

## Some Simple Rules for Running in NWT Elections

### **Running in the Territorial Election, to be Eligible:**

- ✓ You MUST be a Canadian citizen
- ✓ You MUST be 18 years of age on or before the day you file your Nomination Paper
- ✓ You MUST have been a resident of the NWT for at least 12 months by the day you file your nomination papers

### **How do you get Nominated?**

- 15 eligible electors WITHIN the electoral district you are running in MUST nominate you.
- The name you use on your nomination papers will be the name that appears on the ballot, BE sure it is a name that people know you by.
- You MUST supply a photograph to accompany your nomination papers and it must comply with regulations under section 85 of the Elections and Plebiscites Act.
- You must pay a \$200 fee with your nomination papers
- Nominations will be accepted no later than 2:00pm on Friday September 7, 2007
- Withdrawals will be accepted until 5:00pm on Friday September 7, 2007

### **The Top 5 Questions to Remember when Campaigning:**

- Am I allowed to post my signs here?
- Do I have the name of my official agent on all my campaign materials?
- Have I remembered not to post within 100m of the polling station?
- What is the latest date I can make speeches, advertise, broadcast or entertain my voters? (12:01am Sunday September 6<sup>th</sup>)
- Have I removed all my signs within 14 days of polling day?

### **Other Questions:**

- Do I need an Official agent to deal with all my financial contributions and in-kind donations?  
Yes, you must have an official agent to look after all your financial transactions that involve your campaign. An official agent accepts donations on your behalf and is the only person who may write tax receipts for Electors in your district.
- Can I accept donations of immediately, if I am planning to run?  
No, you cannot accept donations towards your campaign until September 3<sup>rd</sup>. However, you can start spending your own money towards it as early as June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- The maximum amount you can spend is \$30,000 and this includes your own money that goes into the campaign.
- Also, you may not know this but all contributors to your campaign MUST be NWT residents.
- You can not accept donations of more than \$1500 each
- People can contribute up to \$1500 to as many people as they wish and they get a tax receipt for each and every candidate they contribute to.
- Volunteer labour does not count as a contribution
- Remember to pay close attention to Section 243 of the Elections Act for more information

- The names of your contributors are not published but are available for the public to see in the Elections Office (this includes everyone but anonymous and volunteer donors)
- Expenses less than \$50.00 do not need a receipt but your official agent must claim these expenses.
- You MUST file your financial return no later than 60 days after polling day.

### **The Who's Who of Elections:**

Official Agent- the person responsible for accepting all financial donations to a Candidate's campaign and writing official tax receipts on behalf of a Candidate. The Official Agent opens a bank account, deposits all money into that account for the campaign, keeps a record of all expenses, pays all expenses to do with the campaign and files a Candidate's financial return within 60 days of Polling Day.

#### **They Can NOT be:**

- A Candidate
- A Returning Officer
- A Poll Clerk
- Employee of the GNWT

### **Mark your Calendar:**

- ❑ September 17<sup>th</sup> – First day to apply to vote by special mobile poll
- ❑ September 19<sup>th</sup> – Voting in the Office of the Returning Officer begins
- ❑ September 20<sup>th</sup> – Advance Polls held from Noon-8pm
- ❑ September 22<sup>nd</sup> – Voting in the Office of the Returning Officer 10-4pm
- ❑ September 29<sup>th</sup> – Voting in the Office of the Returning Officer ends and Special Ballots available until 4pm
- ❑ October 1<sup>st</sup> – Election Day

#### **Sections of the Election Act to Keep in mind if you plan to run:**

Sections 79-98  
 Sections 87-88  
 Sections 99-100  
 Sections 237-249

#### **Any questions, concerns, or want to get involved?**

#### **Contact Elections NWT:**

**1-800-661-0796 or (867) 920-6999**

**Website: [www.electionsnwt.ca](http://www.electionsnwt.ca)**

#### **Some other Websites to note:**

- <http://www.equalvoice.ca/>
- <http://www.elections.ca/>
- <http://www.assembly.gov.nt.ca/>
- <http://statusofwomen.nt.ca/leadership/>
- <http://www.nwt.literacy.ca/famlit/howtokit/election/cover.htm>