

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ORDER OF THE MINISTER OF

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS AND HOUSING

Local Government Act

Ministerial Order No. M075

WHEREAS pursuant to section 167 of the Local Government Act (the “Act”), if the minister considers that special circumstances exist regarding an election, the minister may make any order the minister considers appropriate to achieve the purposes of Part 3 [Electors and Elections] or Part 4 [Assent Voting] of the Act;

AND WHEREAS Chief Election Officer for the City of Kamloops was appointed by council to administer an assent vote under section 58 of the *Local Government Act* in regard to “Kamloops Centre for the Arts Loan Authorization Bylaw No. 14-1-178, 2020” (the “bylaw”), and the chief election officer has given notice of an assent vote to be held April 4th, 2020;

AND WHEREAS on March 11th, 2020 the World Health Organization declared the spread of the coronavirus communicable disease (“COVID-19”) virus to be a pandemic;

AND WHEREAS on March 16, 2020 the British Columbia Provincial Health Officer issued an order prohibiting gatherings in excess of 50 people due to the COVID-19 pandemic

AND WHEREAS concerns for public health caused by the COVID-19 pandemic exist in relation to the conduct of the City of Kamloops assent vote;

AND WHEREAS, I, Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, believe that the COVID-19 pandemic constitutes a ‘special circumstance’ for the purposes of s.167, and that in order to achieve the purposes of Part 3 and Part 4 of the Act it is necessary to cancel the April 4th assent vote for the City of Kamloops;

NOW THEREFORE I HEREBY ORDER, pursuant to section 167 of the Act, that:

- 1) The assent vote set for the City of Kamloops established under section 174 of the Act is cancelled.

March 18, 2020

Date



Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

(This part is for administrative purposes only and is not part of the Order.)

Authority under which Order is made:

Act and section: Local Government Act, section 54, 167

Other: _____

- 2) Any mail ballots received for the April 4th assent vote must remain unopened and be destroyed by the Chief Election Officer.
- 3) The City of Kamloops may conduct a new assent vote in regard to the bylaw after a designated medical health officer gives advice to the City of Kamloops under s.73 (3) of the *Public Health Act* that the COVID-19 pandemic no longer poses a threat to public health, and that the assent vote may safely proceed.