Report of the Chief Electoral Officer

# 2018 KELOWNA WEST BY-ELECTION

FEBRUARY 14, 2018



### **Report of the Chief Electoral Officer**

2018 Kelowna West By-election

February 14, 2018





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July 9, 2018

Honourable Darryl Plecas Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Province of British Columbia Parliament Buildings Victoria, British Columbia V8V 1X4

Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have the pleasure to present the Report of the Chief Electoral Officer regarding the 2018 Kelowna West By-election to the Legislative Assembly, in accordance with section 13(1)(b) of the *Election Act*.

Respectfully submitted,

**Anton Boegman** 

Chief Electoral Officer British Columbia

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## INTRODUCTION

On August 4, 2017, Christy Clark resigned as the Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) for the Kelowna West electoral district. Pursuant to section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly informed the Chief Electoral Officer of the vacancy through a warrant. The warrant was received on August 4, 2017. The last possible date for calling the by-election was February 3, 2018, as the writ for a by-election must be issued within six months after receipt of the warrant.

The by-election was called on January 17, 2018. General Voting Day was Wednesday, February 14, 2018.

There were five candidates in the by-election representing five registered political parties. At the end of final count BC Liberal candidate Ben Stewart was elected.

Voter turnout was 31.55% and the cost to administer the by-election was \$565,538, or \$11.92 per registered voter.

The 2018 Kelowna West By-election was the first provincial by-election to be held after the *Election Act* was amended in November 2017. This report includes information about the new rules in place for the by-election.

#### Calendar of events

The calendar of events for a provincial by-election is prescribed by the *Election Act*. The by-election begins on Day 0 when the writ is issued and the by-election is called. General Voting Day is 28 days after Day 0.

Table 1: Milestones and key dates, 2018 Kelowna West By-election

Day	Milestone	Date			
0	Writ Day	January 17			
0	Close of general voter registration				
7	7 Close of candidate nominations, 1 p.m. Pacific time				
20-25	Advance voting	February 6-11			
28	General Voting Day	February 14			
28	Initial count begins after 8 p.m. Pacific time				
33	33 Final count*				
40	Return Day	February 26			
118	Election Financing Report filing deadline	May 15			

<sup>\*</sup>In accordance with section 128 of the *Election Act*, final count normally begins on Day 41 (in this case, Tuesday, February 27, 2018). However, the Chief Electoral Officer authorized final count to begin early on Day 33 (Monday, February 19, 2018).

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The Kelowna West by-election was the first election held following the amendments to the *Election Act* in November 2017, which changed the advance voting period. Advance voting was therefore held over six consecutive days starting eight days before General Voting Day (GVD) rather than the weekend two weeks before GVD and the Wednesday through Saturday immediately before GVD.

#### Statistics at a glance

Table 2: 2018 Kelowna West By-election statistics at a glance

Officials and voting places						
Election officials	256					
Voting areas	80					
Advance voting places	5					
General voting places	12					
Voter registration and turnout						
Registered voters at election call	46,868					
Voters who registered when voting	593					
Registered voters at close of voting	47,461					
Registered voters who voted	14,972					
Voter turnout (as a percentage of registered voters)	31.55%					
Candidates, political parties and advertising sponsors						
Registered political parties that endorsed candidates	5					
Candidates	5					
Registered third party advertising sponsors that filed disclosure reports	4					
Registered political party expenses limit	\$58,000					
Candidate expenses limit	\$58,000					
Third party advertising limit	\$3,000					
Results						
Total valid votes	14,937					
Rejected ballots	35					
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					

## **CONDUCTING THE ELECTION**

#### Legislative changes

The *Election Act* sets the framework for the provincial electoral process, and Elections BC conducts provincial elections and by-elections in accordance with its provisions. In November 2017, Bills 3 and 5 introduced a series of substantial amendments to the Act that were implemented for the first time in the Kelowna West by-election.

Amongst other provisions, Bills 3 and 5:

- Changed the dates for advance voting (to six consecutive days starting eight days before General Voting Day)
- Banned political contributions from organizations
- Banned political contributions from other than eligible individuals who reside in B.C. and are a Canadian citizen or permanent resident
- Limited contributions from eligible individuals to \$1,200 per year to any one political party (including its constituency associations, candidates and nomination contestants)
- Lowered by-election expenses limits for registered political parties and for candidates to \$58,000
- Established election expense reimbursements for qualified parties and candidates

#### Public information and communications

The Chief Electoral Officer has a statutory responsibility to inform the public about voter registration and voting opportunities.

In addition to meeting its statutory obligations, Elections BC is committed to providing an inclusive and accessible electoral process. With these goals in mind, Elections BC implemented a comprehensive communications plan to help voters in Kelowna West participate in the by-election.

VOTER'S GUIDE FOR THE 2018 KELOWNA WEST PROVINCIAL BY-ELECTION

General Voting Day is Wednesday, February 14, 2018

ELECTIONS BC Anon-partisan Office of the Legislature elections.bc.ca / 1-800-661-8683

Figure 1: Voter's guide for the 2018 Kelowna West By-election, front and interior



Early in the campaign period, Elections BC distributed a voter's guide to every household in Kelowna West. The guide included information about voter eligibility and ID requirements, voting opportunities, maps of the electoral district, and Elections BC's contact information.

The guide was designed to Canada Post standards so it could be sent economically as unaddressed mail. Elections BC also worked with Canada Post and BC Mail Plus to target only residential points of call within the Kelowna West electoral district's boundaries, reducing "spillage" into neighbouring districts. In total, 30,248 voter's guides were delivered. The guide was also available on the Elections BC website.

2018 KELOWNA WEST BY-ELECTION MAP LEGEND Eligible voters who are residents of the Kelowna West electoral district can vote in the by-election. The Kelowna West electoral district is shown inside the red borders in the maps below. District
 Electoral Office Electoral District KELOWNA WEST KELOWNA ELECTORAL DISTRICT KELOWNA WEST DISTRICT ELECTORAL OFFICE Visit elections.bc.ca/wtv to find voting places and 102B-1979 Old Okanagan Hwy, Westbank, B.C. 778-699-2209 the dates they are open. Hours for advance and general voting places are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on the days they are open. Hours of operation: Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. CANDIDATES ? QUESTIONS? Contact Elections BC. Nections.bc.ca | 1-800-661-8683 & ELECTIONS BC .bc.ca / 1-800-661-8683

#### Where to Vote cards

Where to Vote cards were mailed to every registered voter in Kelowna West before advance voting started. Each voter's card showed the dates and locations for advance voting, the voter's assigned general voting place, and information about eligibility requirements and acceptable voter identification.

Unaddressed cards were also mailed to addresses with no registered voters. These cards reached out to unregistered voters with information about eligibility requirements, the option to register at a voting place, and voting opportunities.

Building on lessons learned from the 2017 Provincial General Election, Elections BC redesigned the Where to Vote card for clarity and consistency with other voter information materials. In particular, the dates and locations for advance voting were formatted as a table to make them clearer and easier to read.

Figure 2: 2018 Kelowna West By-election Where to Vote card, front

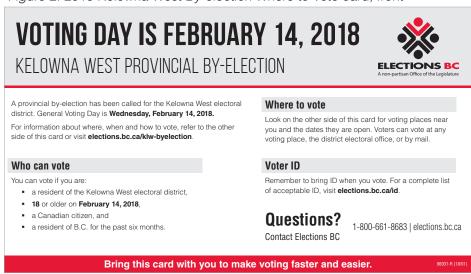
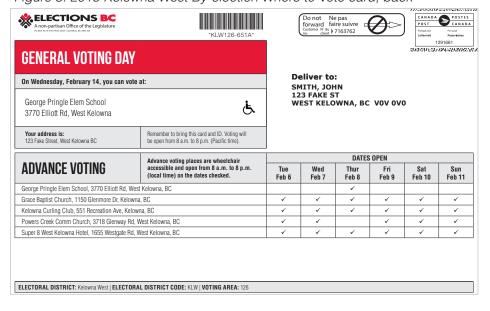


Figure 3: 2018 Kelowna West By-election Where to Vote card, back



#### Statutory advertising

In accordance with the *Election Act*, Elections BC placed two statutory advertisements in local newspapers. The first ad included information about voter eligibility requirements, the candidate nomination process and voting opportunities, as well as the district electoral office address and contact information. The second provided the list of candidates, information about when and where to vote, and voter identification requirements.

The format of advance voting information in the second ad was reformatted for clarity and consistency with the redesigned Where to Vote card.

#### Digital advertising and social media

In addition to the statutory newspaper ads required by legislation, Elections BC used digital and social media advertising to raise public awareness of the by-election and direct voters to the Elections BC website for more information. Online ads were geo-targeted to the Kelowna West area to reach voters eligible to vote in the by-election. The advertising campaign maintained the look and feel of the 2017 Provincial General Election "I Vote" campaign, updated with by-election-specific messaging. Facebook advertising alone reached over 10,000 viewers and resulted in more than 500 trackable clicks to Elections BC's website.

Elections BC shared content consistent with the digital advertising campaign through Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube. Relevant content was shared at particular times throughout the election period, directing followers to learn more about voting opportunities, voter eligibility, ID requirements, and other information. Posts included the hashtags #KLWvotes and #KelownaWest to encourage awareness and voter engagement.

Figure 4: Statutory advertisement #1

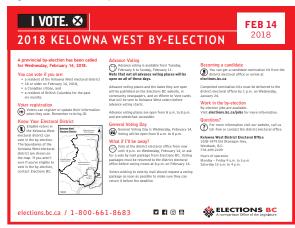
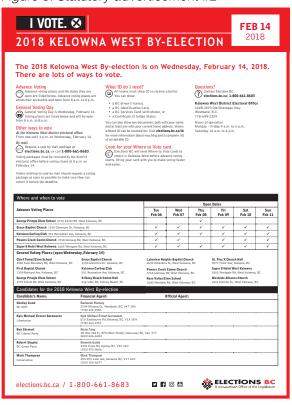


Figure 5: Statutory advertisement #2



#### Website

Elections BC's website is the central source of information about electoral events and the B.C. electoral process. A dedicated by-election event page answered the most frequently asked questions from voters, and provided event information such as key dates, candidate information, and voter eligibility and ID requirements.

The Elections BC website also provided a Where to Vote application that allowed users to enter their address to find their assigned voting place. Users could also find voting places near them based on

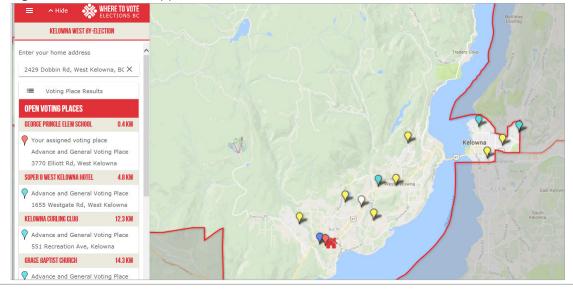
their location, and the application would provide directions. Voting places, the district electoral office and electoral district boundaries were displayed on a Google Map. If the voter entered a home address that was outside of the Kelowna West electoral district, the application would inform the voter that their address was not within the district and that only eligible voters resident in Kelowna West could vote in the by-election.

On election night, results were reported online, starting when polls closed at 8 p.m. (Pacific time). Results were updated every three minutes as counting progressed.

Figure 6: 2018 Kelowna West By-election event page



Figure 7: Where to Vote application



#### Election officials and office staff

The Chief Electoral Officer appoints a district electoral officer (DEO) to administer elections in each electoral district. One or more deputy district electoral officers (DDEOs) are also appointed to provide assistance, and to replace the DEO if the position becomes vacant. The DEO for the Kelowna West by-election was Netta Manning and the DDEO was Holly Hruschak.

DEOs hire election officials to register voters, supervise voting places, administer voting and counting, provide information to voters and perform other duties at voting places. District electoral officers also hire staff to maintain their district electoral office.

Table 3: Election officials and office staff, 2018 Kelowna West By-election

Position	Number of officials
Information officer	30
Supervisory voting officer	14
Voting clerk	107
Voting officer	105
District electoral office staff	10

#### Candidate nominations

The *Election Act* provides two methods for nominating candidates: standing nominations and ordinary nominations. For a by-election, standing nominations may be submitted to the Chief Electoral Officer at any time until 4:30 p.m. (Pacific time) on Day 2 of the election calendar. Ordinary nominations may be submitted to the district electoral officer during the ordinary nomination period, between 9 a.m. on Day 3 and 1 p.m. (Pacific time) on Day 7.

In the Kelowna West by-election, standing nominations closed at 4:30 p.m. (Pacific time) on January 19, 2018. Three candidates filed standing nominations.

The ordinary nomination period was from 9 a.m. (Pacific time) on January 20, 2018 to 1 p.m. (Pacific time) on January 24, 2018, during which two additional candidates were nominated.

Table 4: Candidates, 2018 Kelowna West By-election

Candidate name	Political party
Shelley Cook	BC NDP
Kyle Michael Ernest Geronazzo	Libertarian
Ben Stewart	BC Liberal Party
Robert Stupka	BC Green Party
Mark Thompson	Conservative

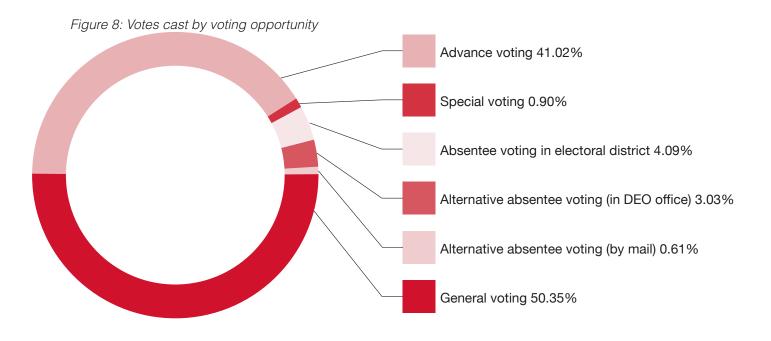
#### Voting

British Columbia provides voters with more voting opportunities than any other jurisdiction in Canada. In addition to general and advance voting, the *Election Act* establishes numerous special and absentee voting opportunities, providing for an accessible and inclusive electoral process.

Elections BC conducted voting at five advance voting places and 12 general voting places. Eleven special voting opportunities were also available in hospitals and long-term care facilities. Starting on Writ Day, all eligible voters could vote in the Kelowna West district electoral office or by mail. Following the success of election official-assisted telephone voting, first piloted during the 2017 Provincial General Election, voters with disabilities that prevented them from voting independently at another voting opportunity were again offered the option to vote by telephone.

Table 5: Votes cast by voting opportunity

Voting opportunity	Valid votes	Rejected ballots	% of ballots rejected	Votes considered	% of popular vote
General voting	7,520	19	0.25%	7,539	50.35%
Advance voting	6,133	8	0.13%	6,141	41.02%
Special voting	133	1	0.75%	134	0.90%
Absentee voting in electoral district	609	3	0.49%	612	4.09%
Alternative absentee voting (in DEO office)	450	4	0.88%	454	3.03%
Alternative absentee voting (by mail)	92	0	0.00%	92	0.61%
Total votes considered	14,937	35	0.23%	14,972	100.00%



#### **Advance voting**

Advance voting was held from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on six consecutive days from February 6 to 11, 2018. Not all advance voting places were open on every day of the advance voting period. Advance voting locations and the dates they were open were available on the Elections BC website in a variety of formats (including the Where to Vote application), were advertised in community newspapers and printed on Where to Vote cards.

Advance voting turnout in the by-election increased in comparison to advance turnout in Kelowna West during the 2017 Provincial General Election and the 2013 by-election held in the former electoral district of Westside-Kelowna. Advance voting turnout continues to grow in popularity as awareness of this accessible voting option increases.

#### Special voting

Special voting opportunities are usually established for voters who are unable to vote at other opportunities because they will be absent or are in a hospital, mental health or care facility, provincial correctional centre, or remote

community or work site. Election official-assisted telephone voting is a unique type of special voting. Special voting opportunities can be held at any point in the election period until the close of voting on General Voting Day.

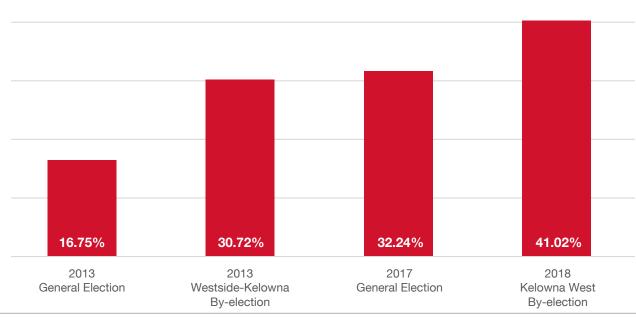
The district electoral officer for Kelowna West established 11 special voting opportunities at hospitals and care facilities. 134 voters cast their ballot at special voting opportunities during the 2018 Kelowna West By-election.

#### **Absentee voting**

Voters who voted at another location than their assigned voting place on General Voting Day voted under absentee provisions. Absentee voting was available at all general voting places.

Voters were also able to vote in the district electoral office through alternative absentee voting. Voting in the district electoral office was available from when the election was called on January 17, 2018 until 4 p.m. on General Voting Day. 612 absentee votes were cast on General Voting Day, and 454 were cast in the district electoral office.

Figure 9: Advance votes in Westside-Kelowna and Kelowna West electoral districts as percentage of total valid votes



#### Vote by mail

As in a general election, voters in the by-election could also vote by mail, giving voters who may have been away an opportunity to vote. The voting package had to be returned to the Kelowna West district electoral office before the close of voting on General Voting Day.

Elections BC sent voting packages to 119 voters. Every request for a vote by mail package was fulfilled, and 77% of packages were returned on time.

#### **Telephone voting**

The election official-assisted telephone voting project piloted in the 2017 Provincial General Election allowed voters to cast their ballot by phone, if they had a disability that prevented them from voting independently at another voting opportunity. The telephone voting pilot was very well-received and provided another accessible voting opportunity for voters with disabilities. More than 1,000 voters cast their ballot through

telephone voting in the 2017 Provincial General Election. Details of the telephone voting process are included in the *May 9, 2017 Provincial General Election Report of the Chief Electoral Officer*.

Telephone voting for voters with disabilities was again offered to voters in the Kelowna West byelection. Telephone voting was available between January 31 and February 14, 2018 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Seven voters cast their ballot through telephone voting.

#### **General voting**

General Voting Day was February 14, 2018. Voting was available from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at 12 general voting places. Voters were assigned a general voting place according to the voting area in which they resided. However, as part of B.C.'s accessible electoral process, all eligible voters could vote at any general voting place under absentee voting rules. 50% of all ballots cast in the by-election were by voters at their assigned general voting place on General Voting Day.

Figure 10: Vote by mail packages sent and received, 2018 Kelowna West By-election

## VOTE BY MAIL PACKAGES SENT 119

#### **VOTE BY MAIL PACKAGES RETURNED ON TIME**



#### **Turnout**

Voter turnout in the by-election decreased compared to voter turnout in Kelowna West in the 2017 Provincial General Election and the 2013 Westside-Kelowna By-election. Turnout in a by-election is typically lower than turnout during a provincial general election.

The trend of increased advance voting turnout and fewer voters voting at their assigned voting place on General Voting Day also continued in the by-election.

Figure 11: Turnout in Westside-Kelowna and Kelowna West electoral districts, measured as a percentage of registered voters

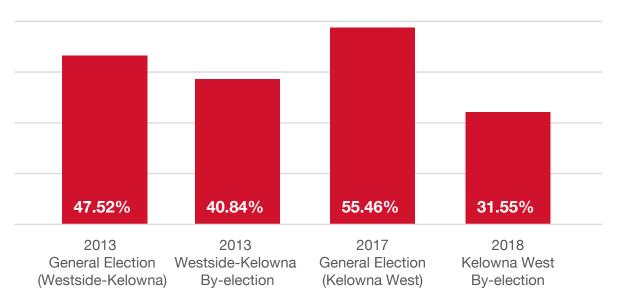
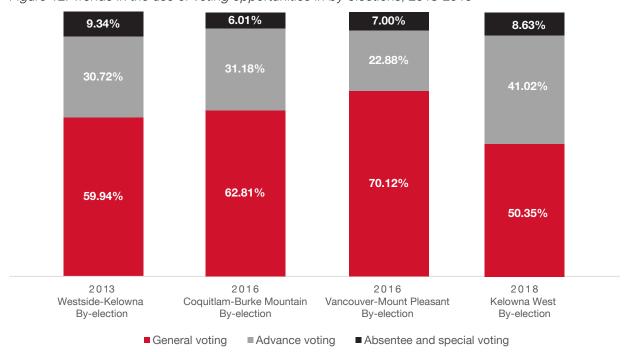


Figure 12: Trends in the use of voting opportunities in by-elections, 2013-2018



#### Counting

#### Initial count

Ballots cast at advance and general voting are counted on election night at initial count. Over 90% of the total ballots cast in the Kelowna West by-election were considered at initial count.

At the close of initial count on election night, the BC Liberal Party candidate, Ben Stewart, was the leading candidate.

#### **Recounts**

Under the *Election Act*, candidates or their official agents can request a recount of some or all of the ballots considered at initial count within three days after General Voting Day. Recount requests can only be made where:

- the difference between the top two candidates is close (defined in the Election Act as 100 votes or fewer); or
- votes were not correctly accepted or ballots were not correctly rejected, or a ballot account does not accurately record the number of votes for a candidate.

No recount reguests were received in the Kelowna West by-election.

#### Final count

Final count is a count of the ballots that were not considered as part of initial count. Ballots considered at final count include those cast at absentee, alternative absentee and special voting opportunities. The results of an election are determined at the conclusion of final count, based on the votes accepted at initial count and final count. Final count is held in the district electoral office and usually begins 13 days after General Voting Day (Day 41 of the election calendar). In a by-election, however, because there are no out-of-district absentee ballots to screen and count, it is possible to begin final count earlier. For the Kelowna West by-election, the Chief Electoral Officer authorized that final count begin on Day 33. The district electoral officer conducted final count on February 19, 2018.

At the conclusion of final count, Ben Stewart was declared elected. The writ of election was returned on February 26, 2018, marking the end of the by-election period.

Counting

**CONDUCTING THE ELECTION** 

## STATEMENT OF VOTES

#### Summary of results

Table 6: Summary of results, 2018 Kelowna West By-election

Candidate	Affiliation	Total valid votes	% of total valid votes
Shelley Cook	BC NDP	3,511	23.51%
Kyle Michael Ernest Geronazzo	Libertarian	121	0.81%
Ben Stewart	BC Liberal Party	8,406	56.28%
Robert Stupka	BC Green Party	1,893	12.67%
Mark Thompson	Conservative	1,006	6.73%
		14,937	100.00%

#### Results by voting area

The following pages contain a summary of the results of the 2018 Kelowna West By-election by voting area. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order by ballot name.

Kelowna West										
	Shelley Cook	Kyle Michael Ernest Geronazzo	Ben Stewart	Robert Stupka	Mark Thompson	Total valid votes	Rejected ballots	Registered voters		
	NDP	LBN	LIB	GP	СР					
Advance voting										
George Pringle Elem School	135	7	308	46	38	534	1			
Grace Baptist Church	202	5	324	109	37	677	0			
Kelowna Curling Club	366	2	539	164	84	1,155	4			
Powers Creek Comm Church	176	3	385	65	41	670	1			
Super 8 Hotel West Kelowna	613	13	2,076	210	185	3,097	2			
General voting										
Voting area										
1	15	1	61	4	8	89	1	392		
2	45	0	77	13	8	143	0	50 <sub>4</sub>		
3	5	1	21	3	3	33	0	214		
4	10	1	24	6	5	46	0	270		
5	32	0	55	17	10	114	0	555		
6	8	1	60	3	12	84	0	576		
7	12	2	75	23	6	118	0	628		
8	36	2	96	26	8	168	0	730		
9	27	2	126	22	6	183	0	709		
10	19	0	58	16	2	95	0	586		
11	16	1	53	6	6	82	0	433		
12	14	1	95	8	7	125	1	693		
13	14	0	65	10	8	97	0	606		
14	12	1	80	19	3	115	0	565		
15	31	1	46	15	11	104	0	594		
16	22	3	61	26	10	122	1	635		
17	18	0	46	12	7	83	0	562		
18	15	0	53	14	4	86	0	609		
19	31	0	70	16	9	126	0	585		
20	17	1	63	15	8	104	0	625		
21	15	0	57	8	5	85	0	718		
22	18	2	32	17	3	72	0	55 <sup>-</sup>		
23	31	1	67	17	6	122	0	605		
24	17	0	92	14	12	135	0	699		
25	21	0	43	8	5	77	0	50 <sup>-</sup>		
26	27	2	38	23	7	97	0	539		
27	8	1	24	9	4	46	0	533		
28	3	0	47	2	6	58	0	449		
29	25	0	42	6	11	84	0	53-		
30	15	0	27	9	3	54	0	470		
31	19	4	27	10	9	69	0	579		
32	27	1	66	6	10	110	0	797		
33	17	3	44	16	17	97	0	70		

	0.0		15		_	·		400
34	22	0	45	2	5	74	1	490
35	19	1	57	7	6	90	1	592
36	21	0	53	7	10	91	0	536
37	25	1	39	15	4	84	0	532
38	26	2	75	15	7	125	0	658
39	29	3	59	13	11	115	3	561
40	13	1	38	13	9	74	1	586
41	16	0	41	8	6	71	0	503
42	11	2	69	3	4	89	0	729
43	12	0	59	12	5	88	0	672
44	37	0	40	14	9	100	0	581
45	14	2	31	4	6	57	0	469
46	24	1	107	18	8	158	1	695
47	11	0	94	10	5	120	0	601
48	25	2	67	22	5	121	0	746
49	23	1	54	12	1	91	0	582
50	19	1	68	26	9	123	0	668
51	31	0	65	19	9	124	0	694
52	16	0	72	9	6	103	0	680
53	21	0	74	12	9	116	1	636
54	9	2	37	10	9	67	0	429
55	19	3	42	9	5	78	0	605
56	11	1	47	4	1	64	0	696
57	8	1	37	14	2	62	0	578
58	35	1	17	21	3	77	0	601
59	14	0	21	19	3	57	1	591
60	15	0	19	30	4	68	0	563
61	24	2	28	13	4	71	0	484
62	32	0	29	26	8	95	1	635
63	21	6	42	36	3	108	0	557
64	29	0	37	32	6	104	0	541
65	26	0	25	19	0	70	1	583
66 67	9 46	1	17 37	10 21	7 7	44 111	0	436 649
68	6	0	24	13		45	0	599
69	22	0	39	30	2 1	92	0	
70	49	2	32	16	10	109	0	682 694
71	18	2	21	9	4	54	0	536
72	22	1	16	14		53		504
73	17	2	42	16	0 5	82	0	726
74	19	0	47	18				503
75	16	0	20	17	2	86 55	0	526
76	21	0	47	14	8	90	0	630
77	26	0	8	20	4	58	1	601
78	26	0	42	11	1	80	0	570
79	34	0	28	27	5	94	0	536
80	20		48	13	8	89		522
81S *1	18	0	56	5	16	97	0	176
010 1	10	۷	30	J	10	31	U	170

82S *1 83S *1 84S *1 85S *2 86S *2 87S *2 88S *2 89S *2 90S *2	- - - 36 - - - - - 3,197	- - 5 - - - - 110	57	- - 5 - - -	- - 20 - -	- - 123 - -	- - 3 - -	30 14 48 63 107 32
84S *1 85S *2 86S *2 87S *2 88S *2 89S *2 90S *2	- - - - 3,197	- - - -	- - - -	- 5 - -	- 20 - -	- 123 - -	- - 3 - -	48 63 10 33
85S *2 86S *2 87S *2 88S *2 89S *2 90S *2	- - - - 3,197	- - - -	- - - -	- 5 - - -	- 20 - - -	- 123 - -	- 3 - -	6 10 3
86S *2 87S *2 88S *2 89S *2 90S *2	- - - - 3,197	- - - -	- - - -	5 - - -	20 - - -	123 - -	3 - - -	10
87S *2 88S *2 89S *2 90S *2		- - - - 110		- - -	-	-	-	3
88S *2 89S *2 90S *2		- - - - 110		- - -	-	-	-	
89S *2 90S *2		- - - 110		-	-	-	-	71
90\$ *2		- - 110	-	-	_			1 2
		110	-			-	-	115
		110	=	-	-	-	-	145
Sub totals	39		7,692	1,746	908	13,653	27	47,46
	39							
s. 98 Special		1	65	8	20	133	1	
s. 99 Absentee - in ED	156	2	291	109	51	609	3	
s. 100 Absentee - out of ED	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
s. 101 Absentee - advance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
s. 104 Voting in DEO office	96	7	295	29	23	450	4	
s. 106 Voting by mail	23	1	63	1	4	92	0	
Grand totals	3,511	121	8,406	1,893	1,006	14,937	35	
% of valid votes	23.51%	0.81%	56.28%	12.67%	6.73%			
Valid votes - General and advance	13,653	91.40%	Total	valid votes				
s. 98 Special	133	0.89%	Total	valid votes				
s. 99 Absentee - in ED	609	4.08%		valid votes				
s. 100 Absentee - out of ED	0	0.00%		valid votes				
s. 101 Absentee - advance	0	0.00%		valid votes				
s. 104 Voting in DEO office	450	3.01%	Total	valid votes				
s. 106 Voting by mail	92	0.62%		valid votes				
Total valid votes	14,937							
Rejected ballots	35	0.23%		Ballots cast				
Registered voters who voted	14,972	31.55%	Regist	tered voters				
Registered voters	47,461							
Candidate elected:	Ben Stewart (LI	B)						
*1 Voting areas 81S, 82S, 83S ar *2 Voting areas 85S, 86S, 87S, 8								

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For a map of Kelowna West, visit <a href="http://elections.bc.ca/2017edMapKLW">http://elections.bc.ca/2017edMapKLW</a>

## **CAMPAIGN FINANCING**

#### Introduction

Under the *Election Act*, candidates, political parties, and constituency associations involved in the by-election must file election financing reports within 90 days after General Voting Day.

Individuals and organizations that sponsor election advertising must register with Elections BC. Registered third party advertising sponsors who sponsor election advertising with a value of \$500 or more must file election advertising disclosure reports within 90 days after General Voting Day.

Summaries of the election financing reports received by Elections BC are shown below. These summaries reflect the financing reports as filed and do not include subsequent amendments. After filing, Elections BC staff review the reports for accuracy, completeness, and compliance with the *Election Act*. The filed reports and any subsequent amendments are available for viewing on the Elections BC website.

The financial filing deadline was 4:30 p.m. on May 15, 2018. All reports were submitted by the filing deadline.

#### **Election expenses limits**

The election expenses limit for candidates and registered political parties during the campaign period was \$58,000. The expenses limit for third party advertising sponsors was \$3,000.

Registered constituency associations are prohibited from incurring election expenses except on behalf of a candidate, and any such expenses are deemed to be election expenses of the candidate. Therefore, constituency associations do not have an election expenses limit.

#### **Election expenses reimbursement**

Candidates and registered political parties qualify for reimbursement of up to 50% of eligible election expenses related to the by-election if the candidate or party received at least 10% of the total number of valid votes. The election financing summaries in this report include estimated reimbursement amounts.

#### Registered political parties

The election financing information in this report includes both the total inflows and total outflows for each registered political party that endorsed a candidate. Total inflows and total outflows may not be equal. This commonly occurs because the reporting periods are different for inflows and outflows.

Total inflows include income and loans received. Except for other income, total inflows are reported from January 1, 2018 to the close of voting on General Voting Day. Other income is miscellaneous income related to the election only.

**Political contributions:** amount of money or the value of any property or services provided without compensation by way of donation, advance, deposit, discount or otherwise.

**Transfers received:** non-reciprocal receipts of money, goods or services from a registered constituency association, candidate or leadership contestant.

**Fundraising income:** the portion of income from fundraising functions that is not reported as political contributions.

**Other income:** income related to the election from miscellaneous sources.

**Loans received:** the original amount of loans received for election expenses. Some or all of the loan may have been repaid.

Total outflows are related to the election only and are categorized as follows:

Election expenses subject to the expenses limits: the value of property or services used during the campaign period, by or on behalf of a registered political party, registered constituency association, or a candidate to promote or oppose a registered political party or a candidate (e.g. advertising and campaign office expenses). The campaign period is the time between when an election is called (January 17, 2018) and the close of general voting (February 14, 2018). The Election Act limits the amount of election expenses a registered political party or candidate can incur during this period.

Election expenses not subject to the expenses limits: election expenses specifically excluded from the election expenses limits (e.g. audit fees). This type of expense is described in section 203 of the *Election Act*.

**Other expenses:** the value of goods and services used outside the campaign period but in relation to the election.

**Transfers given:** non-reciprocal provisions of money, goods or services to a registered constituency association, a candidate or a leadership contestant.

#### Registered constituency associations

Registered constituency associations are prohibited from incurring election expenses, except on behalf of a candidate. All election expenses incurred on behalf of a candidate must be included in the candidate's election expenses. Therefore, constituency associations do not report any expenses in their election financing reports. The only outflows reported are transfers given between January 1, 2018 and General Voting Day. Total inflows include income and loans received. Income is from January 1, 2018 to the close of voting on General Voting Day.

**Political contributions:** amount of money or the value of any property or services provided without compensation by way of donation, advance, deposit, discount or otherwise.

**Transfers received:** non-reciprocal receipts of money, goods or services from a registered political party or a candidate.

**Fundraising income:** the portion of income from fundraising functions that is not reported as political contributions.

**Loans received:** the original amount of loans received for election expenses. Some or all of the loan may have been repaid.

The only outflows reported by registered constituency associations in election financing reports are:

**Transfers given:** non-reciprocal provisions of money, goods or services to a registered political party or a candidate.

#### **Candidates**

The election financing information for candidates in this report includes both the total inflows and outflows. Total inflows and total outflows may not be equal. This commonly occurs when items owned by a candidate prior to a campaign period are used, and therefore reported as election expenses but not as inflows.

**Political contributions:** amount of money or the value of any property or services provided without compensation by way of donation, advance, deposit, discount or otherwise.

**Transfers received:** non-reciprocal receipts of money, goods or services from a registered political party or a registered constituency association.

**Fundraising income:** the portion of income from fundraising functions that is not reported as political contributions.

**Other income:** income related to the election from miscellaneous sources.

**Loans received:** the original amount of loans received for election expenses. Some or all of the loan may have been repaid.

Total outflows are categorized as follows:

Election expenses subject to the expenses limits: the value of property or services used during the campaign period, by or on behalf of a registered political party, registered constituency association, or a candidate to promote or oppose a registered political party or a candidate (e.g. advertising and campaign office expenses). The campaign period is the time between when an election is called (January 17, 2018) and the close of general voting (February 14, 2018). The Election Act limits the amount of election expenses a registered political party or candidate can incur.

**Election expenses not subject to the expenses limits:** election expenses
specifically excluded from the election
expenses limits (e.g. nomination deposits and
audit fees). This type of expense is described
in section 203 of the *Election Act*.

**Other expenses:** the value of goods and services used outside the campaign period but in relation to the election.

**Transfers given:** non-reciprocal provisions of money, goods or services to a registered political party or a registered constituency association.

#### Third party advertising sponsors

The following definitions are relevant to third party advertising sponsors:

**Election advertising:** the transmission, by any means, of an advertising message to the public that:

- is transmitted during the campaign period, and
- promotes or opposes, directly or indirectly, a registered political party or the election of a candidate. This includes taking a position on an issue with which a candidate or registered political party is associated.

Election advertising does not include documents sent directly by a person or group to their members, employees or shareholders, or the transmission by an individual, on a non-commercial basis on the Internet, or by telephone or text messaging, of their personal political views.

All third party advertising sponsors must be registered. Under section 244 of the *Election Act*, a third party advertising sponsor is not required to file a disclosure report if, during the campaign period, the advertising sponsored did not have a total value of \$500 or more.

No registered third party advertising sponsors sponsored election advertising of \$500 or more.

#### Financing report summaries

The following pages provide election financing summaries for political parties, constituency associations and candidates. No third parties sponsored advertising with a total value of \$500 or more. These summaries are of the financing reports as they were filed with Elections BC. Any amendments are published in the Financial Reports and Political Contributions system (FRPC) on Elections BC's website, available at elections.bc.ca/frpc.

## Registered political parties

Registered political party	BC Green Party GP	BC Liberal Party LIB	BC NDP NDP
	\$	\$	\$
Inflows			
Political contributions	50,688	110,791	283,444
Transfers received	117	2,868	2,596
Fundraising income	-	2,894	600
Other income	415,557	-	36
Loans received	-	3,000,000	-
Total inflows	466,362	3,116,553	286,676
Outflows			
Election expenses subject to the expenses limit	3,268	819	3,542
Election expenses not subject to the expenses limit	46,836	25,964	18,597
Other expenses	16,822	-	-
Transfers given	21,136	53,401	119,835
Total outflows	88,062	80,184	141,974
Estimated election expense reimbursement	1,634	5,408	1,771

Registered political party	Conservative	Libertarian
	СР	LBN
	\$	\$
Inflows	6,844	263
Political contributions	-	-
Transfers received	-	-
Fundraising income	-	-
Other income	-	-
Loans received	-	-
Total inflows	6,844	263
Outflows		
Election expenses subject to the expenses limit	680	2,152
Election expenses not subject to the expenses limit	3,112	-
Other expenses	-	-
Transfers given	5,369	-
Total outflows	9,161	2,152
Estimated election expense reimbursement	-	

## Registered constituency associations

Political party affiliation	NDP
	<b>\$</b>
Inflows	
Political contributions	-
Transfers received	11,985
Fundraising income	-
Loans received	-
Total inflows	11,985
Transfers given	17,384

#### Candidates

Candidate	Cook, Shelley NDP	Geronazzo, Kyle Michael Ernest LBN	Stewart, Ben LIB	Stupka, Robert GP	Thompson, Mark CP
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Inflows					
Political contributions	659	-	233	22,258	800
Transfers received	49,783	250	87,307	36,136	5,369
Fundraising income	-	-	-	-	-
Other income	1,465	-	250	810	250
Loans received	-	-	-	-	-
Total inflows	51,907	250	87,790	59,204	6,419
Outflows					
Election expenses subject to the expenses limit	45,325	_	49,680	41,518	6,419
Election expenses not subject to the expenses limit	1,091	250	3,925	839	-
Other expenses	2,921	-	33,935	8,127	-
Transfers given	-	-	250	4,500	-
Total outflows	49,337	250	87,790	54,984	6,419
Estimated election expense reimbursement	22,214	-	24,840	16,614	_

## **ELECTIONS BC EXPENSES**

The following expenses were incurred by Elections BC in administering the 2018 Kelowna West Byelection:

Table 7: Elections BC expenses

Central office sxpenses	Combined totals for fiscal years 2017/2018 & 2018/2019
Salaries	\$29,182
Professional services	7,698
Travel	12,158
Information systems	107,322
General office expenses	32,013
Voter notice postage/printing	43,995
Advertising and publications	61,615
Total	\$293,983

District electoral office expenses	Combined totals for fiscal years 2017/2018 & 2018/2019
District electoral officer salary and benefits	\$26,836
Deputy district electoral officer salary and benefits	21,477
Election official fees	138,053
Support staff salaries	25,006
Travel	701
General office expenses	11,701
Ballot printing	11,989
Voting place rental	20,792
Office rental	15,000
Total	\$271,555
Total election expenses	\$565,538
Number of registered voters on General Voting Day	47,461
Cost per registered voter	\$11.92

Estimated election expense reimbursements to candidates and political parties <sup>1</sup> \$73,0
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<sup>1 —</sup> Estimate based on claims filed by eligible candidates and parties. Actual cost will not be known until Elections BC has audited the claims and associated receipts.

#### **Elections BC**

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