

Report to Council

Report Title: 2026 Municipal and School Board Election Proposal

Prepared By: Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk

Department: Clerk's

Date: April 14, 2026

Report Number: CLK2026-05 **File Number:** C11CL, C07EL

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CLK2026-05 – 2026 Municipal and School Board Election Proposal, prepared by Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk for information purposes.

Report:

Background:

On July 9, 2024 staff brought forward Report Number CLK2024-14 recommending the use of internet and telephone voting for the 2026 Municipal and School Board Election. Council approved proceeding with internet and telephone voting as per By-Law 2024-063.

The next Municipal and School Board Election will be held on Monday, October 26, 2026. Staff met with Bruce County Clerk's throughout 2025 discuss the 2026 Election preparation, and staff have also participated in monthly County-wide Election meetings, Election Forums, and completed AMCTO Elections training.

All Bruce County municipalities approved an internet/telephone method of voting for the 2026 election and selected Simply Voting Inc. as the election provider, consistent with the 2022 election.

Analysis:

Voting Period and Voting Places Proposal

Voting Period

Staff propose to schedule the voting period from Monday, October 19, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. to Monday, October 26, 2026 at 8:00 p.m. Electors will be able to vote by internet or telephone anytime within that time period.

Voting Places

Staff are proposing to offer internet and telephone voting at the following locations during the voting period:

Maple Court Villa and Brucelea Haven Nursing Home

As conducted in previous elections, staff will provide internet voting assistance to residents at Maple Court Villa and Brucelea Haven for one (1) day during the voting period.

Municipal Office

The Municipal Office will serve as a voting location **throughout the voting period**. Residents will be able to vote using a computer or telephone. A staff member will also be present at the Help Desk to assist any residents in completing their vote.

Cargill Community Centre

As the Cargill Community Centre is a fully accessible facility, the Centre will serve as a voting location to assist residents if they wish to vote using kiosks, or telephone. A staff member will be present on **Voting Day only** (8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.) at the Help Desk to assist any residents in completing their vote.

Voter Help Centre

Electors who need assistance to vote or need access to a phone or computer to vote, may visit one of our Voter Help Centres to vote on voting day and the Municipal Office during the voting period. Any voter who experiences trouble logging in or accessing the Telephone or Internet Voting System will be able to contact a Voter Helpline or email staff.

Staff are proposing to offer extended Voter Help Centre hours at the Municipal Office during the following times:

- Monday, October 19, 2026 (10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
- Tuesday, October 20 to Friday, October 23, 2026 (8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, October 24, 2026 (10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

On Voting Day a Voter Help Centre will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at both the Municipal Office and the Cargill Community Centre.

Election Information

Electors and Candidates may visit Brockton.ca/Elections to learn more about the upcoming 2026 Election and access resources. A social media campaign is also underway promoting the Election through Facebook and Instagram.

Voters' List Confirmation

Electors are encouraged to check the Ontario Government's Register to Vote online tool to confirm that they are on the Voters List. Until **August 12, 2026**, electors can visit www.RegisterToVoteON.ca, email info@registertovoteon.ca or call 1-866-242-3025 to update their information or add themselves to the Voters List. Elections Ontario are now responsible for the Voters List, and obtain elector information from a variety of sources, including the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Transportation. Following this deadline, electors can update their Voters List information at the Municipal Office by providing proof of identity and residence; although they are encouraged to confirm their information early.

School Support Designation Confirmation

Property owners in Ontario are required to support a school board, even if they do not have children, or their children are not currently attending school. In the case of a residential property occupied by tenants, the tenants can direct the school support for that property. It is a property owner's responsibility to ensure their school support information is correct on their tax bill and on the Voters' List. The default school board support is English-Public unless an elector updates their designation.

Electors should review and update their school support designation **before June 1, 2026** to ensure the correct information is provided to Elections Ontario so they are able to vote for the applicable School Board Trustee. Electors can [visit the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation's School Support Designation webpage](#) to learn more about reviewing/updating their school support designation.

Brockton's Community Goals:

The content and recommendations in this report support advancing the priorities to **Build a Better Brockton** in one or more of the following areas: **Heritage, Culture, and Community, Quality of Life, Municipal Governance, Land Use Planning and the Natural Environment, and/or Economic Development.**

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective? Yes

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sarah Johnson, Deputy Clerk

Reviewed By:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer