



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF GREENVIEW

Petitions are used to express public opinion and give residents participative power in local governance. A petition is a written request signed by Greenview electors, which is then presented to Greenview's Council.

1. Electors may petition for the following items:

- A) A public meeting before Council on a given issue (s. 221.1);
- B) A vote of electors on an advertised bylaw or resolution (s. 231(1));
- C) A new bylaw (s. 232(1));
- D) To amend or repeal an existing bylaw or resolution (s. 232(1)); or to
- E) Recall a local elected official (s. 240.1(1)).

2. Petitions must meet certain requirements to be considered sufficient. These requirements are laid out in the *Municipal Government Act*. Petitions must be signed by 10% of eligible petitioners. An eligible petitioner is:

- A) at least 18 years old;
- B) a Canadian citizen; and
- C) a resident of Greenview at the time of signing the petition.

3. Petition packages (Subsections 1A through 1D above) must include the following elements for each petitioner:

- A) Each page of the petition must contain an identical statement of the purpose of the petition;
- B) The printed surname and printed given names or initials of petitioner;
- C) The petitioner's signature;
- D) The street address of the petitioner or the legal land description land on which the petitioner lives;
- E) The petitioner's telephone number or e-mail address, if any;
- F) The date on which the petitioner signs the petition;
- G) Each signature must be witnessed by an adult person who must:
 - i. Sign opposite the signature of the petitioner; and
 - ii. Take an affidavit that to the best of the person's knowledge, the signatures witnessed are those of persons entitled to sign the petition.
- G) The petition must have attached to it a signed statement of a person stating that:
 - i. The person is the representative of the petitioners; and
 - ii. The municipality or the Minister, as the case requires, may direct any inquiries about the petition to the representative.

4. Recall petitions are documents which compel local elected officials to resign. Due to their coercive nature, recall packages have many technical aspects which need to be followed and are outlined in Part 7.1 of the *Municipal Government Act*. A successful recall petition requires the following documentation:

- A) Must identify:
 - i. The councillor to whom the recall petition relates by name;
 - ii. Identify the representative of the recall petition by name and their contact information;
 - iii. Confirm that Greenview may direct any inquiries about the petition to the representative and indicate the preferred contact method.
- B) Notice of a recall petition must be accompanied by a statement which provides the representative recall petitioner's:
 - i. Street address or legal land description;
 - ii. Mailing address, if different from section 4(B)(i);
 - iii. Telephone or email address; and a
 - iv. Statement affirming the representative is eligible to sign the recall petition, consents to the responsibilities of leading the recall petition, gathering signatures, and otherwise consents to discharging the duties of a representative recall petitioner.
- C) The payment of a \$500 application fee.
- D) Any other information proscribed by the regulations (*None as of January 18, 2023*)

4.1. Requirements of a successful recall petition include the following:

- A) Only electors which are eligible to vote for the councillor may sign a recall petition against the councillor named in the recall petition (*Clarification: To sign a recall petition, electors must live in the same ward as the councillor named in the recall petition package*);
- B) An individual elector must only sign a recall petition once;
- C) A recall petition must be signed by 40% of the population within the ward;
- D) Each page of the recall petition must include the statement outlined in section 4(A);
- E) Each petitioner signature must be witnessed by an adult person who must:
 - i. Sign opposite the signature of the petitioner; and
 - ii. Make an affidavit that to the best of the person's knowledge the signatures witnessed are those of the persons entitled to sign the petition.
 - iii. The affidavits referred to in section 4.1(F)(ii) must be attached to the recall petition.
- F) For each petitioner who signs the recall petition, the following items must be included:
 - i. The printed surname and printed given names, or initials, of the petitioner;
 - ii. The petitioner's signature;
 - iii. The street address or legal land description on which the petitioner lives;
 - iv. The petitioner's telephone number or email address; and
 - v. The date on which the petitioner signed the petition.

4.2. There are some limitations on recall petitions. A representative recall petitioner may not submit a notice of petition:

- A) Within the 18-month period immediately following the day on which the councillor named in the notice of recall petition was elected; or
- B) Within the period commencing on January 1 of the year of a general municipal election; or
- C) In digital format, including digital signatures.