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COASTAL AND NORTHERN RESIDENTS SOUGHT BY ELECTIONS BC

VICTORIA - B.C.'s deputy chief electoral officer is asking residents of the north coast and northwestern B.C. to consider working with Elections BC as district electoral officers and deputy district electoral officers to manage election preparedness and the administration of the May 2009 general election and referendum on electoral reform.

"Elections BC looks for leaders in all B.C. communities, including those on the north coast and in northwestern B.C., to help us deliver the electoral process," Elections BC Deputy Chief Electoral Officer Linda Johnson said. "Having people from area communities hold these key leadership positions ensures we take advantage of local knowledge during these very important events. We are especially interested in hearing from residents in the Bulkley Valley- Stikine and North Coast electoral districts."

District electoral officers and deputy district electoral officers prepare and distribute materials and supplies and provide information and services to the general public, political parties and candidates. They receive, check and acknowledge receipt of nomination papers and arrange for the printing of voters lists and ballots. They are also responsible for ensuring the accessibility of voting opportunities including advance voting, mobile voting and general voting day operations.

"We would really like to hear from residents of the north coast and northwestern regions who are interested in this work," Johnson added. "The district electoral officer positions will appeal to retired or semiretired individuals who have management or leadership experience. Availability for training and part-time work is necessary during 2008. Full-time election-readiness operations will begin in April 2009."

Elections BC provides remuneration for these opportunities. The deadline for applying is Jan. 31. For more information on the Elections BC positions, visit the employment link at <u>www.elections.bc.ca</u> or call Elections BC at 1-800-661-8683.

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