



## ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS INFORMATION SHEET

[Section 84](#) of the *Community Charter* contains the provisions for elector approval. If electors' approval is required under the *Community Charter* or *Local Government Act* in relation to a particular matter, that approval may be obtained either by assent of the electors (i.e., a referendum vote), or by alternative approval process (AAP). The alternative approval process is a less expensive method of obtaining elector assent.

The alternative approval process, outlined in [Section 86](#) of the *Community Charter*, replaces the former counter petition opportunity under the *Local Government Act*. The Board obtains approval of the electors through the alternative approval process if fewer than 10% of eligible electors in the area covered by the alternate approval process submit elector response forms.

By signing the alternative approval response forms an elector expresses his/her opposition to the particular matter being proposed by the Regional Board. If more than 10% of eligible electors in the service area sign the response forms, the Regional District must seek a vote in order to proceed with the matter.

### **Steps in the Process:**

Notice of the approval process is published including:

- General description of the proposed bylaw, agreement or other matter;
- A description of the area to which the approval process applies;
- The deadline for elector responses to be submitted (at least 30 days after the second publication of the notice);
- A statement that the Board may proceed with the matter unless at least 10% of the electors of the area sign the responses

Only qualified electors of the established service area are eligible to sign the elector response forms. By signing the elector response form, the elector indicates his/her opposition to the bylaw or agreement being proposed. The Regional Board must establish an estimate of the total number of electors of the area to which the approval process applies. If at least 10% of the qualified electors signs the elector response forms, the Board may not proceed with the matter in question unless it is approved by referendum.

### **Qualifications for resident and non-resident property electors:**

#### ***Resident Elector:***

You are entitled to submit an elector response form as a Resident Elector if you:

- Are 18 years or older on the date of submission of the elector response form, and
- Are a Canadian citizen, and

- Have resided in British Columbia for 6 months and have resided in the Service Area of the Regional District of Central Okanagan outlined on the attached map, for at least 30 days immediately prior to signing the Elector Response Form.

***Non-Resident Property Elector:***

You may submit an elector response form as a Non-Resident Property Elector if you:

- Are 18 years or older on the date of submission of the elector response form, and
- Are a Canadian citizen, and
- Have resided in British Columbia for 6 months, and
- Have owned and held registered title to property in the Service Area of the Regional District of Central Okanagan outlined on the attached map, for at least 30 days immediately prior to signing the form and **do NOT qualify as a Resident Elector**. If there is more than one registered owner of the property (either as joint tenants or tenants in common) only one individual may, with the written consent of the majority, sign an Elector Response Form.

**Note:**

A person must not sign more than one elector response form in relation to the same AAP.

A person who is not an elector for the area of the approval process must not sign an elector response form.