

## Recall Act – Summary of Changes

April 2026

Summary of amendments to the *Recall Act* contained in Bill 23: *Justice Statutes Amendment Act, 2026*, which came into force April 16, 2026.

### Terminology changes

- Adds a definition for “scrutineer” (s.1(1)(s.1)).

### Requirements for a recall petition

- Clarifies a signature will be counted only if the recall petition contains, for the petitioner signing the recall petition, the information required under section 4(3) in the form and manner required by that section. (s.6(1)(c)).

### Time limit for submitting recall petition

- The Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) must publish a notice on the Elections Alberta website when an applicant submits a valid recall petition. (s.7(2.1)).
- Adds requirement for CEO to notify applicant and Member in writing of the date, time, and location verification will occur. (s.7(5)).

### Appointment of scrutineers

- The applicant and Member may both, in writing, appoint one or more lawyers who are active members of The Law Society to act as a scrutineer, and are required to pay any costs of their scrutineers. (s.7.1(1)).

### Scrutineer rights and functions

- Scrutineers for the applicant and Member may be present for the verification. (s.7.2(1)(a)).
- Scrutineers may observe the verification process in a manner that does not compromise its conduct including:
  - Verification the canvasser witnessed the signatures and swore an affidavit that, to the best of their knowledge, individuals were eligible to sign the recall petition,
  - the signatures contain the required information in written form, and
  - signature sheets have attached to it each witness affidavit. ((s.7.2(1)(b)).
- Scrutineers may record, in writing, any information that in their opinion may be relevant to a judicial review. (s.7.2(1)(c)).
- Scrutineers must produce proof of their appointment before being admitted. (s.7.2(2)).
- Only one scrutineer each for the applicant and the Member may be present at the same time (s.7.2(3)) and may perform their functions at more than one place (s.7.2(5)).
- The CEO may designate where a scrutineer may observe the verification process. (s.7.2(4)).
- No one may impede a scrutineer from performing their functions. (s.7.2(6)).

### Retention of recall petition

- If a recall vote is ordered, the CEO must retain the petition until the recall vote, official count, and any related judicial recount or appeal is concluded. (s.45.1).

## Information protection and confidentiality

- Requires scrutineers to maintain the confidentiality of all information that comes to their knowledge as a result of being a scrutineer, except for the purposes of a judicial review or other proceeding related to the Act (s.46(1.1) and (2.1)).



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