

Election Signs

This document answers frequently asked questions about election signs. Please also refer to the [Guide to Election Communications](#).

Q: Who can sponsor election signs?

A: Only registered political parties, candidates and registered third party election advertising sponsors may sponsor election advertising, including election (campaign) signs.

Q: Where can election signs be posted?

A: The *Election Act* does not regulate where signs may be placed, except that it prohibits election advertising within 100 metres of a District Electoral Office, or 100 metres of a voting place when voting is being conducted.

Contact your municipality to determine if there are by-laws regarding the placement of election signs in your area. Your municipality may also set reasonable limits on the size of election signs.

Download the Ministry of Transportation policy [here](#) to determine where election signs may be placed on highways.

Q: Can I post an election sign on my rental property or strata unit?

A: Landlords must not prohibit tenants from posting election signs on the premises to which their tenancy agreement relates.

Strata corporations must not prohibit the owner or tenant of a strata unit from posting election signs on the premises of his or her unit.

In both cases, landlords and strata corporations may set reasonable guidelines as to the size of election signs, and may prohibit placement in common areas.

Q: Do all election signs need an authorization statement? What should it say?

A: Yes, all election signs must display a statement indicating that the sign is authorized by a registered political party, candidate or registered election advertising sponsor. The statement must provide a telephone number or mailing address within British Columbia.

Some examples of acceptable authorization statements are:

Authorized by Jane Doe, financial agent, 250-123-4578

Authorized by XYZ Political Party, 604-123-4567

Authorized by Jane Doe, registered sponsor under the *Election Act*, 250-234-5678

Q: I found an election sign missing the authorization statement. What can I do?

A: Look carefully for the authorization statement, as sometimes they are very small or difficult to see. If the statement is not on the sign, take note of the exact location of the election sign in question, and to whom the sign appears to belong. If possible, take a digital photograph of the sign. Email this information to ElectionsBC@elections.bc.ca, or contact Electoral Finance by calling 1-800-661-8683.

Q: Can candidates use words like ‘Re-elect’, ‘MLA’, or professional titles on signs?

A: The *Election Act* does not regulate the content of election signs except that it requires that all sponsors are registered and all signs contain the authorization statement.

Q: Can a candidate post signs in an electoral district other than the one in which they are running?

A: Yes.

Q: There were signs posted in my area before the start of the campaign period when the writs of election were issued. Were any rules broken?

A: The *Election Act* does not prohibit the placement of election signs before the start of the campaign period.