

Policy on Sidney Community Association's Role in Municipal Elections

This policy was approved by the Sidney Community Association Board of Directors September 17, 2017.

In relation to municipal elections, the Sidney Community Association will be guided by the Purposes and other provisions in our [Constitution](#). **Our Purposes** direct us to:

- provide a non-partisan forum for dialogue and information-sharing,
- promote informed public interest and participation,
- protect and advance the interests of the community as a whole,
- promote constructive dialogue, respectful communication and responsible reporting, and
- take an active role in the development of the Official Community Plan and encourage adherence to it.

Consistent with these purposes, the Sidney Community Association hopes to actively engage members and the public in discussions about what makes a good municipal council and, during the election period, to hold a public All Candidates' meeting. This requires that we can assure every candidate and the public that each candidate will be treated equally and fairly.

Board Members running for Council

Being active in a residents' association provides insight into how municipal councils operate and often leads people to want to contribute further to the community by running for election. In municipalities other than Sidney, there are many examples of Councillors and perhaps even Mayors who are former Board members of community associations. However, there needs to be a very clear separation between involvement in the association and the candidate's election campaign. Any Board member who decides to run is expected, as early as possible, and preferably before the previous Annual General Meeting, to take a leave of absence or resign from the Board. Our Constitution s. 3.4 says "No member may profit from association with the Society". The Board interprets profit to include political advantage.

Privacy Policy

[Our Privacy Policy](#) protects member contact information. No member information will be shared with any candidate.