

Decisions

Decision

Election Act
(R.S.Q., c. E-3.3)

Chief Electoral Officer

— Exercise of the duties of officers assigned to the list of electors during the by-elections in the electoral divisions of Taillon and Pointe-aux-Trembles

Decision of the Chief Electoral Officer pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by section 490 of the Election Act, concerning the exercise of the duties of officers assigned to the list of electors during the by-elections in the electoral divisions of Taillon and Pointe-aux-Trembles

WHEREAS order-in-council number 691-2006, issued on July 11, 2006, enjoins the Chief Electoral Officer to hold by-elections on Monday, August 14, 2006, in the electoral divisions of Taillon and Pointe-aux-Trembles;

WHEREAS section 310.1 of the Election Act (R.S.Q., c. E-3.3) provides that the returning officer shall appoint, in every polling station, two persons to act as officers assigned to the list of electors, recommended by the candidates of the authorized parties whose candidates came first and second at the last election;

WHEREAS section 315.1 of the Election Act provides that the officers assigned to the list of electors shall have the duty of informing the poll runners as to the electors who have exercised their right to vote;

WHEREAS the number of officers assigned to the list of electors on polling day in the electoral divisions of Taillon and Pointe-aux-Trembles will be insufficient to comply with the provisions of section 310.1 of the Election Act;

WHEREAS special provisions must be made by returning officers on polling day in situations where it is impossible for them to have two officers assigned to the list of electors in every polling station;

WHEREAS section 490 of the Election Act allows the Chief Electoral Officer to adapt a provision of the Act where he observes that, subsequent to an exceptional circumstance, it does not meet the demands of the situation;

WHEREAS the Chief Electoral Officer has informed the authorized parties represented in the National Assembly of his intention to use the provisions of the said section, and has taken the steps required to also inform the other authorized parties, the candidates and the electors in question;

The Chief Electoral Officer, pursuant to the powers conferred upon him by section 490 of the Election Act, has decided to adapt sections 310.1, 314 and 315 in order to authorize returning officers of the electoral divisions of Taillon and Pointe-aux-Trembles to take one of the following steps if they observe that the number of officers assigned to the list of electors is insufficient:

— appoint a single officer for each polling station;

— where it is impossible to ensure the presence of at least one officer in a polling station, have the duties of the officer performed by the deputy returning officer and the poll clerk.

This decision shall take effect on August 8, 2006.

Québec, 8 August 2006

MARCEL BLANCHET,
*Chief Electoral Officer and
Chairman of the Commission de la
représentation électorale*

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