[14].

The ballot paper will show your given name and surname **exactly** as you have entered them here.

You can enter a name other than the one you were given at birth or that has been officially entered in the register of acts of civil status. However, this name needs to be consistently known in your political, professional, or social life. For example, it can be an pseudonym, your spouse's name, a nickname, a diminutive, or an initial. If you wish to enter such a name, you must check the appropriate box[15].

Examples

- Marguerite Tremblay is an author known as Margot T. She is known everywhere by that name; no one calls her Marguerite any more. She could therefore write Margot T. on her nomination paper and check the appropriate box.
- Robert Turcotte has always included the initial B. in front of his surname to distinguish himself. He would like to campaign with this initial. He can do so if he includes this initial in his surname and checks the appropriate box.

14. AERM, section 154.
15. AERM, section 155.

Date of birth

Enter your date of birth[16]. It must also appear on the identification you provide.

The returning officer will ensure that you are 18 years of age or older on polling day.

Address on the territory of the municipality

Enter the address* that makes you eligible within the territory of the municipality[17] :

- If your domicile is within the municipality, enter this address.
- If you have a residence in the municipality, enter its address rather than that of your domicile located in another municipality

The returning officer will verify that the address is in the municipality. They will also ensure that you are not on the list of ineligible persons sent by the Chief Electoral Officer.

Example

→ Carlos Santos wishes to run as a candidate for councillor of District 3 in the Municipality of Kamouraska. He considers his domicile to be in Drummondville, but has been residing in Kamouraska every summer for the past two years. On his nomination paper, he will enter the address of his residence in Kamouraska, even if it is not his domiciliary address.

* If your nomination paper is accepted, other candidates may ask to receive a copy. In this context, the returning officer will redact your address, since it is not public, in accordance with the provisions of the AERM[18].

Telephone number and email address

This information is optional. It will be used by the returning officer.

If you check the appropriate box, this information will appear on the copies of the nomination paper that will be given to other candidates and to electors who request it. Otherwise, it will be redacted.

Identity document

You must provide an original piece of identification that meets the following two requirements[19] :

- It contains at least your name and date of birth.
- It was issued by the Government of Québec or of Canada[20].

16. AERM, section 154.
17. AERM, section 156.
18. AERM, section 659.
19. AERM, section 162.
20. The identification may also come from a department or agency of either government, a public body, or a civil servant authorized to issue copies of or extracts from the acts of civil status.

For example, you can provide your driver's license, health insurance card, passport, or citizenship certificate.

You cannot provide government identification from another province (for example, an Ontario driver's license).

The returning officer will examine your identification to verify that you will be at least 18 years of age on polling day. They will make a copy of your document, certify it as a true copy, and keep it with your nomination paper, then return the original document to you.

If you do not file your nomination paper yourself, be sure to give an original piece of identification to the person filing on your behalf. No copies will be accepted.

SECTION 2: SEAT BEING SOUGHT

Enter the seat for which you wish to run as a candidate.

You may run as a candidate for mayor or councillor. In the latter case, you must specify the number of the seat, district, or ward[21].

Examples

- Sandra wishes to run as a candidate for the municipal council. Her municipality is not divided into districts or wards. She chooses to run as a candidate for Seat 3 and enters it on her nomination paper.
- Sebastian wishes to run as a candidate for the municipal council. His municipality is divided into districts. He chooses to run in District 6, the Ruisseau District. He enters the number and full name of the district on his nomination paper.

SECTION 3: RECOGNIZED TICKET

If you belong to a recognized ticket, enter its name in this section. Otherwise, leave it blank.

The ticket must have been recognized before a person files a nomination paper that includes the ticket's name[22].

21. AERM, sections 146 and 157.
22. AERM, section 158.

SECTION 4: TEXT SERVING AS A LETTER CERTIFYING THE NOMINATION FOR A RECOGNIZED TICKET

If you are a member of a recognized ticket, you must provide a written statement signed by the leader of the ticket confirming your nomination.

If the ticket provides you with a letter, you can enclose it with your nomination paper. Alternatively, you can ask the leader to complete this section of your nomination paper[23].

The letter or statement must include the following elements:

- Leader's name
- Your name
- Name of the recognized ticket
- Leader's signature

SECTION 5: SWORN DECLARATION OF THE PERSON WISHING TO BE A CANDIDATE

You must read this oath aloud before a person authorized to administer it.

You can read it before the returning officer when you file your nomination paper, but you can also do so before another person authorized to administer oaths, at another time, before filing your nomination paper[24].

By taking this oath and signing this section, you affirm that you are eligible.

The person administering the oath does not confirm your eligibility. They simply certify that you have read the oath before them.

SECTION 6: PERSON DESIGNATED TO COLLECT SUPPORTING SIGNATURES

You can collect supporting signatures alone or with the help of another person. A maximum of two people can collect these signatures.

If a person is helping you collect signatures, enter their name and address in the space provided, then sign to confirm that you are designating this person to carry out this task with you[25].

Example

→ Marie wishes to run as a candidate for councillor in District 4. She asks her spouse to help her gather supporting signatures. She enters the information concerning her spouse and signs this section.

23. AERM, section 163.
24. AERM, section 154.
25. AERM, section 161.

SECTION 7: SUPPORTING SIGNATURES

Enter the name of the municipality, your name, and the seat for which you are running as a candidate.

Electors who support your nomination must enter their name and address as it appears on the list of electors, then add their signature[26].

Example

→ Serge wishes to run for mayor of New Carlisle. His friend has owned a cottage there for several years, but her domicile is in another municipality. She agrees to support Serge's nomination. She enters the address of her cottage, which entitles her to be entered on the New Carlisle list of electors, and not her domiciliary address.

A minimum of five signatures is required.

The returning officer will ensure that the addresses indicated are within the territory of the municipality; if so, the signatures are valid. The section will be considered complete if the number of valid signatures after the addresses have been verified reaches the minimum number required by legislation. Of course, you can collect more signatures than the minimum required.

SECTION 8: DECLARATION OF THE PERSONS WHO COLLECTED SUPPORTING SIGNATURES

This section is mandatory even if you are the only person collecting signatures. If you do not fill it out, your nomination paper will be incomplete.

If you have collected one or more supporting signatures, you must sign where indicated.

The other person designated in Section 6, where applicable, must also sign this section, if they have collected one or more signatures.

You thus certify that you were present when the persons signed, that you know them and that, to the best of your knowledge, they are electors of the municipality[27].

26. AERM, section 160.
27. AERM, section 162.

SECTION 9: ACCEPTANCE OF THE FILING OF THE NOMINATION PAPER

This section is reserved for the person who receives your nomination paper. They will fill it out only if they accept the document.

The returning officer will accept your nomination paper if the following criteria are met:

- By all appearances, your nomination paper complies with sections 146 to 170 of the AERM.
- All required documents are attached to the nomination paper.
- Your name does not appear on the list of ineligible persons.

This person will not determine your eligibility.

If they immediately accept or refuse your nomination paper, they will give you an acknowledgement of receipt and a notice of conformity, where applicable.

However, the returning officer may need additional time to analyze your nomination paper. In this case, you will simply receive an acknowledgement of receipt when you file your nomination paper. A notice of conformity will be issued once the required verifications have been carried out[28].

If the nomination paper is refused, it will be returned to you. You can then correct or complete the form and file it again, respecting the days and times specified in the election notice. No nomination papers may be filed after 4:30 p.m. on the 30th day before polling day.

28. AERM, section 165.

3.6 Modification of an accepted nomination paper

You cannot modify a nomination that has been accepted for any reason whatsoever.

If you wish to make changes to one or more sections of your nomination paper, you must withdraw your nomination by submitting a signed written request to the returning officer. The document will not be returned to you. You must then fill out and file a new nomination paper, with new supporting signatures, on the days and at the times specified in the election notice. You may not file a new nomination paper after 4:30 p.m. on the 30th day before polling day[29].

Example

→ Julie was running as a candidate for Seat 1. Since two other people are running for this seat, but no one is running for Seat 3, she wants to change her nomination. She therefore submits a signed letter to the returning officer withdrawing her nomination for Seat 1, which had been accepted. Immediately thereafter, on the last day of nominations, at 4 p.m., she fills out and files a new nomination paper for Seat 3.

29. AERM, sections 29.1 and 167.

CHAPTER 4 Complying with the rules governing financing and expenses

When you run as a candidate in an election in a municipality with a population of less than 5,000, you are subject to the financing rules set out in Chapter XIV of the *Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities* (AERM).

To learn more about these rules, consult the *Guide for candidates* (DGE-1038.1).

DONATION LIMITS

As a candidate, you can use a personal donation of up to $1,000 out of your own property to promote your election. You can also obtain donations from any natural person; the maximum amount is $200 per person in a single election[30].

All donations over $50 must be made by cheque payable to the candidate or transfer of funds. The amount must be drawn from the contributor's personal account[31].

It is strictly forbidden to obtain a donation from a legal person (company, corporation, or any other organization)[32].

EXPENSES

You must pay campaign expenses by cheque, transfer of funds, debit card, or credit card. **You cannot pay them in cash.**

The expenses you incur to promote your election or to oppose that of another candidate are limited to the total amount of donations you obtain.

If you wish to be part of a ticket, consult the *Guide for candidates* (DGE-1038.1) to learn more about the rules to follow in this context.

30. AERM, section 513.1.1.
31. AERM, section 513.1.2.
32. AERM, section 513.1.1.

LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS AND RETURN OF EXPENSES

Any person wishing to be a candidate in an election in a municipality with a population of less than 5,000 must file a form indicating their campaign financing and expenses they have incurred[33].

As a candidate, you must file the *List of contributors and return expenses* (DGE-1038) to the treasurer of your municipality **no later than 90 days after polling day**.

Even if you do not receive any donations or incur any expenses, you must still file form DGE-1038 by the prescribed deadline.

33. AERM, section 513.1.

CHAPTER 5 Assuming the responsibilities of candidates

5.1 Attending the returning officer's meeting with the candidates

You must inform yourself about your rights and obligations during the election period. The returning officer of your municipality will likely organize a meeting with all candidates on the matter. If so, you must attend this meeting. It is the perfect opportunity to get all the information you need about the election process, ask questions, and learn about the returning officer's directives.

5.2 Respecting the rules governing ethics

You must be civic-minded and ethical at all times. The other candidates, citizens, the returning officer, election officers, and people who work for the municipality are all entitled to your respect.

In particular, you must:

- be respectful in all forms of communication (verbal, written, and actions);
- respect everyone's privacy;
- comply with the authority and decisions of the returning officer;
- accept that the other candidates and electors may have opinions and convictions that differ from your own.

If you are or were a member of council, you must continue to respect the rules of your municipality's code of ethics for elected officials.

No form of violence or threats will be tolerated. If necessary, the police may be involved.

5.3 Respecting the rules governing signage

You may display signs, banners, or other items in the municipality to promote your nomination.

You can do this in certain places, such as:

- your yard;
- other people's yards in your municipality, if these people agree;
- public utility poles;
- land owned by the municipality, the government, and public agencies, but not on buildings owned by them.

Certain restrictions are set out in the AERM as well as in a directive from the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable, which is available on its website[34].

Your signs can be installed at the beginning of the election period[35]. They must be removed no later than 15 days after the end of this period. They must never:

- jeopardize road safety or public safety;
- obstruct vehicular or pedestrian traffic;
- block road signs;
- be on a viaduct, monument, tree, or bridge.

Before planning the installation of your sign, consult sections 285.1 to 285.9 of the AERM as well as the documents available on the Ministère des Transports et de la Mobilité durable website for detailed information on the rules to follow.

5.4 Respecting the rules governing partisan advertising and presence at the polling places

On polling day and at advance polls, you can be present at the polling places only for the following reasons[36]:

- To vote.
- To observe the vote. You can sit in a room where voting is taking place, without interacting with electors, and ask election officers questions about polling proceedings without interfering with them.
- To observe the counting of the votes and contest the validity of certain ballot papers (bearing in mind that the deputy returning officer will make the final decision).

Your presence for other reasons may be perceived as partisan advertising, which is prohibited and may lead to legal proceedings[37].

In particular, you cannot:

- greet electors in any way whatsoever;
- shake hands with them;
- talk to electors to encourage them to vote for you;
- be on the premises of a polling station with a poster, banner or badge, or wear an image on clothing referring to your nomination or campaign;
- install a sign, poster, or other visual element on the premises.

34. https://www.transports.gouv.qc.ca/fr/entreprises-partenaires/municipalites/responsabilites-partagees/affichage-electoral-referendaire/Pages/affichage-electoral-referendaire.aspx.
35. The election period runs from the 44th day before polling day to polling day.
36. You may not be present during polling at the office of the returning officer or at the mobile polling station (AERM, section 177.1).
37. AERM, section 283.

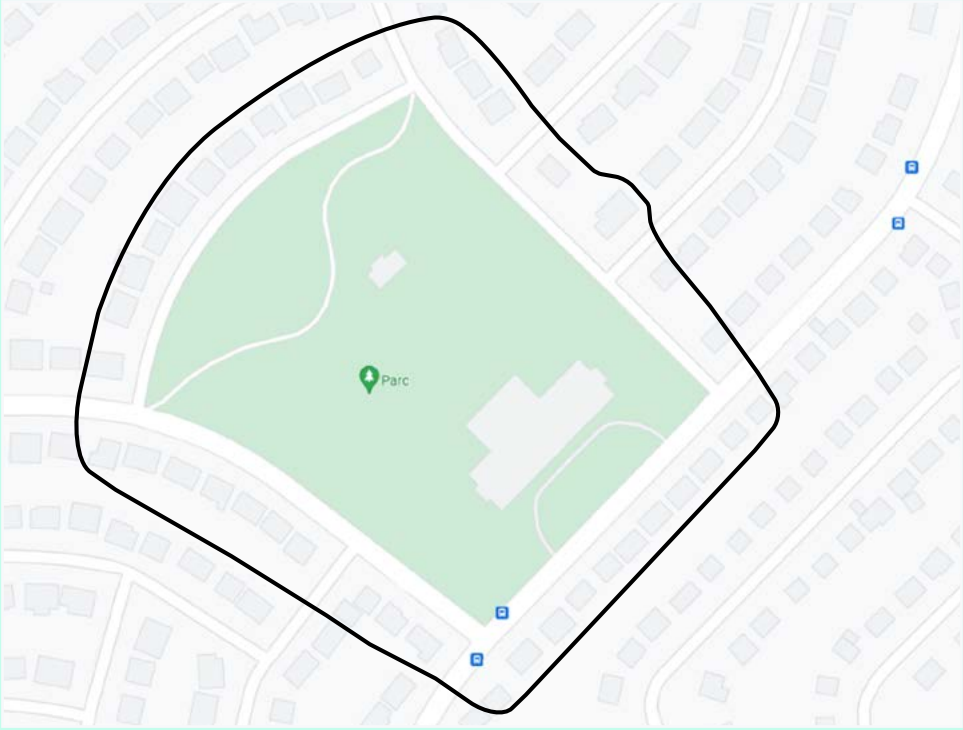
These prohibitions also apply to your representatives, political staff, and volunteers.

These prohibitions apply to polling places on days when voting takes place there. This includes the entire building, its grounds, and everything you can see while there. For example, a house across the street from the building where electors can vote may not display anything related to a candidate's nomination or campaign.

If you carry out a prohibited activity, the returning officer will give you a warning. If you persist, they can have the advertisement removed at your expense. If you behave unacceptably, they may ask you to leave the polling place.

The returning officer will inform you of the limits of the prohibition so that you can correct the situation.

Example



APPENDIX I Glossary

Municipal list of electors:

List containing the names and addresses of electors registered for a specific election. Election officers use it to verify the identity of people wishing to exercise their right to vote. If they so choose, it allows candidates to follow electors who are voting.

Notice of election:

Document issued by the returning officer that formalizes the election. This notice specifies the dates and times for submitting nominations and provides information on voting. It may be published in a newspaper, posted on the municipality's website, displayed in a location, etc.; practices vary from one municipality to another.

Tutorship:

Legal representation measure granted by the court to ensure a person's protection, asset management, and exercise of their rights. The judgment declaring a person's incapacity may specify that they lose their right to vote.

Corrupt electoral practice:

Offence of electoral legislation committed by a person which may result in the loss of certain election rights for a specified period.

Polling day:

The day on which ordinary polling is held. This is generally the day on which the votes are counted, after the polls have closed, and the results are announced.

Election clerk:

Person who assists or replaces the returning officer in carrying out certain duties, such as receiving nomination papers. Their name appears on the notice of election.

Assistant authorized to receive nomination papers:

Person able to receive nomination papers. If the returning officer appoints such an assistant, their name will appear in the notice of election.

APPENDIX II Summary table of reasons that may make a person ineligible to run as a candidate

The information in this table is provided for illustrative purposes only. Ineligibility may arise for other reasons. When in doubt, consult the *Act respecting elections and referendums in municipalities* (CQLR, c. E-2.2) [AERM] or an attorney.

Section in the AERM	Reason for ineligibility	Applicable territories	Duration of ineligibility
62	Any person who is: • a judge of the courts of justice; • Chief Electoral Officer and or a member of the Commission de la représentation électorale; • a minister of the Government of Québec or the Government of Canada; • a civil servant, other than an employee within the meaning of the *Labour Code* (chapter C- 27), of the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation, or of any other department who is assigned to the Ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation on a permanent basis; • a member and officer, other than an employee within the meaning of the Labour Code, of the Commission municipale du Québec; • a criminal and penal prosecuting attorney; • the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions.	All municipalities and RCMs in Québec	The entire term of office or appointment

Section in the AERM	Reason for ineligibility	Applicable territories	Duration of ineligibility
63	Any person who is: • an officer or employee of the municipality (excluding volunteer firefighters, first responders within the meaning of the *Act respecting pre-hospital emergency services*, and persons who are considered only for the purposes of the law to be officers or employees of the municipality); • an officer or employee of a mandatary body of the municipality referred to in paragraph 1 or 2 of section 307 of the AERM; • an election officer of the municipality; • a person acting as an official agent or official representative (including deputies and delegates) of a political party or candidate (other than themselves) authorized in the municipality.	Municipality where the person performs these duties	The entire term of office or appointment
64	Any party leader or any authorized elector or authorized independent candidate at a previous election who has not filed: • their return of election expenses (under section 492 of the AERM); • their financial report (under sections 408, 419, 479, 483.1, 484, or 485 of the AERM). Any candidate in a provincial election whose official agent has not submitted the return of election expenses or the declaration provided for in section 432 of the *Election Act*. Any person disqualified from sitting or voting in the National Assembly under sections 127 or 442 of the *Election Act* for failing to file a financial report or return of election expenses and a statement.	All municipalities and RCMs in Québec	Until the report or declaration is filed

Section in the AERM	Reason for ineligibility	Applicable territories	Duration of ineligibility
65	Any authorized elector or authorized independent candidate who has not paid in full the debts contracted during the term of their authorization (in accordance with section 474 of the the AERM). Any authorized independent candidate who was not elected in a provincial election who has not discharged all the debts contracted during the term of their authorization (ineligible under section 125 of the *Election Act*).	All municipalities and RCMs in Québec	For a period of four years from the date of default or, if the independent candidate is elected, until transmission of the financial report
66	Any person who: **1.** was convicted of an offence under paragraph 1 of section 632 or a corrupt electoral practice (section 301 of the AERM); **2.** was convicted of an offence punishable by imprisonment for a term of two years or more two years' imprisonment or more, if the prosecutor had proceeded by indictment (section 302 of the AERM); **3.** is disqualified to hold office as a member of the council under sections 303 to 307 of the AERM or any of the sections of other acts referred to in section 66, paragraph 2 of the AERM.	All municipalities and RCMs in Québec	For a period of five years from the day on which the judgment convicting the person becomes a *res judicata* For the period equal to the longer of five years or twice the term of imprisonment, starting from the day on which the judgment convicting the person becomes a *res judicata* As the case may be, for a period of two years or five years* starting from the day on which the judgment declaring the person disqualified becomes a *res judicata* * The period may be less than five years if the judgment declaring the person disqualified fixes a shorter period (sections 305.1 and 306 of the AERM)

Section in the AERM	Reason for ineligibility	Applicable territories	Duration of ineligibility
67	Any person who: • holds office as a member of the council of another municipality, who is a candidate for such an office, or who has been declared elected there to for 30 days or less (except the elected warden of a regional county municipality); • holds another office on this council, except in the event of an election at which this office is open for nominations or ceases to exist (e.g., during general elections).	All municipalities and RCMs in Québec	The entire term of office