



The lead into the Council election has begun and there are a few things that we want to remind you of.

If you are a voter who is going to be away when the ballot packs are mailed out, or your address has changed since 27 August 2021, you will need to request your ballot pack be redirected by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC). The VEC need to receive requests by Thursday 16 September 2021. The best mode of contact is by email to <u>redirections@vec.vic.gov.au</u> or writing to:

Election Manager South Gippsland Shire Council election c/- Victorian Electoral Commission Level 11, 530 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000

The time for nominations of candidates seeking to stand at the election is fast approaching and it is exciting to see interested people starting to indicate they are planning to stand for Council in one of the three wards that make up South Gippsland Shire.

All candidates who wish to formally nominate for the election are required to have completed their mandatory candidate training before they can nominate. This training can be accessed through the Local Government Victoria website at this link:

www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au/council-governance/candidate-training

If you are interested in being a candidate but missed one of the VEC candidate information sessions, you can access and watch the pre-recorded sessions at this link under the 'Candidates' tab: <u>www.vec.vic.gov.au/voting/current-elections/south-gippsland-election-2021</u>

The opening date for people to formally nominate as candidates with the VEC commences on Thursday 16 September 2021 and closes at 12.00pm Tuesday 21 September. If you are interested in formally nominating, please call the Election Manager during that time on 1300 202 885 to make a nomination appointment.

We wish everyone who puts their name forward as a candidate all the best.

There was good news announced for our region this week when Victorian Premier Daniel

Andrews eased restrictions on regional Victoria except for the Greater Shepparton area. While we will all be able to wander more than five kilometres from our homes, there are still some significant restrictions in place, particularly on restaurants and eateries. The complete explanation of changes to the restrictions can be found at <u>www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au</u>

Please continue supporting local businesses, checking in wherever you go, and maintaining physical distancing. If you haven't already, please also book a vaccination appointment at a state-run hub, with your GP or with a pharmacist participating in the vaccination program. There are a number of points of contact across our community where you can be vaccinated, so please take up one of the appointments and get your #jabdone

## Julie Eisenbise, Christian Zahra AM and Rick Brown – Administrators