



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Special Council

Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

Public notice is hereby given that the Council of the Municipal Corporation of the City of Yellowknife will hold a special meeting of Council at 12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss a Resolution regarding Proportional Representation in Canada's Federal Elections.

This Special Meeting has been called by the City Manager of the City of Yellowknife pursuant to Section 27 of the *Cities, Towns and Villages Act* of the Northwest Territories and Section 9 of By-law No. 5119, the Council Procedures By-law.

Dated this 9th day of April, 2026.

<Original Signed by the City Manager>

Stephen Van Dine
City Manager



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

DATE: April 9, 2026

File: 260-P2

TO: Stephen Van Dine
City Manager

FROM: Ben Hendriksen
Mayor

RE: Special Council Meeting

Pursuant to Section 9 of the Council Procedures By-law, I hereby request that you schedule a Special Council Meeting on April 15, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, City Hall.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss a Resolution regarding Proportional Representation in Canada's Federal Elections.

Thank you,

<Original Signed by the Mayor>

Ben Hendriksen
Mayor

cc. City Council
Office of the City Clerk
Senior Management Committee



CITY OF YELLOWKNIFE

Council Agenda

Wednesday, April 15, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

Welcome to the

SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Council Chamber, City Hall

4807 - 52nd Street

Yellowknife

All presentations pertaining to items on the Agenda for the meeting shall be heard under the "Delegations Pertaining to Items on the Agenda," portion of the Order of Business. All presentations pertaining to items not on the Agenda shall be heard under the "Delegations Pertaining to Items Not on the Agenda" portion of the Order of Business.

The following procedures apply to all delegations before Council:

- a. all delegations shall address their remarks directly to the Presiding Officer and shall not pose questions to individual Members or Administration;
- b. each presenter shall be afforded five minutes to make their presentation;
- c. the time allowed to each presenter may be extended beyond five minutes by a resolution of Council;
- d. after a person has spoken, any Member may, through the Presiding Officer, ask that person or the City Administrator relevant questions; and
- e. no debate shall be permitted on any delegation to Council either between Members or with an individual making a presentation.

Please refer to By-law No. 5119, the Council Procedures By-law, for the rules respecting the procedures of Council.

COUNCIL:

Mayor Ben Hendriksen

Councillor Stacie Arden-Smith

Councillor Garrett Cochrane

Councillor Ryan Fequet

Councillor Rob Foote

Councillor Cat McGurk

Councillor Tom McLennan

Councillor Steve Payne

Councillor Rob Warburton

All annexes to this agenda may be viewed on the City's website www.yellowknife.ca or by contacting the City Clerk's Office at 920-5602.



Item No.

Description

OPENING STATEMENT

1. Councillor McLennan will read the Opening Statement.

The City of Yellowknife acknowledges that we are located in Chief Drygeese territory. From time immemorial, it has been the traditional land of the Yellowknives Dene First Nation. We respect the histories, languages, and cultures of all other Indigenous Peoples including the North Slave Métis, and all First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

2. Does any Member have a conflict of interest in any matter before Council today?

NEW BUSINESS

3. Councillor McLennan moves,
Councillor _____ seconds,

Whereas Canadian Governments at all levels are structured by and derive their legitimacy from democratic principles, practices, and norms;

And whereas, partisanship increasingly defines the political sphere in Canada, particularly in our federal system;

And whereas partisanship works against the key democratic principal of representative accountability, reduces pragmatism in government, and fosters a hostile and combative political culture;

And whereas these factors work against democratic participation by undermining trust in government, reducing voter turnout, and limiting the number and diversity of political candidates, leading to a lopsided and unhealthy democracy;

And whereas poor political health undermines the ability of democratic institutions to exercise effective leadership and overcome the pressing challenges of the 21st century;

And whereas elections are one of the most central and participatory parts of our democratic systems;



Item No.

Description

And whereas numerous studies, including those by parliamentary committees, have identified our First-Past-the-Post electoral system as driving and exacerbating polarization and declines in voter participation, and have recommended some form of Proportional Representation;

And whereas the principle of Proportional Representation enjoys broad public support, with a majority of polling respondents who identify with every major party supporting a change in the way that they vote;

And whereas Proportional Representation has been shown to facilitate the kind of pragmatic government by collaboration and consensus that we in Yellowknife value;

Therefore, Be it Resolved that the City of Yellowknife call upon the federal government to enact electoral reform, adopting a system of Proportional Representation in which every vote counts and which diminishes polarization, to safeguard and empower Canadian democracy,

And be it further resolved that the Mayor circulate this motion to the Honourable Rebecca Alty, Member of Parliament for the Northwest Territories, and to the Right Honourable Mark Carney, Prime Minister of Canada.

Unanimous	In Favour	Opposed	Carried / Defeated
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ADJOURNMENT