

**VOTE BY MAIL: FORT WHYTE BYELECTION**

**Q: Who is eligible to vote by mail?**

**A:** All eligible voters registered in the Fort Whyte electoral division. This includes any Manitoban eligible to vote in a provincial election that has recently moved into the electoral division.

**Q: How do you apply?**

**A:** Apply online, by mail, or in person at Elections Manitoba. To apply by mail, voters can use the [fillable form](#).

**Q: What is the deadline to apply?**

**A:** Applications must be received by 8:00 pm on Saturday, March 19.

**Q: How does the voter complete ballot kit?**

**A:** See instructions below. These instructions are also included in the kit:

 <p><b>1.</b> Write the name of the candidate of your choice in the white box on the write-in ballot. A political party name alone will be accepted.</p>	 <p><b>2.</b> Insert the write-in ballot into the ballot envelope (801) and seal the envelope. Do not make any marks on this envelope.</p>
 <p><b>3.</b> Insert the ballot envelope into the certificate envelope (A) and seal the envelope.</p>	 <p><b>4.</b> Complete your date of birth and sign the certificate envelope (A). Place it in the pre-paid mailing envelope (B), seal and return. You must complete your date of birth and sign the envelope or your ballot won't be accepted.</p>
<p><b>5.</b> Elections Manitoba must receive the ballot by 8:00 p.m. on election day. Once you apply to vote by mail, you will not be able to vote in person.</p>	

**Q: What is the deadline to return the ballot? Do voters have to return ballot kits by mail?**

A: The completed ballot kit must be received at Elections Manitoba by 8:00 pm on election night. The kits can be returned by mail in the **pre-paid return envelope**. If voters are concerned that their ballot might not arrive in time to be counted, they can drop it off. **Kits returned after 8:00 pm on election night CAN NOT be counted.**

**Q: Can a voter change their mind and vote in person after they've requested vote by mail?**

A: No. Once a vote by mail application has been processed, the voter is struck off the voters list and they won't be able to vote in person.

**Q: What happens if a voter does not receive their ballot kit?**

A: Voters who don't receive their ballot kit should contact Elections Manitoba to request a replacement. Voters who apply online receive an email with a tracking code; they are encouraged to check whether their kit has been mailed before requesting a replacement.

**Q: Will absentee voting still be available?**

A: Yes. Absentee voters (voters who will be away during the advance period and on election day) can vote by mail. Vote by mail replaces absentee voting for this byelection, including for voters who will be away.

**Q: How is the vote kept secret?**

A: The ballot package contains a **secrecy** envelope and a **certificate** envelope: Voters place their marked ballot inside the secrecy envelope, which has no information about the voter. The secrecy envelope goes inside the certificate envelope with the voter's name, address and unique bar code.

Before the count begins, the secrecy envelopes are removed from the certificate envelopes and placed in the ballot box. This ensures that a voter can not be associated with their ballot when the ballots are being counted.

**Q: How does Elections Manitoba ensure that only eligible voters can vote by mail?**

A: There are safeguards at every step of the vote by mail process:

- To apply for a vote by mail kit, **voters must provide ID** and be registered to vote.
- Elections Manitoba **staff review and approve** vote by mail applications before sending out the kit.
- When completing their vote by mail kit, **voters must sign an oath** stating that they are eligible to vote and that they have not already voted in the election.
- Staff track ballots to ensure **only those issued by Elections Manitoba** are processed, counted and reported on election night.

**For media inquiries, please contact:**

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*Elections Manitoba is the independent office of the Legislative Assembly responsible for the administration of provincial elections and by-elections.*