



Media Release

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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2022 local government election pre-candidate workshop

Residents are invited to a candidate readiness workshop for upcoming local government elections.

WHO: Interested Candidates for Council from Vernon, Coldstream, Enderby, Lumby & Spallumcheen
WHAT: FREE Workshop
WHEN: Wednesday, August 17, 2022 from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
WHERE: Vernon Recreation Centre Dogwood Gymnasium
3310 – 37th Avenue, Vernon, BC

Local government is the most exciting level of government as it is the closest level to the people. It is designed to be a representative of your greater community where you get to be involved in making decisions that respond to local needs.

Your community's Mayor and Council is made up of your neighbors, your friends, your fellow citizens. They are not professional politicians; they are people who work in your community, care about your community and want to make a difference in your community. Yes, sometimes they must make very challenging decisions around how we want our communities to be managed. Ideas differ, and priorities are not always shared, BUT this is a good thing! It means our communities get robust and respectfully community-minded representation. We want to elect people who care. People like you.

However, caring in and of itself, is not enough. Knowing how to govern is slightly more complicated than just having an opinion. Policy governance takes both understanding and practiced skills. The most effective elected officials are the ones who understand how governance structures work, and are dedicated to creating a fair and balanced government that supports the community's goals and plans for the future.

Change comes through knowledge, implementation, and working together. With local government elections this fall, we have an opportunity for the community to give serious consideration to who is going to be representing them over the next term. This matters because local government has the greatest impact on your day-to-day life.

Local government owns and operates infrastructure that provides the foundation for the health, well-being, and economic prosperity of communities across the country. Dependable core services, such as water, sewer, transportation networks, fire halls, recreation amenities, and more, make up the physical environment of a community and exist to provide these basic necessities of life that residents rely on every day. As a result, leadership practices that promote long term sustainability for future generations are critical.

Excellence in local government demands both knowledgeable candidates and an engaged, proactive citizenry.

If you are thinking of running for office in Vernon, Coldstream, Enderby, Lumby or Spallumcheen, come join two seasoned politicians with 20 plus years of experience for a workshop regarding community engagement and candidate readiness!

Whether you are thinking of running for office or you care about electing the best candidates that will be shaping the future of your community, this workshop is for you. Invest just a few hours to become informed and enjoy an interactive discussion as we explore the following together:

- What are the roles and responsibilities of local government and its elected officials?
- How do we attract and elect the best people for the job?
- What are some attributes that are vital in a local leader?
- What do I need to take into consideration before putting my name forward?

Challenge yourself to deepen your understanding about what it takes to sustain these services. Set your pre-conceived notions as to what local government politics are about and bring a healthy dose of creative curiosity.

Please join us for this FREE workshop on **Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at the Vernon Recreation Centre Dogwood Gymnasium from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm**. Mark it on your calendar now!

Brought to you by:

The City of Vernon, the District of Coldstream, the City of Enderby, the Village of Lumby, and the Township of Spallumcheen.