

MUNICIPAL ELECTION CANDIDATES EVENING PROCEDURE

The intention of this Candidates Evening is to have a neutral, dignified forum where political candidates competing for elected office respond to the same questions or reasonable inquiries presented by voters and supervised by a moderator, thereby providing viewers and listeners the opportunity to compare directly the candidates' positions on issues or receive their personal point of view on subjects of interest.

The goal of the candidates evening is to address issues, not persons, not religion, not ethnicity, as we promote political tolerance, politics without bitterness, constructive dialogue and politics of service to the people.

The prospect of presenting and defending their views in a face-to-face forum with political opponents encourages candidates to develop and articulate their positions during a campaign. As a result, some candidates have found that debates have helped them to campaign and govern better once elected.

The Procedure:

We highly encourage people to submit their questions ahead of time to bdo@sudburyeastchamber.ca. This will allow the committee to group similar questions and insure that all questions are reasonable and aren't construed as personal attacks.

When people are sending their questions, they need to follow the following format:

Your name:

Your municipality:

If the question is intended for a Ward, Mayor candidate, everyone or an Individual person:

Your question:

** Please note: questions not deemed appropriate or questions not following the proper format identified above will be discarded.*

Opening Speeches

We will begin the evening with opening speeches and platforms from each candidate.

Time limit to give these speeches is as follow:

- Mayor position = 4 minutes each
- Council positions = 2 minutes each

Speaking badly or in an unreasonable way of another candidate or current member occupying the position will not be tolerated and can disqualify your from the evening.

All speeches and answers will be monitored. Through the evening, there will be someone with a yellow and red flag. Once the yellow flag is raised, you are getting close to your time limit. Following the yellow flag, the red flag indicates your time is up. The moderator will be closely regulating your time. Please respect this time limit and wrap up your speech or answer when flagged. Going over your time after warning will result in being disqualified from the evening.

Common Question Box

There will be a common box, which contains questions that will be asked once, but answered by all the candidates. This is the common questions that all the viewers and voters to understand and compare the point of view of each candidate on a common issue.

****Each candidate, including mayor candidates, will have a period of 2 minutes to answer a question.*

Ward System Question Box

Aside from the common box, for a community that goes by ward system, they will have a box for each of the ward and mayor candidates. These questions will be asked to all candidates of that ward or mayor position and once again to allow viewers and voters to understand and compare the point of view of the candidates for their respective ward or the mayor position.

****Again, these questions have a response time of 2 minutes.*

If a community functions without wards, they will simply follow the common box procedure.

Adding questions to the box

At the beginning of the evening, we will again allow a 10 minutes period, for people to drop their questions in the respective boxes.

We do not guarantee at any moment, that all questions will be asked. We will be gaging the evening by number of candidates, number of questions and time we have to keep the evening at a reasonable time limit.

Open Microphone Period

At the end of the box question period, we will have an open microphone period, where people with specific questions not asked through the evening, or a question for a specific candidate may come to the microphone and ask the question.

Again, the open microphone period shall respect the candidates and not be seen as attacks and be a reasonable question that will enlighten voters for their upcoming election choice.

**** Candidates will have a period of 2 minutes to answer the questions.*

Depending on the time, these questions will also be limited to a certain number.

After the evening:

Voters will have an opportunity to send us questions on issues that they feel has great importance has not been answered or asked. Answering these question will be at the discretion of each candidate, however it does provide additional transparency.

These questions will be sent bdo@sudburyeastchamber.ca not later than September 18th 2018.

Please follow the previous format for sending us your questions:

Your name:

Your municipality:

If the question is intended for a Ward, Mayor candidate, everyone or an Individual person:

Your question:

** Please note: questions not deemed appropriate or questions not following the proper format identified above will be discarded.*
