2026 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

September 16, 2026

2026 Municipal Election – Town of Halton Hills Accessibility Plan

OVERVIEW

The Town of Halton Hills is committed to providing an accessible and barrier free community and services. The following plan has been developed in advance of the 2026 municipal election in order to identify measures to be reported on following the election, to ensure compliance with MEA, the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA).

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 location 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 2026 Municipal Election.

Accessibility Plan

The following Accessibility Plan is being provided in accordance with MEA, s.12.1 (2) which states that 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 Town of Halton Hills will be doing the following alternative voting methods advance on-line voting and in person paper ballot voting on Election Day to accommodate the different needs of our voters and to remove and prevent barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities.

The following actions will be taken to identify and remove barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities in the 2026 Municipal Election:

- Ensure that the election webpage and web content meet WCAG 2.0 Level AA compliance.
- Develop Communications that highlight the voting options available to electors with disabilities.
- Post all election related information to the towns website and use social media to keep the public informed.
- Ensure that election information is available in plain language, with a minimum font size of Arial 12 or equivalent.
- Set up a process to facilitate notification of any last-minute voting location changes, should an emergency occur.
- Provide links on the town's 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.

- Make appropriate modification to each location as informed by site 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.
- Permit service animals and support persons in all voting locations.
- Provide on-line voting for advance voting to increase accessibility
- Provide on-line voting kiosks during the advance voting period to assist electors with the on-line voting process
- Engage in community outreach to promote on-line voting at local seniors' centres and libraries
- 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 accessibility component to election staff training to ensure election staff can assist persons with disabilities at all voting locations.
- Alternatively, a designated support person or friend of the voter will be administered an oath of secrecy and confidentiality prior to aiding in the voting process.
- 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.