

Election Sign Guide 2026

Information for Candidates

This guide explains where election signs may be placed in Dawson Creek, how to check City boulevard locations, when signs may be installed and removed, and the provincial advertising information that must appear on most signs.

Important dates

Date	What happens
September 19, 2026	Campaign period begins. Under section 7.6(f), signs may be installed beginning at midnight.
October 17, 2026	General Voting Day.
October 19, 2026	Monday following General Voting Day. All political signs must be removed by this date.

Quick checklist

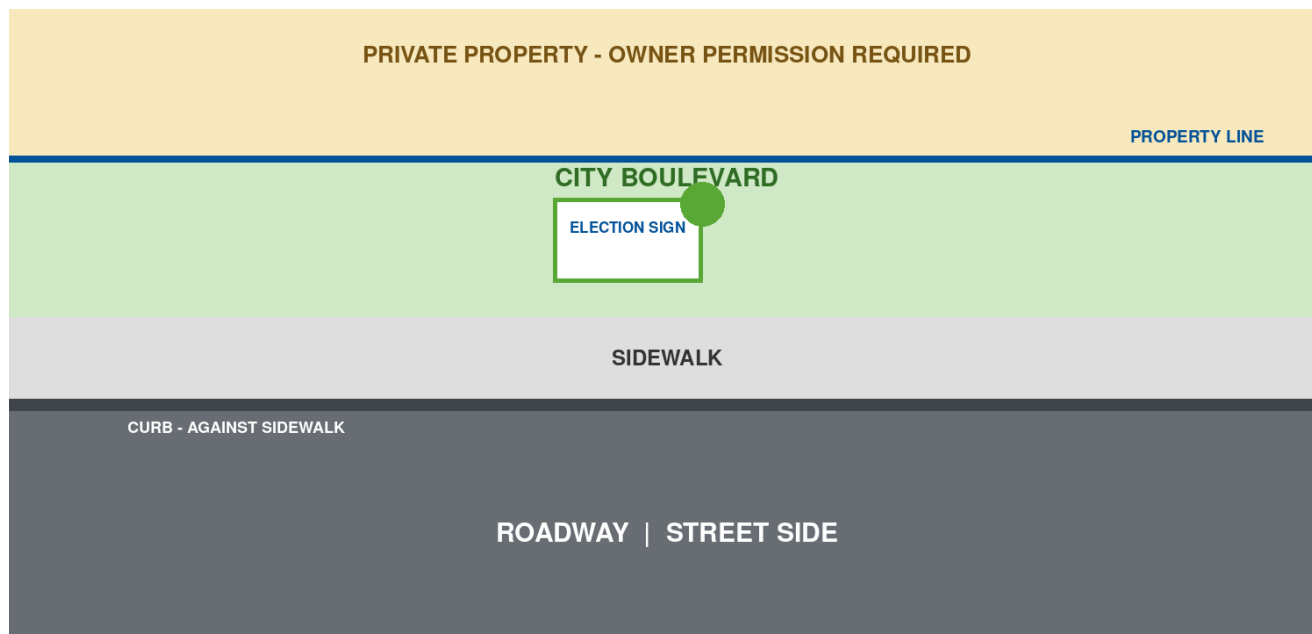
- Use a City boulevard or obtain permission from the private property owner.
- Keep signs outside intersection sight triangles and away from sidewalks, driveways and lanes so as not to create a visual obstruction.
- Do not attach signs to City trees, poles, hydrants, fences or other public surfaces.
- Include the required financial-agent authorization statement.
- Remove every sign by Monday, October 19, 2026.

Sign permits are not required for a political sign, but every sign must comply with the rest of Sign Regulation Bylaw No. 4369, 2018.

Where signs may be placed

City boulevards

Political signs may be placed on City boulevards if they do not interfere with visibility or create a hazard. In many Dawson Creek neighbourhoods, the sidewalk touches the curb. The boulevard grass is on the property side of the sidewalk, between the sidewalk and the adjoining property line.



Check before installing. A grassy strip beside a road is not automatically a City boulevard. Property boundaries are not always obvious. Use the City WebMap or contact Bylaw Services if the location is uncertain.

Private property

Political signs may be placed on private property only with the property owner's permission.

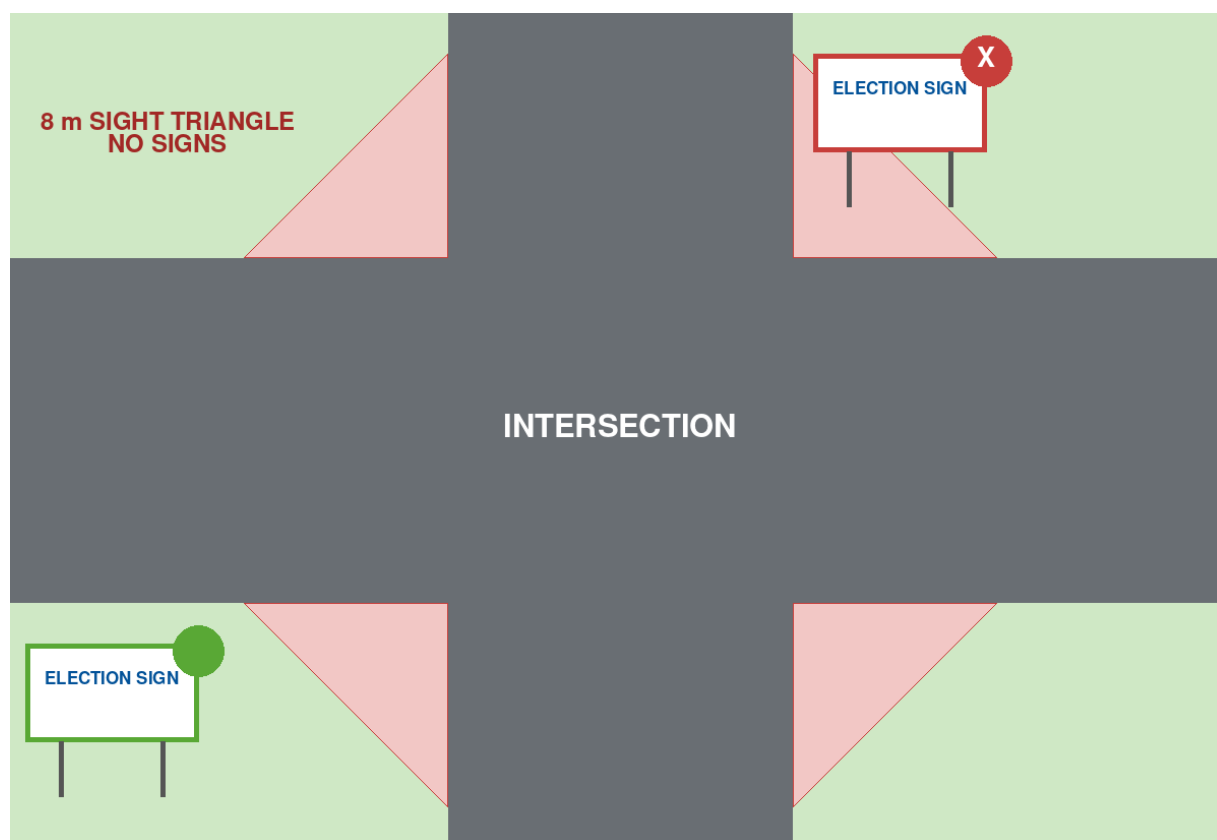
Locations that are not permitted

- Inside the traffic circle.
- City parks, municipal facilities, City-owned lots or other municipal property that is not a boulevard.
- Any location that blocks a driver's view or creates a hazard for pedestrians.
- Private property without the owner's permission.
- Trees, poles, hydrants, bridges, fences, structures or other surfaces in a public place.

Safe sign placement

Keep intersections clear

Political signs must not intrude into the eight-metre sight triangle at an intersection. Measure approximately eight metres along each street edge from the corner and keep the triangular area between those points clear.



The diagram is a general illustration. Site conditions vary. A sign must never block the view of a driver or pedestrian, even when it appears to be outside the illustrated area.

Protect pedestrians and road users

- Keep sidewalks, trails and walkways fully open.
- Do not place signs in a roadway, driveway or travelled lane.
- Make sure signs are stable and maintained in a safe, clean condition.
- Consider snow clearing, mowing, utilities and other roadside maintenance.

Special irrigation areas



Irrigation lines are approximately six inches below the surface and run both parallel and perpendicular to the street and access road in the locations below. Only small wire signs, or larger wooden signs supported above ground with weights, may be used in these areas.

- 8th Street median flower beds near Dawson Mall and the George Dawson Inn.
- Boulevards between 8th Street and the access road from 116th Avenue to 122nd Avenue.
- Kin Park and Dawson Trail Arch turf area at the beginning of Dawson Trail at 8th Street.
- Turf area at the northeast corner of Alaska Avenue and 17th Street.

Avoid irrigation damage. Do not drive large wooden posts into the ground in these locations. If there is any doubt about the installation method, contact Bylaw Services first.

How to check the City WebMap

1	Open the Dawson Creek WebMap and accept the terms of use.
2	Search for the address or proposed sign location.
3	Open Layer List, then City Data Layers, then Cadastral.
4	Turn on Property and Right of Way to view approximate boundaries.
5	Confirm that the location is a boulevard and complete a safety check before installing the sign.

The WebMap is a useful reference, but its boundaries are approximate and are not a legal survey. Contact the City before acting on a location that remains unclear.

Signs beside provincial highways

Some roads and rights-of-way are controlled by the Province rather than the City. Election signs placed on a provincial highway right-of-way must meet the B.C. Ministry of Transportation and Transit Election Signs and Posters Policy as well as any other applicable requirements.



Provincial highway checklist

- Only a registered political candidate or political party may install the sign.
- Identify the sign owner and include a B.C. telephone number or B.C. mailing address where the owner can be contacted. This is separate from the Elections BC authorization statement.
- Place the election sign farther from the road than standard traffic signs.
- Do not obstruct, imitate or attach the sign to a traffic sign, signpost, traffic-signal pole or other traffic-control device.
- Do not create a traffic hazard or place a sign on a bridge, overpass, tunnel or other highway structure.
- Third-party election signs are not permitted on provincial highway rights-of-way.

Timing and removal

The Ministry policy allows municipal election signs beginning 36 days before General Voting Day and requires removal on the day following the election. Within Dawson Creek, candidates must also consider the City's timing rules. Confirm the applicable requirements before installing a sign on a provincial highway right-of-way.

The Ministry may remove a sign that does not comply. Signs left in place beyond the provincial removal deadline may be removed by maintenance contractors, and the identified owner may be charged the removal cost.

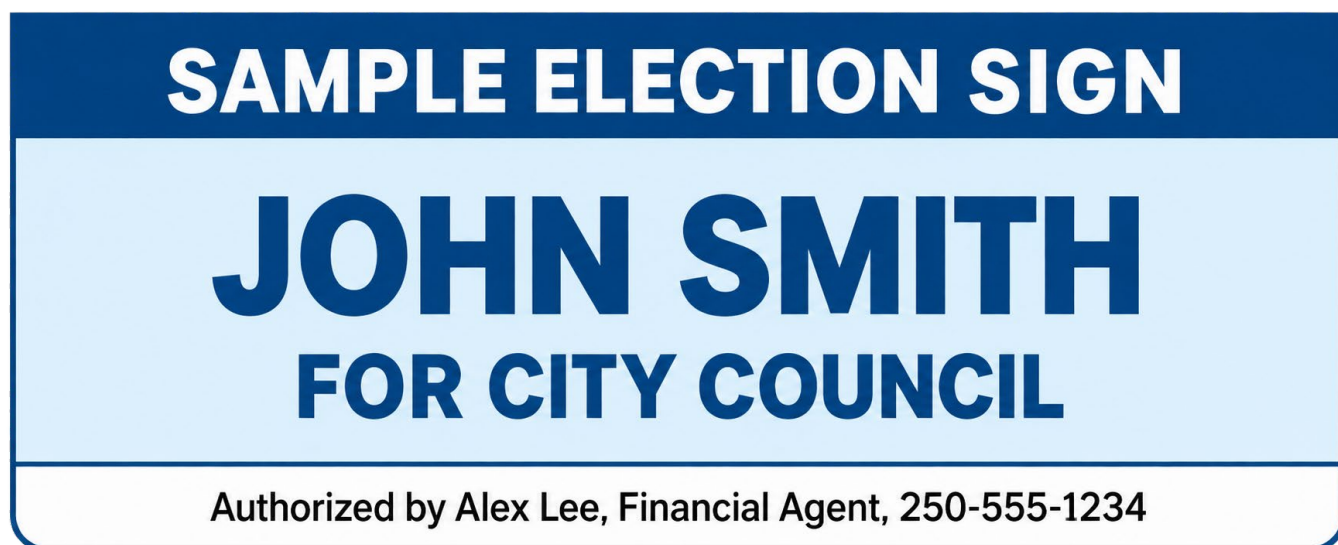
Provincial advertising requirements



The Local Election Campaign Financing Act applies to candidates and elector organizations in B.C. local elections. Elections BC regulates campaign financing and election advertising; the City regulates local sign placement and safety.

Authorization statement

Most election advertising, including signs, must indicate that it was authorized by the financial agent. The statement must include the financial agent's name and a B.C. telephone number, email address or mailing address.



General Voting Day

Signs, posters and banners may continue to be displayed on General Voting Day if they comply with municipal rules and are more than 100 metres from a voting place. Candidates and elector organizations must not post, display or distribute advertising or identifying materials within 100 metres of a voting place while voting is taking place.

Campaign expenses

The cost or market value of producing and using election signs is an election expense. Campaigns are responsible for recording and reporting these expenses in the correct period. Contact Elections BC for advice about a specific campaign.

Frequently asked questions



Do I need a City sign permit?

No. A permit is not required for political signs, but all other requirements of the Sign Regulation Bylaw apply.

How do I know if land is a City boulevard?

Use the City WebMap and turn on the Property and Right of Way layers. Because the map is approximate, contact Bylaw Services if the boundary is unclear.

Can I place a sign on a residential lawn?

Yes, but only with permission from the property owner.

Can I place a sign in a park or on another City lot?

No. Political signs are permitted on municipal property only when the location is a boulevard.

Can I attach a sign to a tree or utility pole?

No. Signs cannot be attached to City trees, poles, hydrants, fences, bridges, structures or other public surfaces.

What if the proposed location is beside a provincial highway?

Provincial highway rights-of-way are subject to the Ministry's Election Signs and Posters Policy. Signs must be farther from the road than standard traffic signs, must not interfere with traffic-control devices or highway structures, and must include the owner contact information required by the Ministry.

What happens if a sign is placed improperly?

A sign unlawfully occupying a highway or public place may be removed by the City. Applicable recovery fees and removal costs may be charged. Signs on private parcels may also be subject to notice and removal requirements.

Where can I get help?

For general election questions, contact the City of Dawson Creek Election Team at 250-784-3600 or election@dawsoncreek.ca

For sign placement, contact City of Dawson Creek Bylaw Services at 250-784-3657 or bylaw@dawsoncreek.ca.

For authorization statements, advertising expenses or provincial campaign rules, contact Elections BC at 1-800-661-8683 or electoral.finance@elections.bc.ca.

Contacts and official sources



Who regulates what

Authority	Main responsibility
City of Dawson Creek	City boulevards, private-property permission, sightlines, safety, installation timing and local removal.
Elections BC	Authorization statements, election advertising and campaign-expense reporting.
B.C. Ministry of Transportation and Transit	Signs located on provincial highway rights-of-way and highway structures.

Contacts

City of Dawson Creek Bylaw Services: 250-784-3600 or bylaw@dawsoncreek.ca

Elections BC: 1-800-661-8683 or electoral.finance@elections.bc.ca

Official sources

- [City Sign Regulation Bylaw No. 4369, 2018](#)
- [Dawson Creek WebMap](#)
- [Elections BC Local Election Advertising Quick Reference Sheet](#)
- [B.C. Policy Manual for Supplemental Signs](#)

This guide summarizes key requirements for convenience. The applicable legislation and bylaws prevail if there is any inconsistency.