

Voter's Guide



2026
General
Local
Election

2026 General Local Election

Voter's Guide to Town of Osoyoos Candidates

On October 17, 2026 the Town of Osoyoos will be conducting a general local election for:

Mayor – One (1) to be elected

Councillor – Four (4) to be elected

For a 4 (four) year term November 2026 – November 2030

Elections will also be held in Osoyoos water systems 8 and 9 for:

Water Councillor – Two (2) to be elected

For a 4 (four) year term November 2026 – November 2030

Voting Opportunities:

General voting day will be: **Saturday, October 17, 2026**

Advance voting days will be: **Wednesday, October 7, 2026 & Saturday, October 10, 2026**

All voting will take place at the Sonora Community Centre, 8505 – 68th Avenue, Osoyoos, BC, 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.

Note that **voting for Water Councillors** will also be conducted at Sonora Centre during these times, but is only open to RDOS residents living in and receiving water services from systems 8 and 9.

Mail Ballots will be available to eligible electors who cannot attend the advance or general voting days. Applications for Mail Ballots will be accepted starting on September 28, 2026. Application forms for resident and non-resident property electors will be available online at www.osoyoos.ca/council/elections or in-person at Town Hall, 8707 Main Street, Osoyoos BC, Monday to Friday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, excluding statutory holidays.

Voting Eligibility:

There is no need to pre-register to vote as the registration of all electors for this election will take place at the time of voting. You will be required to make a declaration that you meet the following requirements:

- be 18 years of age or older on general voting day (October 17, 2026);
- be a Canadian citizen;
- be a resident of BC for at least 6 months immediately preceding the day of registration (at time of voting);
- be a resident of the municipality OR have been the registered owner of real property in the municipality for at least 30 days immediately preceding voting day; and
- not be disqualified under the Local Government Act or any other enactment from voting in an election and or otherwise disqualified by law.

Resident electors must produce 2 documents of identification (at least one with a signature). Picture identification is not necessary. The identification must prove both residency and identity.

Non-resident property electors must produce 2 documents of identification (at least one with a signature) to prove identity, as well as proof that they are entitled to register in relation to the property and, if there is more than one owner of the property, written consent from the majority of the property owners is required. For more detailed information on eligibility for non-resident property electors, see osoyoos.ca 2026 Elections link information for voters.

Candidate Information:

Each of the candidates in the upcoming election were asked to provide a picture of themselves, along with up to 150 words to describe themselves and their platform. Profiles for each candidate follows in the order that they will appear on the ballot.

Candidates for the Office of Mayor

One (1) Mayor will be elected for a four year term, November 2026 - November 2030.

Candidates are listed in the same order as they will appear on the ballot, which was drawn by lot.



Scott Armstrong

My name is Scott Armstrong and I'm running for Mayor of Osoyoos. I have been coming to this community for 47 years. Firstly, vacationing and then purchasing a property 17 years ago. I retired two years ago and my wife and I have made Osoyoos home. Since arriving full time in town, I have been volunteering delivering fresh fruit and vegetables to the food bank every week last summer, working at the Coyotes games and helping to build an accessible washrooms at Desert Center. This summer I organized a concert that raised \$10,000.00 for the school backpack program. I spent over 47 years working in the construction industry ending the last ten years building and running large unitized curtain walls plants. I built and ran a wood panel remanufacturing plant I later sold. I believe with my vast experience I have the leadership skills needed to serve as your mayor.



primecutz@shaw.ca



604-812-3086



Zachary Poturica

I was born and raised in Osoyoos with family roots in the community going back to the late 1950's. I've recently finished 23 years with Nesters Market. Prior to being elected, I served with the Anarchist Mountain Fire Department for 12 years, and a director of the former Osoyoos Credit Union for 9 years where I served as Chair of both Audit and Conduct Review Committees. First elected to Council in 2022, I have served as the Council Representative for Destination Osoyoos and the Osoyoos Airport Development Society. Over the upcoming term I want to continue advancing our need for Senior Government funding to support our infrastructure needs, deliver safe drinking water and protecting our most important asset Osoyoos Lake. I also wish to continue to develop expanded opportunities for improved access to healthcare, accessibility, and build on our continued success as a Resort Municipality.



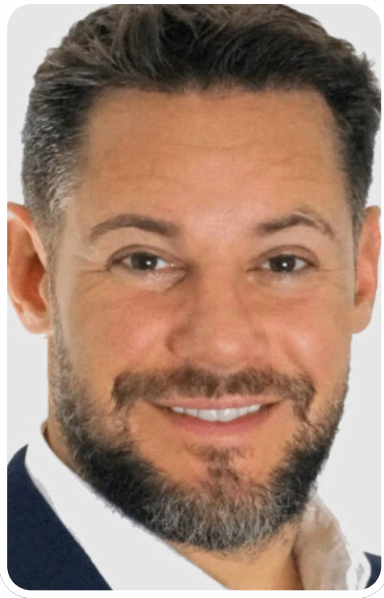
zach@poturica.ca



250-485-7287



www.poturica.ca



Dustin Sikora

I live in Osoyoos with my wife and two young daughters. My mother and my wife's parents live here full-time. Raised on the coast, I studied psychology and political science at university, served as Military Police in the Canadian Armed Forces and trained as a Close Protection Operator (bodyguard). I volunteered as a Big Brother, crisis hotline operator and R/Cst. with Delta Police. As Vice President of the Osoyoos Wildlife Federation, I invested personally to help turn the club around and establish it as a law-enforcement training provider. I founded and own The Range in Langley, staffed by dozens of employees which trains 31 police agencies, and invented a U.S. patent for hydraulic technology that recovers and remediates HAZMAT metals from shooting-range berms. I'm running for Mayor to deliver safe drinking water, responsible tax management, smart development, transparent leadership and to bring back the party.



dustinsikora2026@gmail.com



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@dustinsikora

Jim Dinwoodie

I have been a tax paying resident of Osoyoos for about 10 years, and I am looking forward to the opportunity to help our community grow and prosper. Working with you, my fellow councillors and Town staff I believe we can make Osoyoos not just one of many destination spots in our province but THE destination spot. My 33 years of experience working for various municipal governments gives me the knowledge to insure that Town administration is providing the most efficient and effective use of your tax dollars. As an enthusiastic supporter of the Arts, I will also work to add another dimension to visitor's experience in our community beyond simply being "that little town with a lake by the border". Thank you for considering me to lead Osoyoos into the future.



jamesdinwoodie32@gmail.com



250-495-3800

Tom Shields

1978 Arrived to put the news and sports on CKOO radio. 1981 I was the Development Officer which resulted in the Osoyoos Model Railroad opening in the Industrial Park. 1988 Chamber of Commerce president. I am pro-business and development with proper planning. 1983 Formed Tommy & the T-Birds, which led to major concerts: Bryan Adams and Tom Cochrane in 1992, and Music '91, featuring the Righteous Brothers and Bachman-Turner Overdrive. Mayor 1990 to 1996, 2000 to 2002. 2001 I stopped ICBC from putting a weigh scale on the Save-On Foods Plaza preventing idling Diesel trucks on Main Street near fast-food outlets and residences. Many folks have asked for the return to councilors having portfolios Major items; water and sewage functions and the taxation it has caused plus local health care and many others to follow. My pervious campaign slogans; "Leadership" and "I make things happen"



tshields@telusplanet.net



250-495-2029



Hart Buckendahl

I am a longtime South Okanagan resident, builder, developer, and community leader seeking to serve as Mayor of Osoyoos. I came to Canada from Germany with my family in 1955, graduated from Oliver High School, earned a diploma in Business Administration, and returned to the region to run our family farm and build homes across the South Okanagan. I served as Mayor of Oliver for 10 years, helping secure grants, expand services, extend water and sewer infrastructure, and support downtown revitalization. My work also included leading a provincial energy-audit program covering more than 26,000 homes. I am committed to practical, accountable leadership for Osoyoos. My priorities are reliable water and sewer infrastructure, accessible council meetings, effective town operations, strong support for local businesses, and opportunities for young people and families. I will work respectfully with residents, staff, and council to deliver responsible, cost-conscious results for our community every day, together.



250-498-9603



Hart Buckendahl

Candidates for the Office of Councillor

Four (4) Councillors will be elected for a four year term, November 2026 - November 2030.

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J.F. Launier

Born in Montreal, I moved to Osoyoos at age eight and learned English as a second language. I'm a proud Osoyoos Secondary School alumni who graduated with honours. Starting with washing dishes and planting vineyards, I went on to earn my Red Seal certification right here in town—building a strong work ethic along the way. My passion for automobiles led me to open a local autobody business and become active in clubs like the Cactus Jalopies Car Show and the Wine Country Racing Association. These events have helped put our community on the international map. I'm fortunate to have my wife, parents, and both of my children living here. Our deep love for Osoyoos is what drives me to run—so we can restore the community spirit and unity we once shared.



778-437-2204



deserttruck@telus.net



Jenn Demo

I have lived and worked in Osoyoos for almost 10 years, and I care deeply about our community and its future. Osoyoos is where I have chosen to build my life, and I want to help ensure it remains a thriving, welcoming, and sustainable community for generations to come—including my adult children, my two amazing grandchildren, and every family who calls Osoyoos home. Protecting our drinking water is one of my highest priorities. As our community grows and climate challenges increase, we need responsible planning, conservation, and sustainable infrastructure to protect this essential resource. I support balanced growth that respects Osoyoos' unique character while strengthening our local economy, small businesses, wineries, agriculture, and tourism. As Councillor, I will listen, lead with integrity, practice fiscal responsibility, and work collaboratively with residents, First Nations, businesses, and community organizations.

Strong Leadership. Safe Drinking Water. Sustainable Growth.



jenndemo@me.com



Derek Hesketh

I am a Civil Engineering Technologist, husband, father, and local business owner with deep roots in Osoyoos. My family has called Osoyoos home since the town's incorporation in 1946, giving me a strong appreciation for our community's history, character, and future. As the owner of a construction surveying company, I bring practical experience in development, infrastructure and construction. I am passionate about building a strong, vibrant, and sustainable community where families can put down roots and thrive. Most importantly, I want to help build an Osoyoos that my son will be proud to call home—one where he will want to return, build a career, raise a family, and continue the legacy of community that generations before him helped create.



derekhesketh@gmail.com



hesy_burger



Brian Bagnall

EXPERIENCE: DNVFRS, North Vancouver District— Captain Training Officer Hired Oct 1974 - Nov 2003 EDUCATION: Vancouver City College, VCC Downtown Campus— Adult Education; BCIT, British Columbia Institute of Technology — Certificate Management Systems PROJECTS: Pro Board Accreditation — Facilitated North Vancouver District Training Centre achieving Accreditation. This was accomplished under ten months during 9/11. Writing Operation Guideline for Silvex foam usage on the Wildland Urban Interface SKILLS: Public Speaking Toastmaster Former CPR Instructor St John's 1st Aid Instructor High Angle Rescue Instructor, Completed SCUBA Search and Rescue with Bob Teather, RCMP Peace Officer Survival Enhancement Course with CSIS International Advanced Tennis Coach/Instructor Level II ITPA Pickleball Coach/Instructor AWARDS: Bronze Live Saving Swimming Bronze Medal World Police and Fire Games San Jose California Gold Medal World Police and Fire Games Men's Doubles Vancouver BC Canada LANGUAGES: 5 Yrs Parisian French. Currently working at becoming fluent in Punjabi



250-900-4355



Johnny Cheong

It has been a privilege to call Osoyoos my home for the last 9 years. As a healthcare practitioner, small business owner and active volunteer, empowered with my strong academic background, I have been an engaged, skilled voice during my 4 years on council. My young family has grown deep roots here. I truly believe that if you have the capacity to help, it is your duty to do so. In these 4 years, we have overhauled the budget and our financial structure, created sustainability funding to ensure the current and future longevity of our assets, made significant strides in water treatment development, and have been successful in over \$9 million in grant funding. There's much more and I look forward to telling you all about them. Osoyoos Stronger Together. There is more work to be done. It would be my honour to continue our progress and serve you further.



johnnycheong@osoyoosstrongertogether.ca

Arlyn Greig



Before retiring to Osoyoos, I worked for 25 years with Fort McMurray Fire Department, serving four terms on the Executive Board (Firefighters Union). My work experience is in Budgeting, Purchasing, and Contractual Negotiations. I have also worked with Federal, Provincial and Town Officials on projects, and sat on the Board of Directors for our Senior's housing in Fort McMurray. I support working on our poor water quality as the main goal, and will strongly encourage fiscal responsibility by newly elected Mayor and Council. I will support an 'open door' policy, and lobby for Town Council meetings to be held in the evenings, so more citizens can attend. Should I be successful in my goal, that of becoming Osoyoos Town Councillor, my salary will be donated to local charities, community service, rather than Personal Gain. I will dedicate my time and skills to resolving concerns in the Town of Osoyoos.



arlyngreig@gmail.com



Osoyoos Election 2026



Natasha Stevenson

My connection to Osoyoos goes back decades. My family moved here in the 1970s, and I attended elementary and high school here. I later opened my first restaurant in Osoyoos in 2002 and have spent much of my working life building businesses, raising my family and contributing to this community. I believe strong communities are built through communication, collaboration and people willing to be part of the solution. I want residents to feel heard, local businesses to thrive, responsible development to be encouraged, and our lake and the character of Osoyoos protected as we grow. I am not running because I believe I have all the answers. I am running because I am willing to listen, ask questions, do the work and bring people together to find solutions. I would be honoured to earn your vote and serve the community that has been part of my life for so many years



250-498-7501



stevensonnn888@gmail.com



Sy Murseli

I am of Albanian heritage, citizen of Canada and New Zealand. In 1981 I immigrated to Canada from New Zealand. I have lived in Osoyoos for more than 45 years. My loyalty as a Council watchdog past thirty three years was, and will, be to the taxpayers – electorates of Osoyoos. I tried as a volunteer to be effective on the outside and I now want to work on the inside as your elected representative. I am 100 per cent pro-electorate-pro-taxpayers. In 2008 participated in walk to Afghanistan to support Canadian and U.S. troops and their families. In 2018 started walk for the troops to support Canadian-U.S. troops deployed to the Republic of Mali and their families. Walked 30 km from Osoyoos to Oroville and back.



250-495-4577



Ken Davreux

An Osoyoos resident since 1997, I am a local business owner, Director of Emergency Support Services, and a Director for the Association of Interior Realtors®. As a former Town Councillor (2003–2006) and active Rotarian, my family, business, and heart are firmly rooted here. Osoyoos faces complex challenges that demand accountable leadership. I will bring an experienced voice to council—one that asks the right questions and makes informed decisions for our shared future. My top priorities for our community are:

- Clean Water: Securing safe, high-quality drinking water that meets all health standards.
- Accountability: Restoring government transparency and improving community communication.
- Fiscal Responsibility: Ensuring the efficient use of tax dollars to curb rising property taxes.

I am dedicated to protecting what makes Osoyoos special while managing our growth responsibly. I would be honoured to earn your vote.



250-498-9002



ken.davreux@c21.ca



Pat Wycherley

For the past 19 years our family has made Osoyoos our home. I'm running because I care deeply about this community and the people who live here. As a resident of Osoyoos, I understand the importance of creating opportunities for families, supporting local businesses and ensuring Osoyoos has a sustainable future. I am committed to working hard, being a strong voice for residents, asking questions, advocating for transparent decision-making, and delivering practical solutions to the challenges we face. My goal is to help build a community where everyone feels heard and valued. Together, we can work toward building a strong administration team, improving our infrastructure, responsible financial management, better housing opportunities, and a vibrant local economy. We can build a community where families, seniors, businesses and young people can see a future. I'm asking for your support, your ideas and, on election day, your vote.



250-495-3587



wycherley@telus.net



Frank Zandvliet

I am born and raised here in Osoyoos, and was a Town employee for 33 years, finishing my career as the water/sewer lead hand. I donated my time as a Kinsmen and Elk member. I sit on the board of the Elks Golden Villa. I donated over 25 years to organizing the Canada Day Fireworks. I am an easy going, hard working man who has spent much of life helping others and giving back to my community. I have developed a reputation for being someone who enjoys solving problems and finding practical solutions. I take pride in making things work and most importantly, making people happy. My easy going personality makes me approachable and enjoyable to work with. My dedication to my community and willingness to help others makes me a valuable asset to Osoyoos. I would appreciate your support in the upcoming election.



zandvlietfrank64@gmail.com

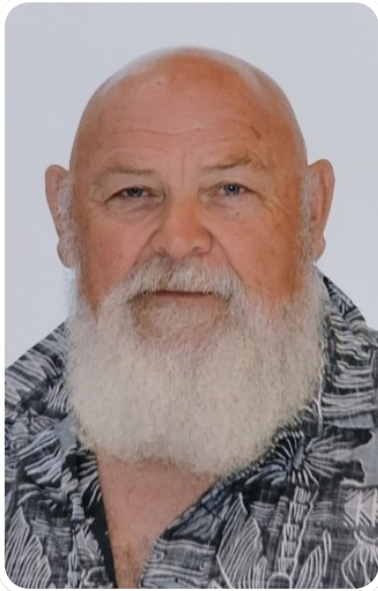


Bridget Wilson

Osoyoos - such a special place to live - is my home for the last 5+ years. I'm very interested in contributing to its future to keep it a special place to live. As a Strata Manager for approximately 25 years, I have developed extensive skills in listening, problem solving, communication, budgeting, financial reporting, follow-through, working with authorities and many "unique" people. I believe these skills can bring value to Town Council. If elected, I want to be a practicable, persistent, respectful, and approachable voice on Council. Yes, we must first address the water issue. It's our responsibility to provide clean drinking water to ALL! I hope to have your support and vote as one of your Town Councillors in the 2026 Election. Thank you!



bridgetwilson129@outlook.com



Ron Sargeant

I'm seeking election to the Osoyoos town council. I believe strong communities are built through open communication and working together to turn concerns into actions. Before moving to Osoyoos in 2019 I spent 45 years as a plumber including running my own business for over a decade. This experience taught me many transferable skills including problem solving, adaptability, building strong relationships, and the importance of budgeting for long term success. I have a long record of volunteering/community service including Scouting and 15 years with Search and Rescue prior to moving to Osoyoos. In my 7 years living here I have been a member of the Seniors Center, Festival Society, Elks, Legion, and Rotary. I look forward to bringing my diverse work/life experience to council so I can advocate for seniors, families, and all residents promoting sustainable solutions through community involvement, asking meaningful questions, council transparency, and follow-through.



canoesargeant@outlook.com



604-818-2396

Candidates for the Office of Water Councillor

Two (2) Water Councillors will be elected to represent the interests of Water Systems 8 & 9 on the Town of Osoyoos Council for a four year term, November 2026 - November 2030.

Candidates are listed in the same order as they will appear on the ballot, which was drawn by lot.

Sarabjit Rai

I have lived in Osoyoos and been a part of our community for 30 years. I am a farmer and have previously been water councillor for one term. I would appreciate the chance to serve this community again.
Thank you for your support.



250-498-0929



raiproduce@yahoo.com

Jim Shogren

I have lived in Osoyoos for 7 years and I know the topic of water is a high priority concern for most of us. Hoping to work with the mayor and councillors to insure the residents of my area have a respectful voice at the table. Appreciate your vote as one of the water councillors this term.



jimshogren@hotmail.com



Gurneet Chahal

I am 34 years old and have lived in Osoyoos for the past four years. My husband and his family have been farming 30 acres here in Osoyoos for over 30 years now. As someone with a young family that relies on agriculture in this regional district, I have a strong interest in ensuring Osoyoos continues to flourish and work with its growers. I promote and support accessibility and inclusivity within our town, responsible water use, and positive town development. With a major in political sciences and vested interest in water use, I believe myself to be an excellent candidate for Water Councillor.



780-235-0073