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POST-ELECTION ACCESSIBILITY REPORT

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF KINGSVILLE

2018 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

December 22, 2018

Introduction

The Town of Kingsville was committed to making the 2018 Municipal Election accessible by working to accommodate the needs of electors by removing barriers to vote for persons with disabilities.

The focus of the Post-Election Accessibility Report is to evaluate the accessibility of the electoral services offered to all electors and candidates in the 2018 Municipal Election. This report outlines the various initiatives undertaken during the course of the 2018 Municipal Election regarding the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities.

Post-election Reporting

In accordance with section 12.1(3) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, the Clerk shall provide a report, within 90 days after voting day in a regular election, about the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with accessibility needs. The report will be available to the public and posted on the Town's website in an accessible format.

Leading up to the election, an Election Accessibility Plan (the "Plan") was developed. Upon completion, the proposed plan was submitted to the Accessibility Advisory Committee for review and comment. The 2018 Plan guides the provision of election related services to persons with disabilities. The Plan was designed to respect the dignity and independence of electors and candidates, and ensure that practices and procedures are consistent with the principles of independence, dignity, integration and equality of opportunity.

The following are the various initiatives undertaken by Corporate Services during the course of the 2018 Municipal Election:

- Vote by Mail provided the electors with the ability to mark their ballot from home at their convenience. This allowed increased rights of privacy to electors with disabilities whom may find voting at traditional paper based voting locations more difficult, as they had the ability to vote with little or no assistance required from others.
- Election Officials made electors aware of the availability of assistance for persons requiring same. Election Officials and staff were positioned to greet electors as they came in to the Municipal Office and assist them as may be necessary.
- Election information was communicated through various channels and alternative formats including emails, social media, newspaper and radio. For election-related inquiries or feedback, all residents were able to contact the Corporate Services via telephone or through a designated email. Although that election

email address is no longer active, the Clerk will continue to receive feedback through the Kingsville Works email.

- Election staff ensured that all information was made available to candidates and voters in alternate formats upon request. No such requests were received. All relevant information was posted to the Town, which is equipped with BrowseAloud software. The Town incorporated the TEXTNET program on its telephone system and meets the requirements of the Accessible Customer Services Standard in this regard.
- VoterView was also available through the Town's website enabling electors to search the Voters' List from his or her personal computer or mobile handheld device.
- Extended office hours were provided closer to the election to assist those residents who were not able to visit the Municipal Office during regular office hours.
- Ballot Return Stations were setup in Ruthven and Cottam on Election Day for those electors who wanted to drop off their completed ballot. The Ballot Return Stations were barrier-free with no obstructions to the entrances, designated barrier-free parking spaces at grade, and entrances equipped with automatic door openers. Signage was posted inform electors of the Ballot Return Station.
- In the months leading up to the election, Election Officials contacted retirement and long term care homes to determine mutually convenient dates to attend at their facilities to assist residents get added to, or make changes to, the Voters' List.

Day	Time	Election Officials	Location	Address
September 10	10:30 – 11:30	2	Southgate Retirement Living	38 Park St
October 12	10:00 – 11:30	2	Augustine Villas	54 Spruce St
October 16	1:00 – 3:00	2	Royal Oak Long Term Care	1750 Division Rd N
October 17	11:00 – 12:30	2	Chartwell Residence	240 Main St E

- At the Municipal Office location on Voting Day, accessible ballot marking equipment was available for electors requiring assistance. No requests were received to use the device.

Feedback

Public feedback about the manner in which election services were provided to persons with accessible needs may be submitted to the Town Clerk through a variety of methods:

- Telephone: 519-733-2305
- Email: kingsvilleworks@kingsville.ca
- Mail or in person: 2021 Division Road N, Kingsville, ON N9Y 2Y9

The feedback process provides election staff with an opportunity to take corrective measures to prevent similar recurrences, address training needs, enhance service delivery and provide alternative methods of providing election services.

Jennifer Astrologo

Director of Corporate Services/Clerk