

THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAMBTON SHORES

Report CL 03-2022

Council Meeting Date: February 1, 2022

TO: Mayor Weber and Members of Council

FROM: Stephanie Troyer-Boyd, Director of Corporate Services

RE: 2022 Municipal Election Update

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the 2022 Municipal Election Update report be received for information.

SUMMARY

To provide Council with an update on the 2022 municipal election.

BACKGROUND

As Council is aware, 2022 is a Municipal Election year. While Election Day is not until October 24, 2022, preparation for the election is well underway. Staff would like to make Council aware of some of the key dates and preparations that are underway. The municipal website will be updated with election information in the coming weeks.

In May 2021, Council approved internet/telephone voting as the alternative voting method for the 2022 municipal election. Staff was authorized to proceed with the selection of a voting services provider jointly with other Lambton County municipalities using these alternative voting methods. A joint RFP initiative was undertaken throughout the summer and fall of 2021 and Scytl Canada was chosen as the voting services provider for the Lambton Group municipalities. The agreement was executed with Scytl Canada in December 2021 for these services. Use of internet/telephone voting allows eligible electors in Lambton Shores the convenience of voting for an extended period of time without having to travel to a voting location on a specific day. Electors can vote anytime, anywhere, during the voting period using the telephone or internet. The Voter Instruction Letter containing voting instructions and a private access PIN will be mailed to eligible voters in early October. There will be more communication and education for voters closer to the election.

While the method of voting will be telephone/internet based, limited in person electronic voting will be provided at special voting locations (long term care homes and institutions) as well as a voter help location. These dates and times are currently in development.

The Clerk's department is currently undertaking a review of all elections procedures, forms, communications plans, Municipal Candidates Guide, policies, by-laws, etc.

Lambton County Clerks have again joined together to host two (2) virtual Candidate Information Sessions to be held in April 2022. The intent of the session is to provide individuals who have an interest in running for municipal Council with information on what they need to know before making a decision to run for Council. There are plans to have the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing do a presentation as well as a trainer who will provide valuable, insightful information on what it means to be a member of municipal council. We will be providing notice and registration links to the sessions once the date is confirmed.

2022 Municipal Election Key Dates

April 2022	"So You Want to be a Councillor" Candidate Information Sessions
May 2, 2022	Nominations open
August 19, 2022	Nominations close at 2:00 p.m.
August 19, 2022	Deadline to withdraw a nomination at 2:00 p.m.
Voting Period	approx. 10-12 days in advance of Election Day Dates and times yet to be confirmed.
October 24, 2022	Election Day
November 15, 2022	Term of Council begins

ALTERNATIVES TO CONSIDER

This is an information report for Council. There are no alternatives for consideration.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The report has been prepared for Council information.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact to receiving this staff report.

CONSULTATION

Lambton County Clerks