



# **COUNT PROCEDURES**

## **COUNT PROCEDURES (SECTION 54)**

### **COUNTING THE VOTES**

Immediately after the close of the Voting Place, the DRO shall open the ballot box for his or her Voting Place and proceed to count:

- in case of an Election for office, the number of votes for each candidate;
- in the case of an Election to obtain the assent of the electors to a by-law, the number of votes in favour of the by-law and the number opposed to it; and
- in the case of an Election to obtain the opinion of the electors on any question, the number of votes for each possible answer to the question;
- ballots to be sorted into the following marked envelopes "Used/Counted", "Used/Spoiled", "Used/Rejected" and "Unused Ballots".

### **REJECTION OF BALLOTS**

The DRO shall reject from the count all ballots and votes in a ballot that do not comply with the following prescribed rules: O. Reg. 101/97:

- all votes in a ballot, if the ballot:
  - was not supplied by the Deputy Returning Officer; or
  - contains writing or marks that may identify the elector, or is torn, defaced and otherwise dealt with by the elector in a way that may identify him or her;
- all votes in a ballot for an office, if votes have been cast for more candidates for the office than are to be elected;
- all votes in a ballot on a by-law, if votes have been cast for both the affirmative and negative on the by-law;
- all votes in a ballot on a question, if votes have been cast for more than one answer on the question;
- any vote in a ballot, if the vote is not marked inside the space provided for marking the ballot.

The DRO Shall:

- decide all objections;
- prepare a list in which the objections are summarized and individually numbered. The summary should include the statement "Objected to By (the candidate's name or the candidate's scrutineer or the scrutineer's name in the case of a by-law or question)";
- write the number of each objection on the back of the relevant ballot and initial the number;
- count the ballots as required by legislation and make decisions related to the ballots as noted above. This does not preclude the appointment of more than one DRO for a Voting Place.