



ONTARIO PUBLIC
SCHOOL BOARDS'
ASSOCIATION

Leading Education's Advocates

Changes to the 2018 Municipal and School Board Elections

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City Clerk, City of Guelph**

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OPSBA PES

OPSBA - Municipal and School Board Elections

OPSBA has actively promoted elections and distributed school board candidate information.

In partnership, we have developed election resources to highlight the role of a school board trustee, provide in-depth knowledge of school board operations, and encourage informed voter participation.



Election Resources



2014 Ontario Municipal and School Board Elections are Monday, October 27.

THIS MESSAGE BROUGHT TO YOU BY ONTARIO'S 72 PUBLICLY FUNDED SCHOOL BOARDS






It's All in Your Hands.

Make a difference for kids - vote for your local school board trustee on October 27. For more information, visit elections.ontarioschooltrustees.org



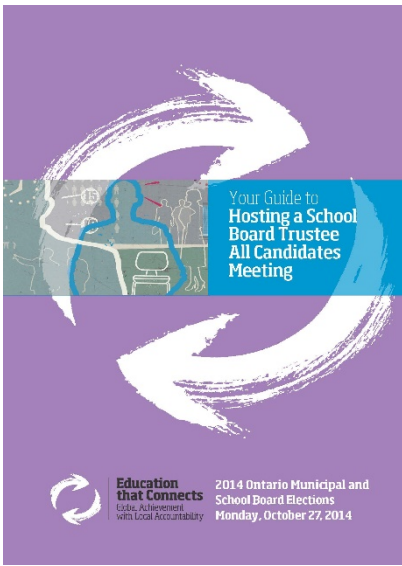
Education that Connects
 Global Achievement with Local Accountability



Making a Difference for Kids Running for Election as a School Board Trustee
 Guide for Candidates and Communities

Education that Connects
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Election Day: Monday, October 27, 2014



Your Guide to Hosting a School Board Trustee All Candidates Meeting

Education that Connects
 Global Achievement with Local Accountability

2014 Ontario Municipal and School Board Elections Monday, October 27, 2014



Good Governance:
 A Guide for Trustees, School Boards, Directors of Education and Communities

2014

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It's All In Your Hands

2014 Ontario Municipal & School Board Elections



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It's All in Your Hands. 

It's All in Your Hands.



2014 Ontario Municipal and
School Board Elections

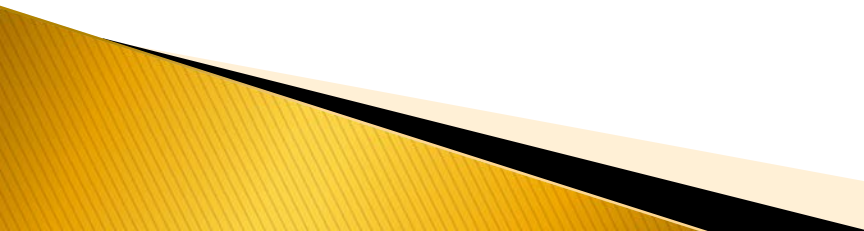


**Education
that Connects**
Global Achievement

Municipal and School Board Election polls are now closed. Unofficial election results will be posted on this website as they are received. Final official results will be posted once they are verified by the relevant municipality.



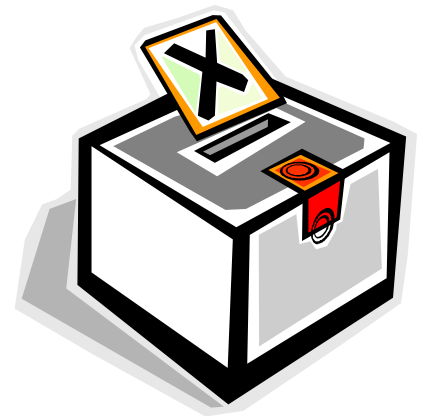
Background Information

- ▶ Municipal and School Board Elections are held every four years. The *Municipal Elections Act* is reviewed after every municipal election.
 - ▶ Bill 181, Municipal Elections Modernization Act was introduced on April 4, 2016 and received Royal Assent on June 9, 2016.
 - ▶ Bill 68, Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act was introduced on November 26, 2016 and received Royal Assent on May 30, 2017.
 - ▶ There is no legislative review requirement for *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*, which was last substantially amended in 1983.
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Election Calendar Changes

Recent legislative amendments have resulted in changes to the election calendar. These include:

- ▶ Start of Nominations/Campaign Beginning is May 1, 2018 (moved from January 1).
- ▶ Nomination Day/Close of Nominations is July 27, 2018 (moved from end of September).
- ▶ Election Day is Monday, October 22, 2018.
- ▶ Term Start Date remains December 1, 2018.



School Board Staff

Lisa Reinhardt -- Corporate Secretariat and Trustee Services, York Region District School Board



What are the main duties for the school board staff responsible for elections?

Municipal Clerk



Stephen O'Brien –
City Clerk, City of Guelph



What are the main duties for the municipal clerks responsible for elections?

Key Provisions for School Boards

- ▶ School boards must establish a policy regarding the use of board resources during the campaign.
- ▶ School boards may establish a policy setting out when an automatic recount will occur (in addition to a tie vote).



Key Provisions for School Boards and Municipalities



- ▶ Meetings of compliance audit committees must be open to the public.
- ▶ Compliance audit committees must give brief written reasons for decisions.

Key Provisions for Municipalities Only

Changes proposed under the *Municipal Act*, applicable to municipalities only:

- ▶ Mandatory Codes of Conduct
- ▶ Public access to an Integrity Commissioner (IC)
- ▶ Allowance of participation in meetings electronically
- ▶ Definition of a “Meeting”



Key Provisions for Municipalities Only – cont'd



- ▶ Ranked ballots. The legislation provides municipalities with the option of using ranked ballots in future elections, starting in 2018.
- ▶ Requirement for candidates to obtain 25 endorsement signatures.

Key Provisions for Clerks

- ▶ Clerks would be required to prepare a plan for the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect voters and candidates with disabilities, and make the plan available to the public before voting day.



- ▶ Clerks, rather than councils, would determine dates and times for advance voting, reduced voting hours in certain institutions, and early opening on voting day.

Other Changes for Both School Boards and Municipalities

- ▶ Requirement to provide identification on signs and materials.
- ▶ Nomination fees would only be refundable if the financial statement is filed on time.
- ▶ Candidates would be able to close their campaign and file their financial statement before December 31.
- ▶ Grace period for missing the filing deadline for financial statements.



Other Changes for Both School Boards and Municipalities

- ▶ Pregnancy and Parental Leave
 - Require a policy for pregnancy leaves and parental leaves for council members.
 - Prevent a members' seat from becoming vacant due to absences as a result of pregnancy, or the birth or the adoption of the member's child for a period of 20 consecutive weeks or less.



Other Changes

Both School Boards and Municipalities:


- ▶ Contribution Limits
 - Raise the limit for contributions to a single candidate or third party advertiser to \$1,200, consistent with the provincial limit.



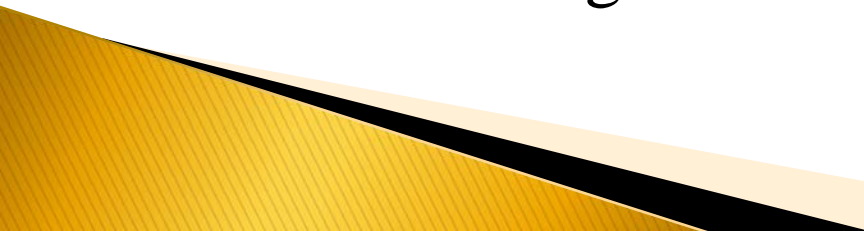
For Municipalities *only*:

- ▶ Self-funding Limit
 - Impose a self-funding limit for candidates based on the number of electors voting for the office, to a maximum of \$25,000 per candidate.

Municipal Conflict of Interest: New Requirements – Effective March 1, 2019

- ▶ **Written Disclosure of Interest**
 - At a meeting at which a member discloses a pecuniary interest, the member will be required to file a written statement of the member's interest at the meeting, or as soon as possible afterwards.
 - ▶ **Registry**
 - Require the establishment and maintenance of a registry of statements and declarations of interests of members. The registry would be made available for public inspection.
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Municipal Conflict of Interest: New Requirements – Effective March 1, 2019

- ▶ Conflict of interest applications to be brought by, "An elector, an Integrity Commissioner of a municipality or a person demonstrably acting in the public interest."
 - ▶ Allowance of applications to be brought against a former member of the board, for a breach that may have occurred while they were a member. All applications still have to be brought within six weeks of when the breach comes to the attention of the applicant and that could be up to six years after the breach is alleged to have occurred.
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Municipal Conflict of Interest: New Requirements – Effective March 1, 2019

- ▶ Penalties: If a judge determines that a contravention occurred, the judge may:
 - reprimand the member or former member,
 - suspend the member's remuneration for a period up to 90 days,
 - declare the member's seat vacant,
 - disqualify the member or former member during a period of not more than seven years,
 - and/or require the member or former member to make restitution.



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