

Standing Committee on Legislative Offices

Report on the Appointment of an Acting Chief Electoral Officer

June 2024



COMMITTEES
OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Standing Committee on Legislative Offices
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STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OFFICES

June 2024

To the Honourable Nathan M. Cooper
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
of the Province of Alberta

The Standing Committee on Legislative Offices has the honour to submit its report
relating to its recommendation for an appointment of an Acting Chief Electoral Officer.

Sincerely,

(original signed by)

Shane C. Getson, MLA
Chair, Standing Committee on Legislative Offices

MEMBERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OFFICES
31st Legislature, First Session

Shane C. Getson, MLA
Chair
Lac Ste. Anne-Parkland (UC)

Glenn van Dijken, MLA
Deputy Chair
Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock (UC)

Amanda Chapman, MLA
Calgary-Beddington (NDP)

Nolan B. Dyck, MLA
Grande Prairie (UC)

Janet Eremenko, MLA
Calgary-Currie (NDP)

Hon. Grant R. Hunter, MLA
Taber-Warner (UC)

Martin M. Long, MLA
West Yellowhead (UC)

Marie F. Renaud, MLA
St. Albert (NDP)

David Shepherd, MLA
Edmonton-City Centre (NDP)

Scott Sinclair, MLA
Lesser Slave Lake (UC)

Substitutions Pursuant to Standing Order 56(2.1-2.4):

Hon. David Eggen, MLA**
Edmonton-North West (NDP)

Heather Sweet, MLA†
Edmonton-Manning (NDP)

**Substitution for David Shepherd on June 20, 2024

† Substitution for Amanda Chapman on June 20, 2024

The position of Chief Electoral Officer is currently vacant, and the Deputy Chief Electoral Officer, Pamela Renwick, has advised the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices ("Standing Committee") that she will be resigning her position effective July 4, 2024, and has recommended that LaRae Petrowsky, Director, Election Operations, be appointed Acting Chief Electoral Officer. At its Thursday, June 20, 2024, meeting the Standing Committee considered the recommendation for Ms Petrowsky's appointment as Acting Chief Electoral Officer.

Section 3(2) of the *Election Act*, excerpted below, relates to the appointment of an Acting Chief Electoral Officer:

3(2) If a vacancy occurs while the Legislature is not in session, the Lieutenant Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Standing Committee, may appoint a Chief Electoral Officer to fill the vacancy, and unless that office sooner becomes vacant, the person so appointed holds office until a Chief Electoral Officer is appointed under subsection (1), but if an appointment under subsection (1) is not made within 30 days after the commencement of the next session, the appointment under this subsection lapses and there is deemed to be another vacancy in the office of Chief Electoral Officer.

The Committee passed the following motion in this respect:

MOVED by Mr. Dyck that the Standing Committee on Legislative Offices recommend to the Lieutenant Governor in Council that LaRae Petrowsky be appointed under section 3(2) of the *Election Act* as the Acting Chief Electoral Officer effective July 4, 2024, until such time as an individual is appointed to the position of Chief Electoral Officer or the appointment expires in accordance with section 3(2), whichever occurs first.