2018 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS
Working Together Working for You!

July 31, 2018

2018 Municipal Election – Town of Halton Hills Accessibility Plan

OVERVIEW

The Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (MEA) requires that a clerk who is responsible for conducting an election shall have regard to the needs of electors and candidates with disabilities in accordance with MEA, s.12.1 and in establishing locations of voting places, the clerk will ensure that each voting place is accessible to electors with disabilities in accordance with MEA s.45(2).

The Town of Halton Hills Election Team is committed to ensuring that every elector and candidate is provided with the opportunity to participate and vote in the 2018 Municipal Election.

Accessibility Plan

The following Accessibility Plan is being provided in accordance with MEA, s.12.1 (2). Before voting day the clerk shall prepare a plan regarding the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities.

The following actions will be taken to identify barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities in the 2018 Municipal Election.

GOAL	ACTION	STATUS A = Achieved PA = Partially Achieved NA = Achieved
Assess accessibility initiatives and feedback from past elections to identify issues and recommendations for improvement. Use this information to develop the 2018 Election Accessibility Plan		
Review the 2018 Election Accessibility Plan with the Accessibility Coordinator and have the accessibility coordinator review the proposed sites.		
Ensure that the election webpage and web content meets WCAG 2.0 Level A compliance.		
Develop Communications that highlight the voting options available to electors with disabilities.		
Post all election related information to the town website		
Ensure that election information is available in plain language, with a minimum font size of Arial 12 or equivalent.		
Establish a process for candidates and electors to receive documents and forms in alternate formats or with communication supports upon request.		
Provide links on the town website to the Candidates Guide to Accessible Elections and provide a copy of this guide to all candidates.		
Ensure effective placement of election information and signage at each voting location.		
Endeavour to have all election locations be one entrance for all (accessible entrance) if not possible ensure the location of the accessible entrance is clearly identified.		
Permit service animals and support persons in all voting locations.		

GOAL	ACTION	STATUS A = Achieved PA = Partially Achieved NA = Achieved
Set up a process to facilitate notification of any last minute voting location changes, should an emergency occur.		
Make appropriate modification to each location as informed by sight visit. For example, use of greeter, doors propped open, added seating, temporary threshold ramp, temporary accessible parking, etc.		
Ensure designated or reserved parking for persons with disabilities at each location.		
Provide supplies to enable voting for electors who are blind or partially sighted.		
Provide fully accessible voting at advance poll locations as well as 'vote anywhere' at advance poll locations for flexibility and enhanced accessibility.		
Establish a "Vote Anywhere in your Ward" model on election day to provide flexibility for voters and enhance accessibility.		
In accordance with section 45(7) of the MEA, provide voting opportunities at institutions and retirement homes.		
Provide an accessibility component to election staff training to ensure election staff are able to assist persons with disabilities at all voting locations.		
Ensure election staff have the information and tools they require to monitor the voting location and identify and respond to individual elector needs.		
Ensure election staff monitor the entrance doors at voting locations to identify any barriers to entry.		

Accessibility Report

In accordance with MEA s.12.1 (3), the clerk will prepare within 90 days after voting day in a regular election, a report about the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities and will make the report available to the public. This report will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of accessibility initiatives as they relate to communication, voting and training.