



The Corporation of the District of North Cowichan

Sign Bylaw Amendment Bylaw

BYLAW NO. 3980

A bylaw to amend Sign Bylaw No. 3479 to improve political sign regulations.

The Council of The Corporation of The District of North Cowichan, enacts in open meeting assembled, as follows:

Citation

1 This Bylaw may be cited as *"Sign Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 3980, 2024"*.

Amendment

2 Sign Bylaw No. 3479, is amended by alphabetically inserting the following definition into Section 1 Definitions:

"political sign" means a temporary freestanding sign(s) related to a municipal, provincial or federal election, by-election, assent voting, plebiscite, or other statutory voting process that addresses an issue in the public interest, advertises a candidate seeking public office or advertises a political party.

3 Sign Bylaw No. 3479, is amended by deleting 'Political posters and bills', sections 8, 8.1 and 8.2, and inserting the following in its place:

"Political signs

8 No person shall place a political sign on municipally owned properties including:

- (a) on a highway meridian, traffic circle, roundabout, or in a park;
- (b) recreation facilities, municipal hall, fire stations, or similar facilities; and
- (c) on any tree, planter, utility pole, waste receptacle, newspaper box, or mailbox located on municipally owned land.

8.1 No person shall place a political sign in a location that:

- (a) obstructs or detracts from any traffic control device or signage;
- (b) obstructs a line of vision at an intersection;
- (c) creates a safety hazard for pedestrians, cyclists, or vehicles; or
- (d) is within one metre of a fire hydrant.

8.2 No person shall place a political sign within 100 metres of a voting place on general voting day or on an advance voting day.

- 8.3 No person shall place a political sign that:
 - (a) contains any logo, mark, or symbol owned by the Municipality, or resembling that of the Municipality; or
 - (b) contains any profanity or defamatory language.
- 8.4 No person shall post a political sign related to a general local election or by-election, a general school election or by-election, or assent voting or other statutory voting process earlier than 36 days before general voting day.
- 8.5 A person who is authorized to place a political sign by this bylaw shall remove or cause to be removed the political sign within seven (7) days after general voting day.
- 8.6 A bylaw enforcement officer may remove, and the Chief Election Officer may order the removal of, any political sign that the Bylaw Enforcement Officer has reasonable grounds to believe is placed or installed in contravention of this bylaw.
- 8.7 Political signs removed pursuant to section 8.6:
 - (a) will be stored at the Municipal Hall and may be claimed by a candidate or candidate representative, or a person authorized by a candidate or candidate representative.
 - (b) not claimed within seven (7) days after the period set out in section 8.5 of this bylaw become the property of the Municipality and may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of without notice to any person."

READ a first time on
READ a second time on
READ a third time on _____.
ADOPTED on _____.

CORPORATE OFFICER

PRESIDING MEMBER