



INFORMATION REPORT

Meeting Date: 2023-01-23

Title: 2022 Municipal Election Review

Prepared By: Allyson Euler

Department: Administration

Report Number: Administration-2023-006

Background:

Section 12.1(3) of the *Municipal Elections Act* states that a Clerk must make available to the public an Accessibility Report about the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities within 90 days of a Municipal Election.

Discussion:

When the previous Council made the decision to move forward with a telephone and internet election for October of 2022, we were conscious of the continuing COVID-19 situation. Being unable to foresee the future, offering voting that could be accomplished without, in most cases, having to leave your home, made the most sense. It also took into account the possibility of a snowstorm or other bad weather on Voting Day, October 24, 2022. Telephone and internet voting are the most accessible forms of voting – allowing those with disabilities the opportunity to vote in private without the assistance of a friend or election official, thereby providing greater dignity. Telephone and internet voting also allow college and university students and snowbirds the opportunity to vote from anywhere and electors can vote at any time, not just between 8am and 8pm on Voting Day. The attached 2022 Election Overview Report provides information on how City of Dryden employees provided an accessible election, shows information on voter turnout, the methods used for voting, the auditing, security and testing that took place, methods of voter engagement and outreach as well as voter feedback.

The use of telephone and internet voting, with the provision of voting kiosks at City Hall and at the seniors' housing complexes, was again a success and will be recommended for the 2026 Municipal Election.

Attachments (Reference Material):

2022 Election Overview Report