

INITIATIVE PETITION APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE

This notice is published pursuant to the *Recall and Initiative Act*.

Approval in principle has been granted on an application for an initiative petition. The petition will be issued on June 20, 2019 and signature sheets must be submitted to the Chief Electoral Officer by November 18, 2019.

The title for the initiative is “**Initiative to Allow Voluntary Formation of Twenty Charter Schools**”. The following is a summary of the initiative:

The draft Bill proposes legislation that would allow the voluntary formation of charter schools. The proposed Bill is titled “Allow the Voluntary Formation of Up To Twenty Public Charter Schools Revision Of The *School Act*.” If enacted, the proposed Bill would revise the BC *School Act* to allow the establishment of charter schools in BC. The draft Bill proposes that a person or society could apply to the Minister of Education to establish a charter school with a particular teaching philosophy, vision and purpose with goals and measurable outcomes. The legislation would allow the Minister to approve a charter which is not based on a religious faith, is operated by the society named in the charter, and is operated in accordance with the charter approved by the Minister. The charter must also include a number of other criteria. These include learning outcomes of students, the operating period of the school, the name of the society that will operate the school, and the grades of the students. A charter school will operate under a society incorporated under the *Societies Act*. The society would oversee the facilities and employ a principal who would supervise the teachers, other staff members, and students.

Individuals and organizations who intend to incur initiative expenses as opponents must apply for registration with the Chief Electoral Officer by July 22, 2019. Individuals or organizations who sponsor initiative advertising, other than the proponent and registered opponents, must register with the Chief Electoral Officer before they conduct or publish initiative advertising.

The initiative application and draft Bill are available for public inspection at the Elections BC office and on the Elections BC website at www.elections.bc.ca.

Further information regarding this notice, or registration as an opponent or advertising sponsor, may be obtained from Elections BC. Location: 100 - 1112 Fort Street, Victoria; mailing address: PO Box 9275 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, BC V8W 9J6. Telephone 250-387-5305; toll free 1-800-661-8683; TTY 1-888-456-5448; fax 250-387-3578.

— Anton Boegman, Chief Electoral Officer, British Columbia. [je20]
