

City of Mississauga Corporate Report



<p>Date: September 12, 2023</p> <p>To: Chair and Members of General Committee</p>	<p>Originator's files:</p>
<p>From: Raj Sheth, P.Eng, Commissioner of Corporate Services</p>	<p>Meeting date: October 4, 2023</p>

Subject

2022 City of Mississauga Municipal Election Information

Recommendation

That the Corporate Report, dated September 12, 2023 from Raj Sheth, Commissioner, Corporate Services, entitled 2022 City of Mississauga Municipal Election Information be received.

Executive Summary

- The 2022 Mississauga Municipal Election took place on October 24, 2022
- Advance Poll Days were held on October 7, 8 and 9 at the Civic Centre and on October 13, 14, 15 and 16 at 22 locations throughout the City
- Voter turnout was 21.84% down from 26.49% in 2018
- As per direction from Council, this Report has been compiled to provide an overview of the 2022 Municipal Election and outlines election practices in other municipalities
- This Report also includes the responses to the 2022 Candidate Survey

Background

Following the 2022 Municipal Election, a review was conducted and a summary has been provided in this Report. This Report has been compiled with input from the Information Technology Division (I.T.), the Strategic Communications and Initiatives Division, and the Elections Office.

The Association of Municipal Managers, Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario (AMCTO) is working on compiling various statistics pertaining to election practices across other municipalities in Ontario. This information will provide more details of elections and the election technology used across the Province, however, the information is not available yet. Staff have instead included

some information provided by the Association of Municipalities Ontario (AMO) and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (the Ministry). When the information from the AMCTO becomes available, it will be circulated.

Comments

General Election Information and Statistics for the City of Mississauga's last three municipal elections

	2014	2018	2022
Number of Advance Poll Days	13	4	7
Number of total voting hours*	101	34	60
Number of voting locations on Advance Poll Days	-Civic Centre on September 29 to October 11 -22 locations on October 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8; voters could cast a ballot at any of these locations	-Civic Centre on October 5 and 6 -22 locations on October 13 and 14; voters could cast a ballot at any of these locations	-Civic Centre on October 7, 8 and 9 -22 locations on October 13, 14, 15, and 16; voters could cast a ballot at any of these locations
Number of voting locations on Election Day**	163	166	162
Number of candidates	159	154	131
Number of candidate information sessions	0	1	2
Voting technologies used	-Online voters' list piloted on Advance Poll Days -Vote tabulators -AutoMARK Voter Assist Terminals -Results reported via fax line transmission	-Online Voters' List was used to accommodate Vote Anywhere throughout the City on Advance Poll Days and Vote Anywhere in your Ward on Election Day -Vote tabulators -AutoMARK Voter Assist Terminals -Results reported via fax line transmission	- Online Voters' List was used to accommodate Vote Anywhere throughout the City on Advance Poll Days and Vote Anywhere in your Ward on Election Day -Vote tabulators -ExpressVote and ballot on demand printers on Advance Poll Days -Wireless transmission

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*This includes Election Day

**This includes long-term care facilities and hospitals

Voter Turnout

The voter turnout for the 2022 Mississauga Municipal Election was 21.84% compared to 26.49% in 2018. Most municipalities also experienced a decrease in voter turnout for the 2022 Municipal Election. For comparison, voter turnout in other municipalities is listed below, sorted by the greatest percentage of voter turnout change:

Municipality	Voter Turnout 2018	Voter Turnout 2022	% Change
London	39.40%	25.50%	-13.90%
Burlington	39.79%	27.60%	-12.19%
Toronto	41%	29%	-12%
Brampton	34.50%	24.56%	-9.94%
Guelph	37.16%	27.84%	-9.32%
Oakville	37.08%	28.30%	-8.78%
Milton	37%	28.98%	-8.02%
Kitchener	28.22%	20.26%	-7.96%
Waterloo	34.22%	27%	-7.22%
Cambridge	34.22%	28.87%	-5.35%
Mississauga	26.49%	21.84%	-4.65%
Hamilton	38.36%	35.38	-2.98%
Caledon	32.28%	31.73%	-0.55%
Ottawa	42.55%	43.78%	1.23%
Wilmot	37.80%	40.35%	2.55%
Woolwich	31.30%	34.70%	3.40%

AMO reports that based on information from 385 Ontario municipalities, the average voter turnout in 2022 was 36.30%, down from 38.30% in 2018. The reason for the decrease is difficult to determine however, anecdotally, many candidates noted that while door knocking they found that voters seemed disengaged and were tired of voting. With this in mind, it is reasonable to suggest that one possibility for the decline could include “voter fatigue”. In the years between 2018 and 2022, the following elections were held:

- June 2018 – Provincial Election
- October 2018 – Municipal Election
- October 2019 – Federal Election
- September 2021 – Federal Election
- June 2022 – Provincial Election
- October 2022 – Municipal Election

This means Mississauga voters were called to the polls five times in five years. One helpful adjustment to the election calendar could be to separate Provincial and Municipal elections by a year, however, Municipal Election days are specified in the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* and cannot be changed by the Clerk.

There was also a concern that Election Day coincided with Diwali which could impact voter turnout. While the Clerk could not move Election Day, seven advance voting days were established to provide alternative voting opportunities. Additionally, specific communications were used to let voters know that Election Day fell on Diwali and encouraged voters to vote on Advance Poll Days.

Similar to the turnout during municipal elections, the 2022 Provincial Election saw the lowest voter turnout on record for an Ontario election with an approximate turnout of 44%. The next lowest Ontario voter turnout was in 2011 with a turnout of approximately 48%.

<https://results.elections.on.ca/en/graphics-charts>

A decrease in voter turnout was also observed during the September 2021 Federal Election. Statistics Canada reports:

Quebec was the lone province where voter turnout was higher in 2021 than in the 2019 federal election, rising 1 percentage point to 77%.

Compared with 2019, the proportion of eligible Canadians who reported voting in 2021 fell in Nova Scotia (-5 percentage points to 73%), Alberta (-4 percentage points to 76%), Saskatchewan (-4 percentage points to 77%), New Brunswick (-4 percentage points to 76%), Newfoundland and Labrador (-3 percentage points to 65%), and Ontario (-2 percentage points to 75%).

Voter turnout in 2021 was little changed from 2019 in Prince Edward Island, Manitoba and British Columbia.” (*Reasons for not voting in the federal election September 20, 2021. Statistics Canada. February 2022.*

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/220216/dq220216d-eng.htm>)

Election Workers

Over 1,700 individual election workers, of which 372 were City staff, were hired to work at the polls. To ensure the workers were best prepared for their responsibilities, extensive training and training materials were provided including:

- Virtual instructor led training (these videos were posted online so election workers could go back and re-watch if they wished)
- An online training module for election workers that were required to use laptops and the online voters' list

- In-person drop in sessions for election workers that were required to use election technology and wanted hands on training
- Election worker manuals
- Election worker quick reference guides for Deputy Returning Officers

In addition to these training methods, a call centre was established so that Location Mangers and Vote Anywhere Supervisors could easily reach Election Office and I.T. staff when they needed help or direction.

Voting Locations

On Election Day, there were 162 voting locations across the City. Of the 162 locations, 101 were schools. For the first time, the school boards agreed to schedule a Professional Activity Day on Election Day so there were no students in the school buildings. This eliminated safety concerns for students and reduced vehicle traffic. It is highly recommended that the school boards continue this practice for the 2026 Municipal Election.

On Advance Poll Days, Vote Anywhere provided voters with the option of voting at one of 22 voting locations across the City on October 13, 14, 15 and 16. Of the approximately 26,000 people who voted on these days, just under 22% voted outside of the Ward in which they live. This demonstrates that voters are using the flexibility provided by Vote Anywhere.

On Election Day, the following locations in each Ward had the highest voter turnout:

Ward	Location with highest turnout	Location with second highest turnout
1	Mississauga Seniors Centre (1,064)	Lakeview Golf Course (849)
2	Clarkson Community Centre (1,799)	Lorne Park Secondary School (1,071)
3	Burnhamthorpe Library (982)	St. Martha and Mary Catholic School (872)
4	Mississauga Valley Community Centre (1,003)	St. Matthew Catholic School (850)
5	Frank McKechnie Community Centre (1,215)	Champlain Trail Public School (960)
6	River Grove Community Centre (1,141)	Edenrose Public School (1,013)
7	Father Daniel Zanon Catholic School (1,051)	Huron Park Community Centre (1,047)
8	South Common Community Centre (1,096)	St. Mark Separate School (812)
9	Meadowvale Community Centre (1,555)	Castlebridge Public School (909)
10	Churchill Meadows Branch Library (1,526)	St. Edith Stein Catholic School (869)
11	David Leeder Public School (761)	Levi Creek Public School (759)

Of the 11 locations with the highest voter turnout, 9 were City facilities.

Communications

Communication about the 2022 Municipal Election was focused on awareness, education, and information. The aim was to ensure Mississauga voters understood how to participate in the election, which included awareness about the importance of municipal government; the importance of voting; when, where and how to vote; as well as showcasing the opportunity and requirements to run as a candidate.

The communication campaign was developed using extensive research and implemented in phases that aligned to major election milestones. It leveraged Mississauga residents’ increased adoption and reliance on digital and social media (gained during the COVID-19 response and recovery), while still providing access for those who prefer print media and other traditional channels for information. All information about the election was available on the Mississaugavotes.ca website.

Communications were tailored according the election cycle and implemented in the following phases:

- Phase I: Raising awareness for the upcoming Municipal Election
- Phase II: Candidate awareness and nominations
- Phase III: Recruitment of elections staff (internally and externally)
- Phase IV: Voter awareness
- Phase V: Advanced Polls and Election Day

Specific messaging was developed to align with each of the noted phases with the messaging and phases often overlapping:

Your vote matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Learn more about how you can be more involved in local decision making, how to make your voice heard, make a difference in your community, be part of creating a great Mississauga. ➤ The election is your opportunity to shape how your government is run and to make your voice heard. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The election happens every four years, and is your opportunity to elect the people you want representing you as Mayor, Ward Councillor and School Board Trustee. • Your vote helps select the people you feel are best qualified to make decisions about the future of our community • Voting is a way to help shape your community – you can vote for someone who best represents your values and interests ➤ Municipal elections influence the matters close to home. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your vote helps select a City Council who will make decisions
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	<p>about service levels, budget, taxes, land use and other important things that directly impact our community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your vote helps select School Trustees who will make decisions on curriculum, facilities, staff and financial resources for our local school boards.
<p>Voting is easy and convenient</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Checking to make sure you are on the voters' list is an important step towards voting. It will make your voting experience easier. Save time at the polling station. ➤ Learn more about what your municipal government does for you. ➤ Your participation is what makes our city great. ➤ Make your voice heard. ➤ Finding out when, where and how to vote in the election is easy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Go online to mississaugavotes.ca; Mississauga's Elections website has all the information you need about when, where and how to vote. • Check the mail! Your Voter Notification Card is mailed in early September and includes information about voting requirements and voting station locations! • Connect with us! Call ###, email ### or drop by the Civic Centre Monday to Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. ➤ If you won't be able to vote on October 24, you have other options: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vote early at Advance Vote locations October 7-9 or 13-16. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. October 7-9: Vote at the Civic Centre (300 Civic Centre Drive) ii. October 13-16: Vote at any voting location across the city. iii. Times, dates and locations are available online at mississaugavotes.ca. • If you cannot vote during Advance Voting or on Election Day, you can appoint someone to vote for you. This is called a vote by proxy. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. To vote by proxy, you appoint a person to vote on your behalf by completing an Appointment for Voting Proxy form. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Find the form online at MississaugaVotes.ca. ii. Your form must be certified by the City Clerk's office
<p><u>Voters list</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Check the voters list – ensure your information is up to date. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you have changed your name or address in the past few years, your information on the voter's list is likely outdated. • Visit www.mississaugavotes.ca to check to see if you're registered to vote in the 2022 Election. ➤ Register online to make voting quick and simple.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registering online saves you from filling out forms at the voting station. ➤ You can still vote if you're not registered, but it will take a bit longer. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you aren't registered to vote, you will have to review and sign a declaration at the voting station. • Save time, register online.
<p><u>For staff and external recruitment</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ We need you. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We're looking for City staff to fill leadership roles at Voting Locations. • Consider applying for Location Manager or Vote Anywhere Supervisor positions. • Details available on Inside Mississauga ➤ Be mindful of your role as a City staffer during the Election. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even as a private resident, you always represent the City of Mississauga. • Use careful consideration to what you say, whether posting online or in casual conversation. ➤ Elections are a complicated; if someone asks questions about the election, send them straight to the source. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the information residents need is available online at mississaugavotes.ca. • If people have questions about municipal elections in Mississauga, they can call 905-615-VOTE (8683) or email elections.info@mississauga.ca. ➤ Support one of our most important community initiatives by working in the Election. ➤ The Election is a vital part of making our city work. ➤ Apply to be part of the democratic process.
<p><u>Vote anywhere</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vote at the place most convenient to you. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On Election Day, vote at any voting location within your ward. • During Advance Voting, vote at any open voting location: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. October 7-9, vote at the Civic Centre downtown. ii. October 13-16, vote at any voting station across the city. ➤ Find out where to vote at MississaugaVotes.ca
<p><u>Diwali & Election Day</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Election Day is October 24, which is also Diwali. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mississaugans celebrating Diwali are encouraged to participate in Advance Voting opportunities. • Find an Advance Voting Location near you at mississaugavotes.ca. ➤ The date of Election Day is legislated and cannot be changed by the City of Mississauga.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Municipal Elections Act dictates that “voting day in a regular election is the fourth Monday in October.” • Read the Act at https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/96m32#BK6
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Throughout each phase, a variety of tactics and outreach methods were used aimed at reaching a broad, diverse audience across the city which included:

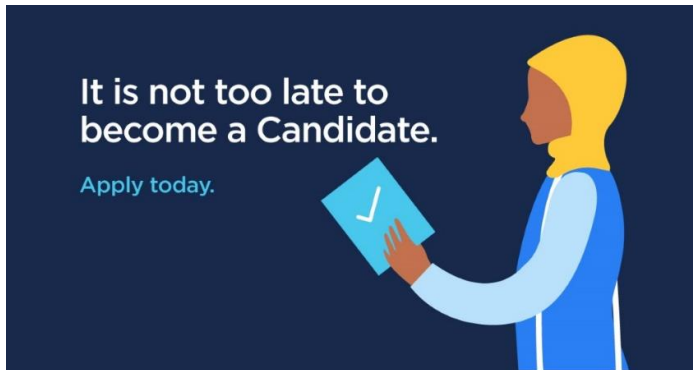
- News releases and media relations
- Updates to the Mississauga Votes website
- Social Media (organic and paid)
- eNewsletter and eBlasts (33,000+ subscribers)
- Voter Notification Cards
- Outreach through community groups
- Railway and highway digital billboards
- Mississauga Celebration Square digital screens
- Community Centre digital screens
- Print advertising in multicultural publications through the Diverse Communities Promotion Program
- Printed Stay Connected newsletter
- Column in local print media
- Mobile Road Signs
- 311 Knowledge Base (KB) updates
- Outreach through faith organization
- Internal messages on Inside Mississauga and through leader emails

Visual elements were also developed for use throughout the campaign, some of which are highlighted below. The design aimed to ensure all Mississauga voters felt they were included. In addition, extra efforts were made to target those celebrating Diwali, as the 2022 Election Day coincided with Diwali (date selected by the provincial government). Extra efforts were made to share information regarding advance poll opportunities through the website, social media, print media and paid advertising as well as being sent directly to places of worship.



Become a candidate. Nominations open from May 2 to August 19.

This advertisement features a dark blue background with a central white text box. The text reads "Become a candidate. Nominations open from May 2 to August 19." Surrounding the text are several stylized human figures in various colors and poses, including one person in a wheelchair, representing a diverse group of potential candidates.



It is not too late to become a Candidate.
Apply today.

This advertisement features a dark blue background. On the left, the text reads "It is not too late to become a Candidate. Apply today." On the right, there is a stylized illustration of a person wearing a yellow hijab and a blue jacket, holding a blue envelope with a white checkmark on it.



Thinking of running for City Council or school board trustee?
Attend a free info session

vote
MISSISSAUGA

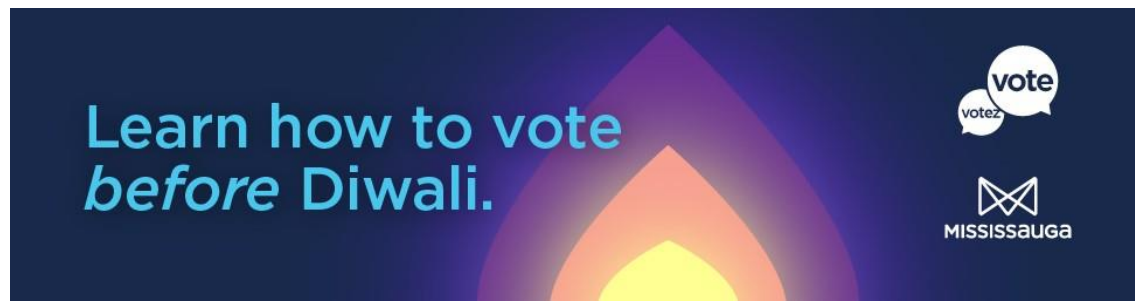
This advertisement features a dark blue background. The text reads "Thinking of running for City Council or school board trustee? Attend a free info session". On the right, there is a stylized illustration of a man in a blue suit and tie, carrying a blue briefcase and holding a smartphone. At the bottom left, there are two logos: a speech bubble with the word "vote" and a stylized envelope icon with the word "MISSISSAUGA" below it.



We are hiring election workers.
Learn more about positions and how to apply today!

vote
MISSISSAUGA

This advertisement features a dark blue background. The text reads "We are hiring election workers. Learn more about positions and how to apply today!". At the bottom, there is a row of six stylized human figures of various colors and poses, some with their arms raised. At the top right, there are two logos: a speech bubble with the word "vote" and a stylized envelope icon with the word "MISSISSAUGA" below it.



Results

Evaluation of communication efforts noted the following:

- 330,000 impressions (the amount the content was displayed) for organic tactics like posts to the City social media channels, eNews readers (electronic newsletter) and City media releases.
- The Mississauga Votes webpage was visited more than 330,000 times by over 257,000 unique viewers.
- Approximately, 93 per cent of media articles (online and print) included desired key messages about the election and more than 60 per cent of those provided direct links back to the Mississauga Votes website as an official source of information.
- Paid advertising efforts resulted in over 11 million impressions, which drove people to the Mississauga Votes website.

Overall, communications efforts and tactics used were effective in reaching desired audiences and delivering desired messages.

Candidate Financial System

For the second time, candidates were provided with the option of using the Candidate Financial System (CFS), which was housed within the Candidate Information Hub. CFS allowed candidates to input, manage and create their Financial Statements. 50% of all candidates used the system to generate a Financial Statement.

Benefits of the system included:

- Candidates were able to generate electronic rebate receipts for the Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program as per Council's direction following the 2018 Municipal Election
- Candidates could track campaign finances and were informed if there were contraventions to the campaign finance rules; for example, candidates could not enter contributions that exceeded \$1,500 by mistake, allowing the candidate to take corrective action
- In addition to allowing candidates to track their campaign finances and generate their Financial Statement in CFS, the Candidate Information Hub also housed key election documents which provided valuable information about election rules and allowed candidates to access the Voters' List.

Of the total number of candidates who ran in the 2022 municipal election:

- 81% candidates logged into CFS
- 71% candidates created contribution records
- 74% candidates downloaded elections documents
- 75% candidates downloaded the Voters' List

Information was also provided in hard copy for candidates who did not have access to a computer or the internet or for those that preferred hard copies.

2022 Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program

In 2021, Council approved a new Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program (Rebate Program) by-law and formula, attached as Appendix 1. This meant that eligible individuals who contributed a minimum of \$100 to candidates running for a seat on Council could receive a rebate between \$75 and \$1,500 depending on the total contribution amount.

For the 2022 Election, electronic rebate receipts were introduced for candidates participating in the Rebate Program. Electronic receipts gave candidates the option to enter contribution information into CFS and issue a rebate receipt electronically to the contributor. Hard copy receipts were also available.

Of the 68 candidates running for a seat on council, 49 participated in the Rebate Program. To date, a total of approximately \$711,000 in rebates has been paid to contributors. In 2018, just under \$36,000 in rebates was paid out. The increase in rebate payouts is because:

- The Rebate Program was expanded to include all eligible contributors in Ontario, not just Mississauga residents as it was in 2018
- The maximum rebate a contributor could receive was increased from \$150 in 2018 to \$1,500 in 2022

- The formula to calculate a rebate was changed to allow a contributor to receive a rebate of up to 75% of their contribution whereas in 2018 contributors could only receive a rebate of 25% for their contribution

Use of Election Technology

ExpressVote Devices:

The ExpressVote Universal Voting System (ExpressVote) was used for the first time as an alternative to the AutoMARK Voter Assist Terminal. The ExpressVote device was intended to facilitate marking ballots on Advance Poll days. The ExpressVote was an electronic ballot marking machine and the system worked as follows:

- Voters would show their identification to the ballot issuing election workers
- Ballot issuing election workers would vet the voter's eligibility and if the voter met all requirements they would be struck off of the Voter's List
- The election worker would print the appropriate ballot for the voter
- The voter would insert the blank ballot into the ExpressVote machine and would use a touch screen to mark their selections
- They would then have the opportunity to review their candidate choices and if satisfied, the voter would print the ballot
- The voter could then review the printed ballot and make sure they were satisfied with their choices
- Once printed, ballots were inserted into the DS200 vote tabulator

The ExpressVote is not a tabulator; it does not record results nor was there a connection between it and the DS200 vote tabulator.

The majority of voters cast their ballot on Advanced Poll Days used the ExpressVote system. Benefits included:

- That election workers did not have to manage 55 hard copy ballot types and instead could print ballots on demand based on what Ward the voter lived in and their school support
- The ExpressVote offered a variety of accessibility features and allowed all voters to vote in a similar manner unless the voter requested a hard copy traditional ballot which were available upon request

General feedback from both election workers and voters was positive saying the system was easy to use.

Wireless Transmission of Results:

Wireless (mobile) transmission of results was implemented to:

- Reduce the risk of system failure due to expired and/or expiring components in the Election results architecture. Most components of the previous system were replaced. Vote tabulators were fitted with modems and sim cards to facilitate mobile transmission
- Reduce the steps and challenges for election workers when transmitting results
- Allow results to be transmitted and compiled in less time; and
- To increase efficiencies in the process through alignment with current technologies

With the use of wireless results transmission at the close of polls on Election Day, 75% of results were received by 8:30pm and complete unofficial results were published by 10:03pm. Real-time updates were available on the City's Mississaugavotes.ca website from the time of poll close and refreshed every five minutes.

Alternative Voting Methods used by other municipalities:

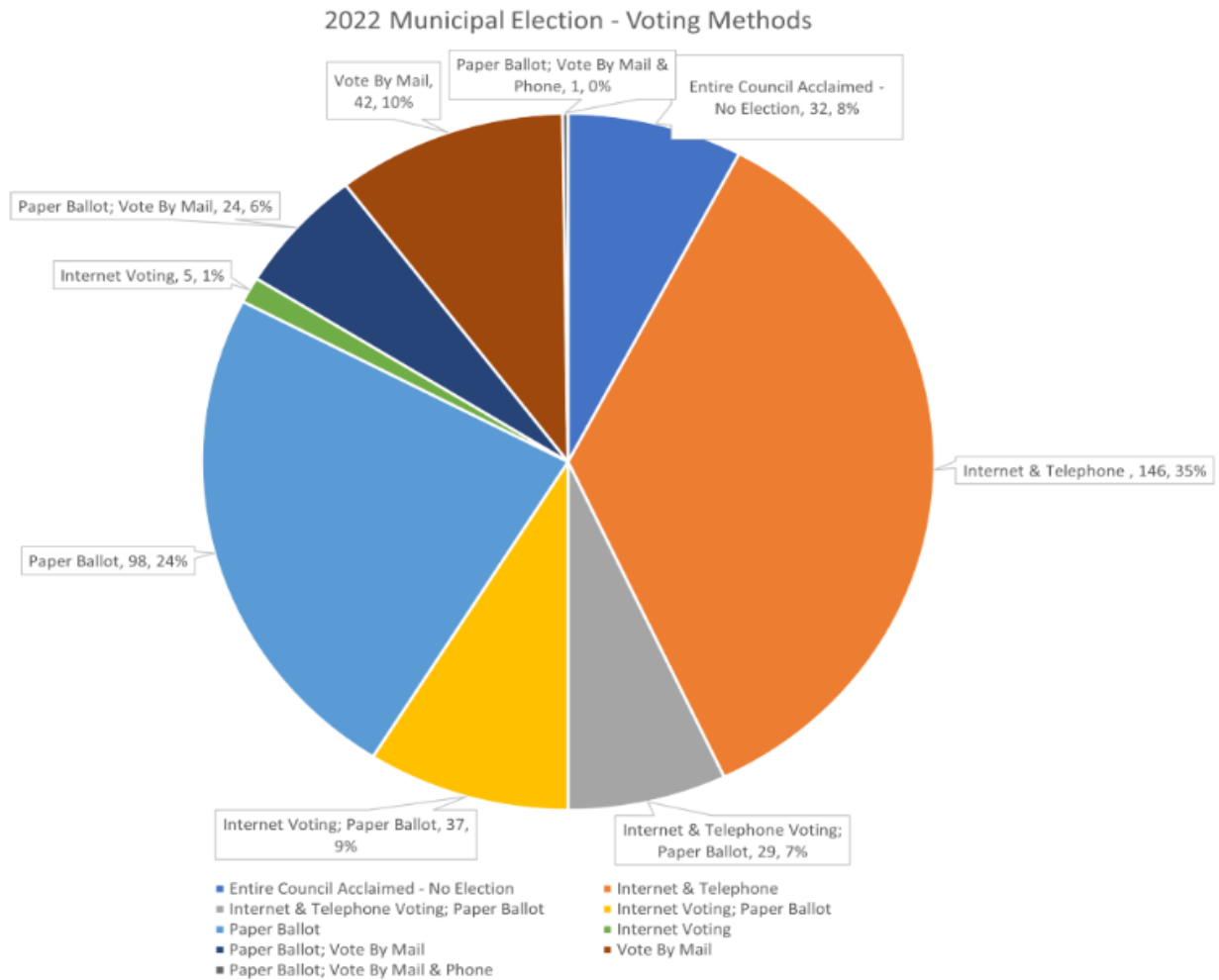
According to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, of the 382 municipalities that provided information to them:

- 181 used traditional paper ballots
- 221 municipalities used internet based voting
- 69 municipalities used mail in ballots

It should be noted that some municipalities used one or more of the above noted voting methods.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) also gathered statistics on voting methods. Although the information differs slightly from the Ministry's statistics, which may be related to the number of municipalities polled, AMO reports that 42 additional municipalities used internet/phone voting compared to the 2018 election. They also report that the use of mail-in ballots for the 2022 election remained the same at 71 municipalities. The diagram below from AMO indicates the breakdown of voting methods across Ontario municipalities for the 2022 Municipal Election stemming from the results of their survey. Again, municipalities may have used one or any combination of the methods noted below.

As noted previously, AMCTO (Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers of Ontario) is also conducting a detailed survey and review of the 2022 election. Once this report is shared it will be provided to Council for information.



Due to security and privacy concerns the City of Toronto opted not to use online voting and the City of Guelph did not use it this time around. Additionally, City of Hamilton, due to the cost of implementation, internet availability and risk of performance issues in rural areas did not pursue online voting.

A Corporate Report entitled Internet Voting Information Update previously presented to General Committee on September 9, 2020, attached as Appendix 2, provided information regarding online voting. It identified security and performance considerations related to the technology. I.T. has noted that the risks presented in the report related to the authentication of voters' remain the same.

Candidate Survey

Following the 2022 Municipal Election, Council directed staff to circulate a candidate survey to all candidates. The intention was to gather information that could improve the election experience. 30 of 131 candidates responded to the survey. The full survey questions and responses are attached as Appendix 3 and the Appendix 4. Highlights of the responses were:

- 40% of respondents “strongly agreed” that the Vote Anywhere model was effective and 26.67% “agreed” that it was effective
- 73.33% of respondents felt there were a sufficient number of polling locations on Advance Poll Days
- 90% of respondents felt that there were a sufficient number of voting locations on Election Day
- Many candidates expressed concerns related to election signs. However, 60% of respondents did not support election sign restrictions such as the City of Brampton’s restrictions where election signs were only permissible in windows or windows in doors
- When asked about the voter turnout in Mississauga, 8 candidates referenced voter apathy or a lack of voter engagement as being factors contributing to lower turnout and 3 noted a lack of media attention being a factor

Financial Impact

The cost of the 2022 Municipal Election was approximately \$2,800,000, which was funded through the Elections reserve. This does not include the amount related to Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program payouts, which totaled approximately \$711,000. There is no financial impact associated with this Report.

Conclusion

The 2022 Municipal Election was a success and resulted in four new members of Council and six new school board trustees. Access to the voting process was ensured by providing many locations for voting on both advance and election days to try to provide a variety of opportunities to cast a ballot. Although turnout decreased, the decrease was less than most municipalities and results were published in record time.

Attachments

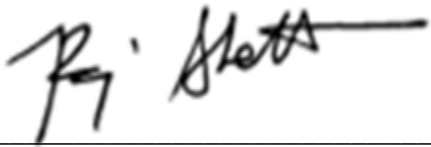
Appendix 1: A by-law to authorize the implementation of a City of Mississauga Municipal

Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program for the 2022-2026 Term of Council

Appendix 2: Internet Voting Information Update Corporate Report

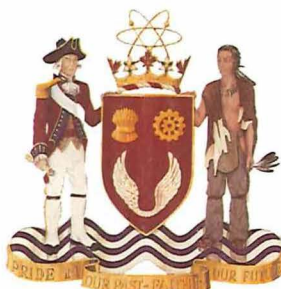
Appendix 3: 2022 Mississauga Municipal Election Candidate Survey – Full Questions

Appendix 4: Election 2022 Candidate Survey Responses



Raj Sheth, P.Eng, Commissioner of Corporate Services

Prepared by: Laura Wilson, Manager, Elections and Vital Statistics



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

BY-LAW NUMBER 0205-2021

A by-law to authorize the implementation of a City of Mississauga
Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program for the
2022-2026 Term of Council

WHEREAS section 88.11(1) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, provides that a municipal council may pass a by-law authorizing the payment of rebates to individuals who make contributions to candidates for office on the municipal council;

AND WHEREAS section 88.11(3) of the *Municipal Elections Act 1996*, provides that the by-law enacted according to 88.11(1) shall establish the conditions under which an individual is entitled to a rebate;

AND WHEREAS according to section 88.25(11), the clerk may provide for electronic filing for a candidate's financial statements and may establish conditions and limits with respect to electronic filing;

AND WHEREAS on June 30, 2021 Council for the Corporation of the City of Mississauga approved Budget Committee recommendation BC-0024-2021 which recommends the implementation of a City of Mississauga Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program (rebate program) for the 2022-2026 term of Council;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the City of Mississauga hereby ENACTS as follows:

DEFINITIONS

1. For the purposes of this By-law:

"Applicable Candidate" means the particular Candidate that an individual has made a contribution to, who has applied to participate in the rebate program in accordance with this By-law;

"Candidate" means a candidate for an office on Council for the City of Mississauga;

"City Clerk" means the clerk of the City of Mississauga or their designate;

"Contribution" means a contribution of money made in the manner specified by the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*; and

"Election Campaign Finances Committee" means the committee appointed by Council in accordance with section 88.37 of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*.

SCOPE

2. The rebate program and associated rebates described in this By-law shall apply to the regular election and by-elections as defined in the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* that take place in the City of Mississauga for the 2022-2026 term of Council.

CANDIDATE OBLIGATIONS

3. In order to participate in the rebate program, a Candidate shall:
- (1) complete the registration form and submit it to the City Clerk;
 - (2) file a financial statement and auditor's report in accordance with section 88.25 of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* with the City Clerk including a copy of the receipts issued for each contribution received in the manner the City Clerk deems acceptable; and
 - (3) comply with all other campaign finance rules as specified in the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* and all other rules related to the rebate program as specified by the City Clerk.

ELIGIBILITY FOR A REBATE

4. In order to qualify for a rebate, an individual who makes a contribution to a Candidate must:
- (a) be a Canadian citizen;
 - (b) be at least 18 years of age;
 - (c) not be prohibited from voting according to subsection 17(3) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*;
 - (d) contribute between the time the Applicable Candidate files their nomination and the day the Applicable Candidate's campaign period ends;
 - (e) contribute to an Applicable Candidate who is registered in the rebate program;
 - (f) comply with contribution rules specified in the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*; and
 - (g) comply with the rebate program rules as specified by the City Clerk.
5. Notwithstanding Section 4 of this By-law, the following persons are ineligible to receive a rebate:
- (a) a Candidate or a person running for office on a school board in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*;
 - (b) any person who contributes to a Candidate where the person contributing is the spouse or child of the Candidate; and
 - (c) a corporation and any other person who is not permitted to make a contribution in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*.

ISSUANCE OF A REBATE


6. The City Clerk shall issue a rebate to a contributor in accordance with Schedule "A" of this By-law if the following conditions are met:
- (a) the contributor or the Applicable Candidate has not contravened the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*;
 - (b) the Applicable Candidate has registered in the rebate program;
 - (c) the Applicable Candidate has filed all documents and paid any amounts as required under the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* by the prescribed dates; and

- (d) the City Clerk is satisfied that the receipt for the contribution in question filed by the Applicable Candidate is bona fide.
7. In addition to section 6 of this By-law, the City Clerk shall issue a rebate:
- (a) if the Applicable Candidate files their financial statement(s) in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* and if no compliance audit request is received by the applicable deadline for applications as set out in subsection 88.33(3) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*; or
 - (b) if a compliance audit request is received and:
 - (i) the Election Campaign Finances Committee finds that the Applicable Candidate was not in contravention of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*; or
 - (ii) the Election Campaign Finances Committee appoints an auditor and the auditor finds that the Applicable Candidate was not in contravention of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*.
8. The amount of the rebate shall be calculated as per Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this By-law;


CITY CLERK OBLIGATIONS

- 9. The City Clerk shall establish forms and procedures for the administration of the municipal campaign contribution rebate program which shall include but not be limited to the timelines for when Candidates shall register with the City Clerk to be eligible for participating in the rebate program.
- 10. The City Clerk may delegate any and all duties available according to this By-law.

ENACTED and PASSED this 29th day of September, 2021.

Approved by Legal Services City Solicitor City of Mississauga

Robert Genoway
Date: September 21, 2021
File: LA.25-21-144


MAYOR


CLERK

SCHEDULE "A"
CALCULATION OF REBATE

Rebates for contributions made to a Candidate shall be calculated as follows:

1. A minimum contribution of \$100.00 made in the form specified by the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* is required to be eligible for a rebate.
2. The maximum rebate a contributor may receive is \$1,500.00.
3. If the total contribution(s) made by a contributor to all Candidates is \$300.00 or less, the maximum rebate to be paid to the contributor is 75% of that total.
4. If the total contribution(s) made by a contributor to all Candidates is more than \$300.00 but not more than \$1,000.00, the rebate to be paid to the contributor is \$225.00 plus 50% of the difference between \$300.00 and the remainder of the contribution total.
5. If the total contribution(s) made by a contributor to all Candidates is more than \$1,000.00, the maximum rebate that will be paid to the contributor is the lesser of:
 - (i) \$575.00 plus 33.33% of the contribution amount that is over \$1,000; or
 - (ii) \$1,500.00
6. If a contributor makes multiple donations of less than the minimum requirement of \$100.00, but the total contribution for the multiple donations is equal to or greater than the \$100.00 minimum, the contributions are ineligible for rebate.

City of Mississauga
Corporate Report



<p>Date: June 24, 2020</p> <p>To: Mayor and Members of General Committee</p>	<p>Originator's files:</p>
<p>From: Gary Kent, CPA, CGA, ICD.D, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer</p>	<p>Meeting date: September 9, 2020</p>

Subject

Internet Voting Information Update

Recommendation

That the Corporate Report dated June 24, 2020 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer, titled Internet Voting Information Update be received.

Report Highlights

- Internet voting may provide additional accessibility for voters with internet access, making it more convenient for voters to vote online
- The secrecy of voting online cannot be controlled or monitored as well as it can be in a polling location staffed with election workers
- IT staff have identified security and performance considerations related to the technology and the authentication of voters
- The ability to recount physical ballots for votes cast online is not available

Background

At the November 4, 2019 Governance Committee meeting it was requested that staff report back to the committee on the subject of internet voting.

Internet voting can occur in a supervised (controlled) environment via a kiosk or in an unsupervised (uncontrolled) environment via any personal computer or mobile device. The latter is the method most commonly understood as remote internet voting. Generally, in Ontario, an elector is required to register for remote internet voting and then they are provided with a unique personal identification number (PIN) by mail to use along with personal information (e.g. date of birth) for validation to access the online.

Comments

Benefits and Drawbacks

The benefits to using internet voting include:

- Convenience as voters' do not have to go to a voting location
- The ability for voters to cast their vote 24 hours a day during the internet voting period
- Accessibility for voters' who cannot go to a voting location and do not want to appoint a proxy to vote on their behalf
- Given the current COVID19 outbreak it may present as a benefit for physical distancing, for those with compromised immune systems and provides an option for those in the community who may not feel safe to participate in the election process
- Provides some relief for traffic congestion and parking congestion at polling locations as well as some benefit to reducing vehicle related carbon emissions

The drawbacks to internet voting may include:

- Alienating those voters who do not have internet access or accessibility devices to access these services online; in these cases voters may be able to go to a designated public location such as a library or community center to cast their vote, however this eliminates the benefit to those who find it difficult to physically attend a voting location
- The method of remote internet voting provides little or no opportunity for election staff to ensure the integrity of the voter vetting process when the voter logs in to vote
- Staff cannot prevent coercion when the elector goes to vote
- Staff cannot ensure that voter privacy is maintained
- Staff cannot ensure that legislated requirements related to identification and access are not compromised
- Scrutineers are unable to fully observe the ballot issuing process to help ensure the integrity of the process
- Staff does not have the ability to manually verify the integrity of the information transmitted
- Without paper ballots the ability to conduct a manual recount is not an option
- It is difficult to determine whether or not internet voting has a significant impact on voter turnout if any. Academic sources have reported that implementing Internet Voting has no major effect on voter turnout in the majority of municipalities nor does Internet Voting seem to significantly impact youth interest in voting
- Technology Cyber risks and impacts could result in a loss of internet voting service during scheduled polling times and in the worst case scenario could result in a privacy breach and/or invalidation of casted internet votes

If internet voting is approved and implemented, staff recommends the use of paper ballot voting simultaneously. This would mean added costs to the overall election budget, but would be necessary to accommodate voters who do not have access to internet or who, for security reasons, would prefer to vote in person. Should there be a desire to use internet voting it is recommended that this be piloted for Advance Polls only.

Electors Skills, Knowledge and Security Awareness

Individuals with more experience and confidence in using technology are more likely to be able to vote online. Because of this, developing and implementing a change management and communication program would play a large part in improving digital literacy of the electors in regards to internet voting.

For example, election administrators are not able to control the security of the internet devices used by electors to vote remotely. An elector must be made aware of the risks and take measures to secure their own devices. This is because an elector may unknowingly be using a device that has been compromised with illicit software that could direct them to a fraudulent election site, duplicate their personal information and/or change their vote. Ultimately, elections staff have no control over the environment or devices that electors use and therefore rely on individuals to ensure the security of their devices.

I.T. Security and Audit

Information Technology and election administration staff has identified security concerns surrounding internet voting. It is important to note that security breaches, while unlikely, can only be mitigated rather than eliminated. Security attacks could occur via breached personal computers, mobile devices or attacks on the internet voting system itself. A hacker could block access, corrupt voting information and gain access to the voter registration website and in effect, compromise the privacy and integrity of the election process.

As previously mentioned, these risks can be mitigated but not eliminated entirely. Mitigation measures include:

- Conducting independent security tests of the vendor's systems
- Ensuring that industry standards and procedures regarding privacy and security are in place

Presently, no national technical standards exist for certifying online voting systems, auditing or verifying the results produced. As far as staff are aware none of the current internet voting systems produces an accompanying physical trail and provides little or no online equivalent for a risk limiting audit.

Another point of concern for staff is that there is no mechanism for a manual recount because there are no paper ballots to verify the vote. Unlike with the use of paper ballots, there is no mechanism that allows the voter or election official to confirm that the votes are legitimate. Even if a breach is detected, the risk exists that we may not be able to determine with complete certainty which ballots are valid.

Additionally, unlike with paper ballots and vote tabulators, a physical audit of the results cannot be conducted. Following each election, staff conducts an audit to ensure that results were not compromised during transmission. It is the use of paper ballots and vote counting machines that allow for this process. With Internet Voting, both in a controlled and uncontrolled environment, this is not possible.

Secrecy and Identification

In a remote internet voting scenario, ensuring the secrecy and privacy of the vote during the voting process poses challenges. In a paper ballot election, election workers monitor voting areas to ensure that electors have the ability to mark their ballots in complete secrecy. However, with remote internet voting, the voting environment is unsupervised. Directions, rules and possible penalties for non-compliance would be provided to electors, who are voting from remote locations, but ultimately they are voting in an unmonitored environment. Electors would have to provide for their own secrecy and privacy. Additionally, there is concern that there may be more opportunity for situations to arise where undue influence or coercion can be placed on voters.

In a paper ballot election, election workers use a prescribed list of identification from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to vet voters before giving them a ballot. This process is not as seamless with remote internet voting. To reduce the risk of identity fraud, and people voting on the behalf of others, a combination of a personal identification number (PIN) and personal information, such as birthdate, are typically used to verify identity. However, this does not eliminate the risk. An individual who has intimate knowledge of the elector and/or a part of the household may have access to the elector Voter Notification Card and hence their PIN and could potentially vote on behalf of others.

Financial Impact

The financial impact of implementing Internet Voting is dependent on a variety of factors including:

- Additional staffing costs required to provide I.T. and administrative support
- Technology costs related to Internet Voting
- Additional mailing costs to issue a PIN to electors
- Communications and education initiatives

Online Voting Project costs		Cost
Staffing	Project Coordinator	\$141,000
	Business Analyst – Technical	\$165,000
	Elections Officer	\$80,000
	2 Technicians – Call centre	\$95,000
Software	e-Voting licence	\$428,000
	Election Night Results	\$13,000
Validation	Security and Performance Test	\$95,000
Mailing	Voter cards for PINs and instructions	\$90,000
	Secrecy envelopes (PIN)	\$72,000
	Postage cost (PIN)	\$419,000
Communications	Increase in communications support	\$65,000
	Additional resources on election day	\$10,000
TOTAL		\$1,673,000

These costs are estimates. Vendors may include additional costs which will be identified through the procurement process.

Currently there is no budget to fund this cost. If approved, we will require the full amount of this cost to be added as part of the total Election budget for 2022.

Conclusion

Although internet voting is an option for the 2022 Municipal Election, a dual process of a paper ballot election and internet would be recommended which would increase the cost of the election significantly. The convenience of internet voting must be considered along with the cost, security and administrative constraints concerns raised in this report. Staff will continue to monitor the opportunity for internet voting for future elections beyond the 2022 municipal election.



Gary Kent, CPA, CGA, ICD.D, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Gus Mangos, Elections Officer

2022 Mississauga Municipal Election Candidate Survey – Full Questions

Introduction Question: Please indicate which office you ran for in the 2022 Mississauga Municipal Election.

Main Survey Questions:

1. The Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program allows Candidates running for municipal Council to request a rebate for their contributors that meet certain criteria. Was this program useful in attracting donations/contributions to your campaign?

Choose one response:

- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable because although I ran for a seat on municipal Council, I did not participate in the program
 - Not applicable because I was a trustee candidate and was not enrolled in the program
2. Traditionally, voters were only able to vote at one predetermined polling location based on their qualifying addresses. In 2018, Mississauga implemented the Vote Anywhere model to allow voters to vote at any polling location in the City on Advance Poll Days, and at any polling location in their Ward on Election Day. This model was used again in 2022. Please provide your opinion on the Vote Anywhere model:

- a. I believe the Vote Anywhere model is effective.

Choose one response:

- strongly disagree
- disagree
- neutral
- agree
- strongly agree

- b. I believe the Vote Anywhere model gives voters more flexibility.

Choose one response:

- strongly disagree
- disagree
- neutral
- agree
- strongly agree

3. In order to help administer the Vote Anywhere model, which allows voters to vote at any polling location in the City on Advance Poll Days, the City used the ExpressVote Universal Voting system. Using this electronic system, election

workers print one of 55 ballot types based on a voter's Ward and school support. Once the ballot is printed, voters insert it into the ExpressVote machine. Voters use a touch-screen, or other accessible options to mark their ballot electronically. The voter reviews their choices and prints their marked ballot. Once the marked ballot is printed, the voter can review their choices again. The ballot is inserted into a tabulator so the voters' votes can be counted.

a. Did you use this technology on Advance Poll Days?

Choose one response:

- Yes
- No

b. If yes, did you feel that this system was easy to use?

Choose one response:

- Yes
- No

4. Did you receive feedback from your voters regarding the electronic voting (ExpressVote) system used at Advance Poll locations?

Choose one response:

- Yes
- No

If yes, was the feedback (choose one response):

- Negative
- Positive
- Indifferent

5. The City increased the number of Advance Poll days to 7 in 2022, up from 4 days in 2018. Do you think the number of Advance Poll days should (choose one response):

- Increase
- Decrease
- Remain the same

6. Do you feel there were a sufficient number of polling locations on Advance Poll days?

Choose one response:

- Yes
- No

If you answered no, why not?

7. Do you feel there were a sufficient number of polling locations on Election Day?

Choose one response:

- Yes
- No

If you answered no, why not?

8. Were election signs an important part of your campaign?

Choose one response:

- Yes
- No

9. Do you feel that putting up election signs uses resources that could be better used on other aspects of campaigning?

Choose one response:

- Yes
- No

If you answered yes, please explain.

10. In your opinion, what are the benefits to allowing the use of elections signs?

11. In your opinion, what are the drawbacks to allowing the use of election signs?

12. Brampton City Council has voted to amend their sign by-law. The amendment allows election signs to be displayed in windows or windows in doors only.

a. Would you support similar restrictions in the City of Mississauga?

Choose one response

- Yes
- No

b. Please explain why/why not.

13. Are there voting technologies or other voting methods (for example mail-in ballots) that you think would improve access for voters?

14. Do you feel that the information provided to you by the Elections Office was helpful?

Choose one response:

- Not at all helpful
- Slightly helpful

- Somewhat helpful
- Very helpful
- Extremely helpful

15. What, if any, additional information or support from the Elections Office would you find helpful?

16. The Elections Office hosted two Candidate information sessions. One was held in April 2022 and one was held in September 2022. Elections Office staff and staff from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing provided information on various topics that included:

- Campaign Finance
- Compliance Audits
- Voting Proxy
- Scrutineers
- The nomination procedure
- Voting technology
- The Use of City Resources during an Election Campaign Corporate Policy
- The sign by-law
- Voters' Lists
- Key dates

a. Did you attend one or both of the information sessions?

Choose one response:

- Yes
- No

b. If yes, which sessions did you attend?

Choose one response:

- September session
- April session
- Both sessions

17. What additional information or topics would you find helpful at future Candidate information sessions?

18. The Municipal Elections Act, 1996 establishes the rules Clerks and Candidates must follow during an election. For example, the Act sets the nomination fee, the number of endorsements candidates for council require, how the Voter's List is managed and the day the election is held. Please describe any concerns you have with the rules in the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

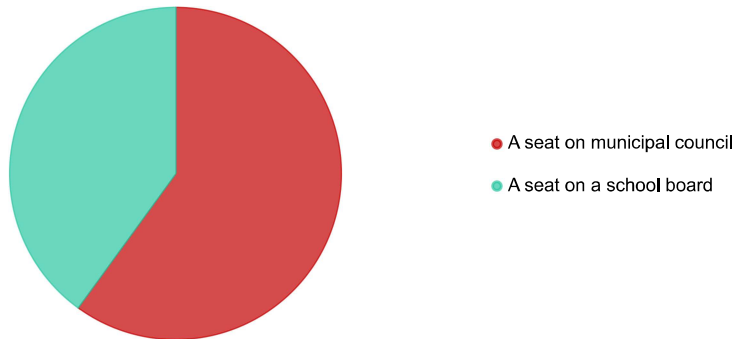
19. In the 2022 municipal election, voter turnout in Mississauga was 21.8%. Based on your experience as a candidate, what do you think were the factors that contributed to lower voter turnout in this election?

20. If you were talking to someone who was considering running in the 2026 municipal election, what would you say:

- a. Was the best part of being a candidate?
- b. What surprised you the most?
- c. What could have improved your experience?

Election 2022 Candidate Survey Responses

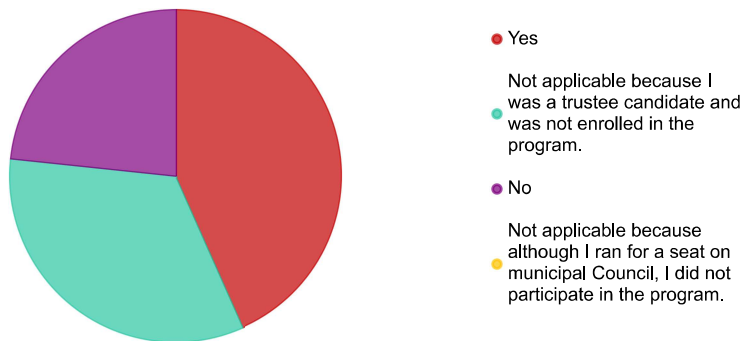
1. Please indicate which office you ran for in the 2022 Mississauga Municipal...



Answers	Count	Percentage
A seat on municipal council	18	60%
A seat on a school board	12	40%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

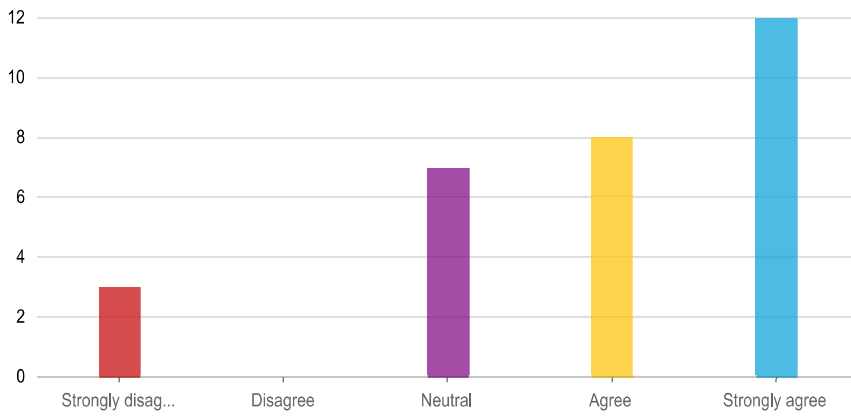
1. The Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program allows Candidates running...



Answers	Count	Percentage
Yes	13	43.33%
Not applicable because I was a trustee candidate and was not enrolled in the program.	10	33.33%
No	7	23.33%
Not applicable because although I ran for a seat on municipal Council, I did not participate in the program.	0	0%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

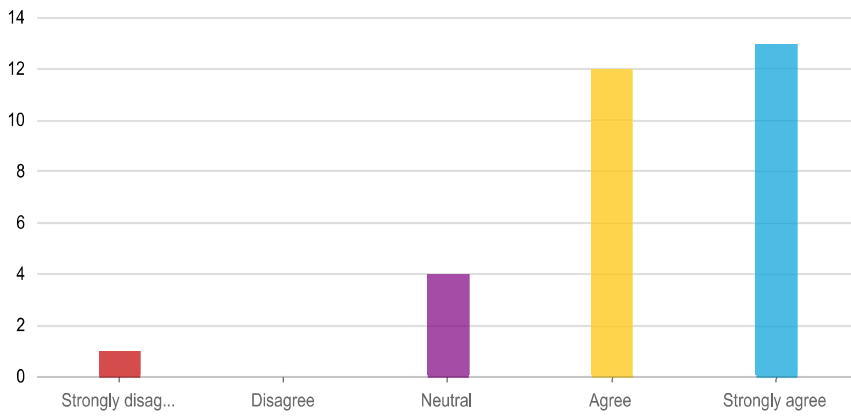
I believe the Vote Anywhere model is effective:



Answers	Count	Percentage
Strongly disagree	3	10%
Disagree	0	0%
Neutral	7	23.33%
Agree	8	26.67%
Strongly agree	12	40%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

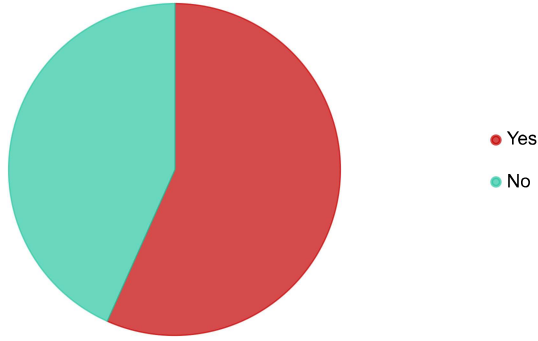
I believe the Vote Anywhere model gives voters more flexibility:



Answers	Count	Percentage
Strongly disagree	1	3.33%
Disagree	0	0%
Neutral	4	13.33%
Agree	12	40%
Strongly agree	13	43.33%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

Did you use this technology on Advance Poll Days?

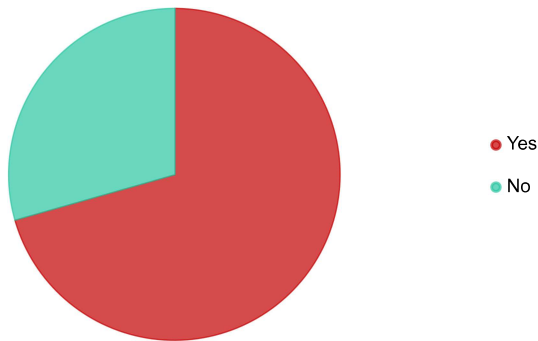


Answers **Count** **Percentage**

Yes	17	56.67%
No	13	43.33%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

IF YES, did you feel that this system was easy to use?

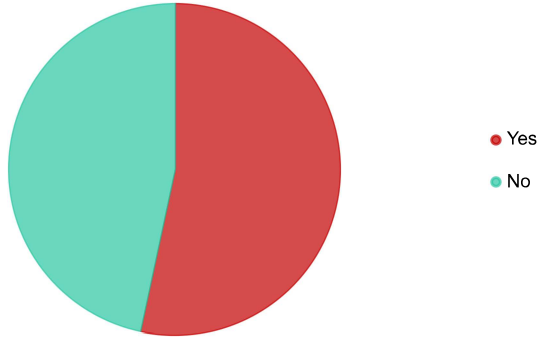


Answers **Count** **Percentage**

Yes	12	40%
No	5	16.67%

Answered: 17 Skipped: 13

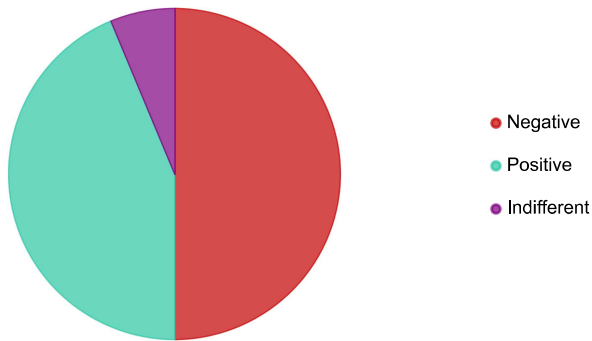
4. Did you receive feedback from your voters regarding the electronic voting...



Answers	Count	Percentage
Yes	16	53.33%
No	14	46.67%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

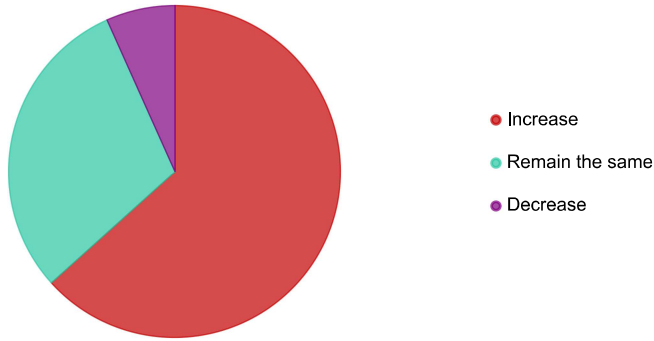
IF YES, was the feedback:



Answers	Count	Percentage
Negative	8	26.67%
Positive	7	23.33%
Indifferent	1	3.33%

Answered: 16 Skipped: 14

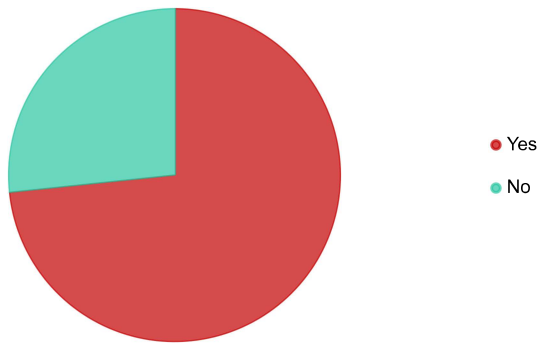
5. The City increased the number of Advance Poll days to 7 in 2022, up from 4 days...



Answers	Count	Percentage
Increase	19	63.33%
Remain the same	9	30%
Decrease	2	6.67%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

6. Do you feel there were a sufficient number of polling locations on Advance Poll...



Answers	Count	Percentage
Yes	22	73.33%
No	8	26.67%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

If you answered NO, why not?

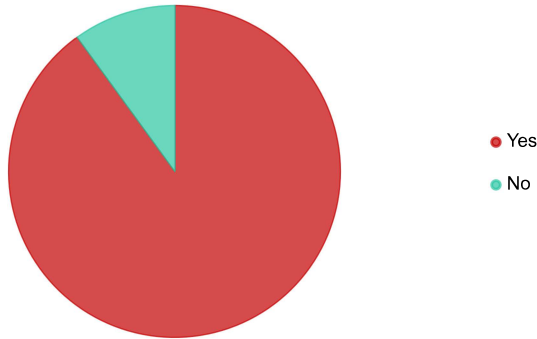
The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Response	Count
In some cases the locations were still very far for people in a large wards especially for those without vehicles.	2
There were not sufficient polling locations on advance poll days. They were not sufficiently spread throughout Wards and not numerous enough within Wards.	1
There should have been locations closer to neighbourhoods instead of community centres.	1

There should have been a mail ballot. Older people and technologically challenged people did not vote.	1
The combination of warmer days meaning more people unaware or busy, COVID impacts and work schedules as well as the general burnout and population feeling overwhelmed - they just need more time.	1
No opinion wasn't an option.	1
Many residents in the Ward I contested felt that advance polls were not placed within the Ward. I feel every Ward should have 3 advance polling stations within the boundaries.	1

Answered: 8 Skipped: 22

7. Do you feel there were a sufficient number of polling locations on Election Day?



Answers	Count	Percentage
Yes	27	90%
No	3	10%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

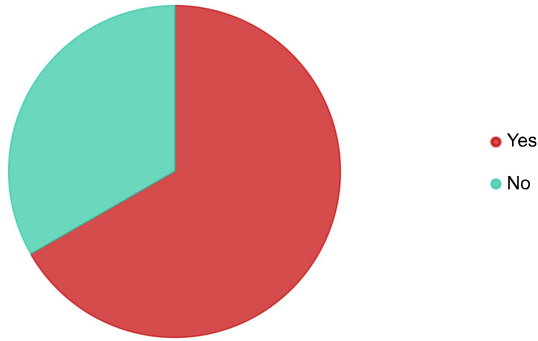
If you answered NO, why not?

The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Response	Count
No opinion wasn't an option	1
It was a HUGE disservice, borderline gerrymandering, for Council to opt out of polling stations on Sheridan and UTM campuses. This massively disenfranchised students and should be investigated.	1
It should be like that are in federal elections	1

Answered: 3 Skipped: 27

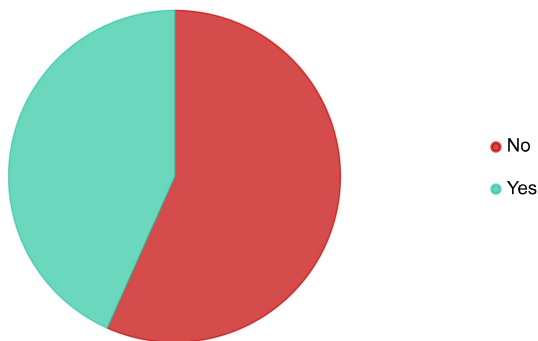
8. Were election signs an important part of your campaign?



Answers	Count	Percentage
Yes	20	66.67%
No	10	33.33%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

9. Do you feel that putting up election signs uses resources that could be better us...



Answers	Count	Percentage
No	17	56.67%
Yes	13	43.33%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

If you answered YES, please explain.

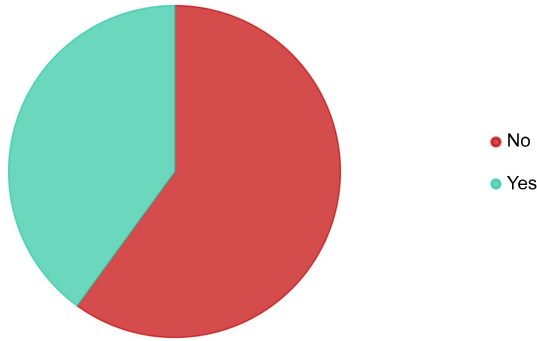
The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Response	Count
Too often voters choose based on name recognition. But really what do they know of the candidate and the candidates platform? Signs cost so much and say so little.	1
Time and money could have been spent on less environmentally damaging methods of communications. Radio, TV and Electronic Billboards are examples.	1
The sign war is horrific & they're removed or stolen so what's the point! Also what a waste & clutter that can not be recycled so this plastic sits in landfill for years.	1

Too many candidates broke rules. Placing signs too large or placing them illegally. This is unfair to candidates who followed the rules. Policing the use of lawn signs was difficult.	1
Too costly	1
The drawbacks are the cost of the stakes and the many volunteers required .	1
Stolen or Damaged Signs, were a concern. Signs put up without permission	1
Signs do not tell anything of a platform, or who the candidate is. Signs contribute to pollution and perpetuate a cycle of candidates win by spending the most	1
Same question have been put in 3 ways. Simple, only rich win.	1
restrictions	1
Nothing	1
None. But less sign wars and random rules would be good.	1
None.	1
None	1
NA	1
N/a	1
Massive cost and waste, it actually disengages many who consider these a blight, especially with more and more "sign hoarding" on some properties plus vandalism and so few actual debates or media.	1
Many places illegally with no consequence. Waste of money and creation of huge amounts of garbage	1
It centres money in politics. We should be hosting more town halls in local libraries so people can meet the candidates	1
Incumbents will just place their signs wherever they want without repercussions. I filed many complaints, and nothing was ever done.	1
I don't see any. Only problem is that there is a lot of vandalism happening this time compared to previous elections. Also, people remove lawn signs illegally.	1
Environmental issues, littered streets failure to remove them afterwards, are serious issues.	1
Election signs should be allowed however, city enforcement of rules being followed & fines enforced for violation of by-law to be immediate at time of violation needed. This practice was not followed.	1
Election signs give candidates with more resources a huge benefit. It does not level the playing field. incumbents take advantage of constituents who have prime lots by soliciting them early.	1
Easy for opponents to deface, remove, and destroy which is costly.	1
Clutter, too many, non-recyclable waste.	1
Affordability for new candidate. Especially if established incumbent has years of making connections for donations. 1 candidate can dominate the ward with signs giving impression to undecided	1
A very few voters only watching.	1

Answered: 28 Skipped: 2

Would you support similar restrictions in the City of Mississauga?



Answers **Count** **Percentage**

No	18	60%
Yes	12	40%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

Please explain why/why not:



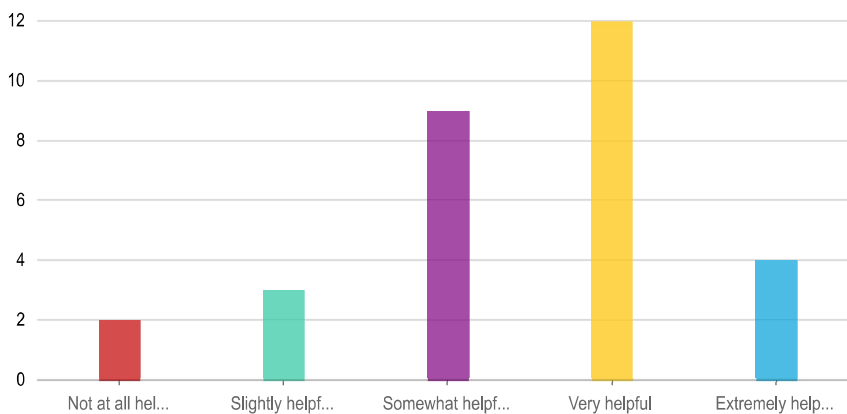
Response **Count**

Illegal to ban signs. Banning them is just a massive advantage to incumbents.	2
Why want restrictions.	1
This amendment would allow small signs only so less costly. Over abundant of signs from each candidate crowding on the lawns would be eliminated . That said I do approve of signs as a visual .	1
The Supreme Court of Canada has already weighed in on this. You can't ban signs.	1
The signs need to be seen at the street. This is a non issue.	1
The should be allowed in public space.. otherwise it gives to much power to business and land owners to restrict sign posting	1
the point of signs it to show them visable	1
Signs should just be limited to key intersections permitted by the city (as other municipalities do). This would reduce the clutter, garbage & cost for candidates.	1
Restrictions are never good.	1
reduces the possibility of election signs	1

Yes, online voting is a great idea. But keep mail in ballots for the elderly or people less technical inclined.	1
Vote by app/phone or call in voting.	1
Two part question. The first part is answered and for mail-in ballots, old idea, that should be electronic like R ECO does.	1
The voting statistics show that people are not exercising their democratic right. Educating the public. after living in this country for decades people are not aware of the role of the Trustees.	1
Paper voting is best - we need more days to vote, election day should also be a paid holiday. Other needed reforms include ranked ballots, polling at all higher ed campuses and online voting.	1
Online voting. Allowing voters to vote using their smartphones will increase voter turnout from its appalling 1.8%.	2
ONLINE and Yes MAIL IN BALLOTS	1
Mail-in ballots would be amazing. Many I spoke to requested for their to be Mail-in ballots. They would be more likely to vote then. Could be a great way to take down barriers for our residents.	1
Mail-in ballots are needed for the Elderly, Sick or those not technically inclined Online voting would have increased voters "Turn Out" and engagement.	1
Mail in ballots recommended	1
Mail in ballots lead to fraud so no there is no technology to enhance access.	1
Mail in and online voting may be helpful to engage more voters.	1
I support ONLY manual and in-person ballots. I do not support mail-in nor electronic or technology options. ONLY manual and in person.	1
How about refunds for School Trustees running? Or tax writeoffs?	1
having the option of online voting would increase voter engagement. Being able to vote from home with an ID and code would facilitate people who might avoid going out to vote.	1
Any methods that could remove barriers to participation would be welcomed, esp. given the low turnout rates during municipal elections.	1

Answered: 24 Skipped: 6

14. Do you feel that the information provided to you by the Elections Office was...



Answers	Count	Percentage
Not at all helpful	2	6.67%
Slightly helpful	3	10%

Somewhat helpful	9	30%
Very helpful	12	40%
Extremely helpful	4	13.33%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

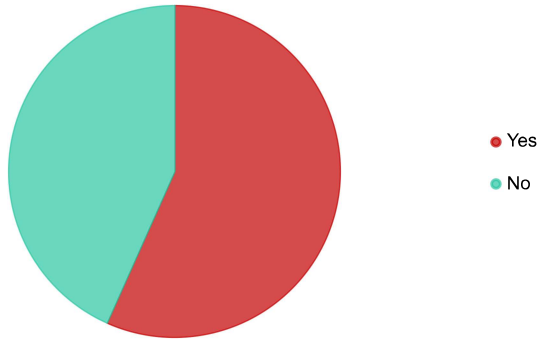
15. What, if any, additional information or support from the Elections Office would you find...

The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Response	Count
You need more. I missed alot of stuff because itmcame too.soon or there was only one date	1
Volunteers have additional questions or require clarification about process when working a campaign. It wou ld be helpful if EO didnt just reply to a question with read over the Manual.	1
The separation of municipal forms from general election forms.	1
The office and staff were great. Communication was amazing.	1
The election office should eliminate Hub program, its useless and extremely time consuming for candidates. They should email to all candidates rather putting information on Hub.	1
Nothing	1
More guidance, and better communication from the Elections Office would have been appreciated - my exp erience as a candidate was truly awful.	1
Knowledge on demographics of who voted and in what areas would certainly allow for more dedicated mess aging that would go a long way to talk directly to what matters	1
Info provided earlier and more staffing to the Elections Office, at times overwhelmed. More staff to manage t he election system (for more days) and more staff for voter education/outreach, year-round.	1
I think the voter's list should have been available earlier - at the time of registration. Incumbents have the ad vantage of previous lists whereas new candidates have a much harder time catching up.	1
I charge lot of money for advising.	1
eligible voters out of date. Did not have an accurate list of eligible voters. Eligible voters shown in mississau ga actually belonged to another city. Number of eligible voters	1
Check the street names and addresses before publishing.	1
Being able to receive the actual voter's list after the election day for candidate's respective ward. More hand s on support for the responsibilities of a candidate rather than directing to print.	1
Basically the School Trustee election is an after thought and isn't really democratic as there are no all candi dates meetings or ways to discuss the issues.	1
Actually reprimanding candidates who break rules and regulations that candidates are supposed to follow.	1
A letter should be issued to condos - can't access most b/c they don't allow you to solicit etc. Wasted time tr ying to get permission in some huge condos	1
.	1

Answered: 18 Skipped: 12

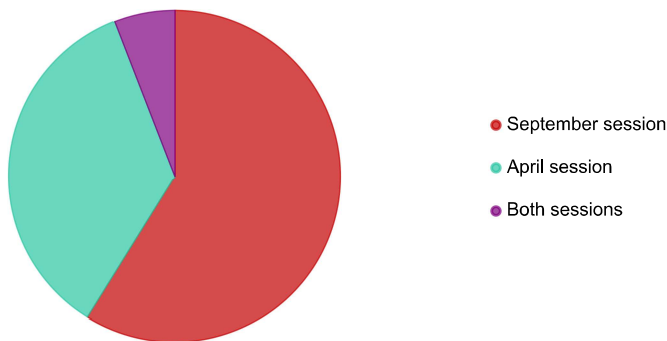
Did you attend one or both of the information sessions?



Answers	Count	Percentage
Yes	17	56.67%
No	13	43.33%

Answered: 30 Skipped: 0

If YES, which sessions did you attend?



Answers	Count	Percentage
September session	10	33.33%
April session	6	20%
Both sessions	1	3.33%

Answered: 17 Skipped: 13

17. What additional information or topics would you find helpful at future Candidate information...

The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Response	Count
Workshop style format where actual scenarios are explained and questions addressed. First time candidates need additional support to learn what is involved in being a part of an election.	1
Waste of time.	1
Voter engagement, highlighting the current disturbing trend of voter decline and methods to engage more residents, and how the City is helping. So also more info on new programs, like ranked ballots.	1

Transparency. Access to voter maps and lists when a candidate files their nomination, and not in September.	1
Rebate When filing out the donors information, typically cheques arrive & there is usually NO email provided & no phone number. I understood the need but hard to obtain - perhaps 1 or the other	1
Nil	1
N/A	1
Maybe some advise from past candidates.	1
Impose "no signs" bylaws	1
How School Trustees can get refunds. How donations can be a tax write off.	1
French language sessions.	1
Endorsement information.	1
.	1

Answered: 13 Skipped: 17

Please describe any concerns you have with the rules in the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

The word cloud requires at least 20 answers to show.

Response	Count
I would prefer the number of endorsements was raised to cut back on unserious candidates. Having to gather signatures is time consuming so only serious candidates will invest the time.	2
Voters list should be made available when one files their nomination. Incumbents should not be allowed to host any Ward specific events after April of an election year, and even more advance polls.	1
they are fine	1
These seem good but a review should be done after all these years. More days to vote, ranked ballots, no election lawn signs should be enshrined plus language for online voting added as an option.	1
The Municipal Elections Act, 1996 should be amended and allow candidates to have final listing of voters, who voted so they can call the voters and thank them.	1
Nomination fee to be higher. It is too low & allows for people to pay \$100 to get a voter's list & access to info for this fee if they are not committed to being a candidate but for other reasons.	1
No refunds for fee., because the voters list is not to be given freely to people to promote their private businesses. People who lose their election must be prepared to lose their deposit.	1
No barrier to entry. More endorsements should be required, along with a higher fee.	1
No	1
NA	1
N/A	1
Money is centre-droit in politics	1
It does not address School Trustees at all. It just arbitrarily applies the Councillor rules.	1
I think the incumbent mayor should have been allowed to campaign door to door with Ward Candidate's. Unfair advantage and although not against the rules, it shows a bad form.	1
For campaigns less than a certain amount there should be no requirement for an audit for that campaign to participate in the rebate program. Rebates should be tax credits.	1

When I called the election office to complain about the name of the current trustee display on schools. Office said it is the responsibility of the school which is the current trustees. It's not fair	1
When a teacher at a catholic school told me I had to leave an open house event but my competition was allowed to stay and talk about his campaign	1
Voter apathy.	1
Those that were REALLY interested in the other options were very passionate.	1
The way incumbents use their experience on 'how to win an election' and indirectly attack new candidates. Candidates using other people's names, positions endorsements to promote themselves.	1
The threats and hatred that find target in people that step into the political arena is disheartening. No excuse, but when people feel their voices don't matter that's how energy tends to express.	1
The large lack of understanding of what municipal government delivers for people.	1
The lack of engagement some of the residents have.	1
the fact that vandals were getting away with destroying lawn signs on private property or even removing them.	1
The decisions made behind closed doors and the illegitimacy of the general election concept.	1
The consensus on issues, namely the lack of affordable housing, over-emphasis on driving and lack of results from a Council. Most show no interest in voting in part because of a weak electoral system.	1
Real-estate agents in just to get the voters list Resident Lack of knowledge of what city hall does and why it's important to vote and residents not understanding no party affiliations in municipal	1
Nothing	1
No debates whatsoever. No press coverage.	1
Lots of work	1
Lack of accurate voter lists	1
Incumbents did have to go door knocking and win the election by huge margin. Their names or lawn signs are good enough to win, No all candidates debate was done to float the new and improved ideas	1
I had an awful experience as a candidate - I felt extremely uncomfortable interacting with the clerk at the Elections Office - she was rude, racist and very unhelpful. Very disappointing	1
I got more votes than the previous election	1
How little help the city staff provided.	1
How few people living in apartment buildings vote.	1
How few people actually got out to vote.	1
How easy it was for some candidates to break the rules and get away with it	1
Both the money and time necessary to really get the message out. By no means did I expect it to be easy, but doing it while working full time was intense.	1
.	1

Answered: 27 Skipped: 3

c. What could have improved your experience?

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Answered: 22 Skipped: 8