



Policy Review Committee Action Report
for the February 14th, 2017 meeting held in the
Council Chambers following Council

PRESENT: Mayor Antonakos, Deputy-Mayor Flynn, Councillor Black, Councillor Doucett, Councillor Redmond, Councillor Fritz, Councillor Trimble, Duncan Rogers, Clerk, Phil Hogan, Treasurer

- 1) **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY/CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF** – now or anytime during the meeting
- 2) **PUBLIC MEETING – NONE THIS EVENING**
- 3) **REGISTRATION OF PUBLIC WISHING TO SPEAK**
- 4) **PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS**
- 5) **IF THERE IS AN ADDENDUM, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15.2.4 (OF THE STRIKING REPORT) DOES THE COMMITTEE WISH TO APPROVED THIS ADDENDUM**

The following items are for information only and will not be discussed unless the Committee chooses to do so. The Chair will entertain a motion to proceed as recommended for those items not pulled out for discussion.

COMMUNICATION 128089

Received from Paul Knowles, Chief Administrative Officer
Addressed to Policy Review Committee
Date February 8th, 2017
Topic 2016 Census

SUMMARY

Stats Canada has just released the 2016 Census data for Lanark County as attached.

COMMENT

Data confirms there has been considerable growth in Carleton Place. This updated population will be used for grant calculations and other purposes.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Receive and Record

COMMITTEE DECISION

Receive and Record

TO BE DISCUSSED

COMMUNICATION 127428

Received from Duncan Rogers, Clerk
Addressed to Policy Review Committee
Date November 16th, 2016
Topic E-Volve Integrated Electronic Voting Solutions – Simply Voting
 2018 Municipal Election

SUMMARY

The 2014 Municipal Election was conducted by paper ballot and electronic tabulation for the election results.

A number of local municipalities have indicated that they will be conducting the 2018 Municipal Election by electronic voting. There are several advantages to electronic voting including the following:

- Convenience for the elector
- More accessible for people with disabilities
- Reduced cost of training and the provision of election workers
- No requirement for advance voting stations or proxy voting
- Overall reduced cost to conduct the election

COMMENT

Staff has arranged for Mr. Steen Lattey, of Simply Voting Inc., to provide a presentation on electronic voting for the 2018 Municipal Election.

A paper copy of the presentation was circulated to the members of the Committee.

UPDATE – December 13, 2016

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The Municipal Elections Act, 1996, sets out the rules and regulations for electors, candidates, local Councils and Clerks in both municipal and school board elections in Ontario.

On April 4, 2016, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs tabled Bill 181, The Municipal Elections Modernization Act, which introduced significant amendments to the Municipal Elections Act. The Bill received Royal Assent in June of 2016. Some of the regulations associated with the changes are been finalized by the Ministry. This legislation will impact the 2018 municipal election.

127428 Continued

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

KEY DATES FOR THE 2018 MUNICIPAL/SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

Change	Old Legislation	New Legislation
By-law for use of alternative voting	June 1, 2018	May 1, 2017
Bylaw for ranked ballots	N/A	May 1, 2017
Clerk’s Policy & Procedures for voting/alternative voting	June 1, 2018	December 31, 2017
Clerk determines single or batch elimination for ranked votes	N/A	December 31, 2017
Ballot Question	June 1, 2018	March 1, 2018
Nominations and third party advertiser	January 2, 2018	May 1, 2018
Registration open use of Corporate Services Committee Resource Policy	N/A	May 1, 2018
Nomination Day	September 14, 2018	July 27, 2018
Close of third party advertising	N/A	October 19, 2018

Nomination Period and Process

The municipal election campaign period for the 2018 Election has been shortened to thirteen weeks. Candidates can file a nomination paper with the Clerk between May 1, 2018 and July 27, 2018.

Also, a new requirement is that the nomination of a person must now be signed by at least twenty-five electors who are eligible to vote in the municipality at the time of the endorsement.

Ranked Ballot Voting

The Municipal Elections Modernization Act, gives municipalities the option to use ranked ballot voting, beginning in the 2018 election. The candidate with a majority vote will be the successful candidate. If no majority vote, the candidate with the fewest votes on the ballot would be given to the top preferred candidate. Until such time as a candidate obtains a majority vote, the lowest count ballot is redistributed to the highest preferred candidate. Ranked balloting is not permitted for the school board elections.

Methods of Voting

- Traditional voting by paper ballot and ballot box
- Traditional voting by paper ballot and electronic tabulator
- Alternate voting such as touch screen voting (you go to a voting place and vote by touching a screen)
- Vote by mail
- Vote by phone
- Vote by internet

127428 Continued

In the 2010 Municipal/School Board Election, paper ballots and traditional vote count was used here in Carleton Place with 24 voting stations. In the 2014 election, paper ballots with electronic tabulators were used with 27 voting stations. It is estimated for the 2018 election, using paper balloting only, the number of voting stations would increase due to the increase in population from 27 to 29 or even 30 voting stations.

The trend in municipal elections across Ontario is towards internet voting. In the 2010 election, 44 municipalities used internet voting while in 2014 the number of municipalities using internet voting increased to 97 municipalities.

The chart below shows a survey of local municipalities in our area and how they intend to vote on Election Day in 2018. The survey was conducted during the week of November 28, 2016.

MUNICIPALITY	TYPE OF ELECTION PROPOSED FOR 2018
Arnprior	Internet Voting
Beckwith	No decision yet Probably traditional paper ballot
Drummond/North Elmsley	Internet Voting
Lanark Highlands	No decision yet 2014 Election – Vote by mail
North Grenville	Internet Voting
Montague	Internet Voting
Mississippi Mills	Internet Voting
Perth	Decision in January Recommending Internet Voting
Renfrew	Internet Voting
Smith's Falls	No decision yet 2014 Election – Vote by mail Staff is recommending internet voting
Tay Valley	Internet Voting

The results of the 11 municipalities contacted are as follows:

- 7 municipalities will be using internet voting, some with the addition of telephone voting and limited paper ballot stations.
- 4 municipality have not made a decision yet.

127428 Continued

Only one of the eleven municipalities canvased will likely be using paper ballots only for the 2018 election. Staff with the Town of Smiths Falls informed this office that while they used vote by mail in 2014, they will be recommending internet voting for 2018. Lanark Highlands which also used vote by mail in 2014 has not yet made a decision.

The Town of Perth which has used internet voting in the past three elections, will be recommending the same in January to Council for the 2018 election.

A majority of the municipalities in this area using internet voting utilized Intelivote Inc. for the 2014 election and plan to do the same for 2018.

Staff has contacted Intelivote Inc. who would like to give a presentation on internet voting by their firm on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at the Policy Review Committee.

In the event that internet voting is approved by Council for the 2018 Municipal/School Board Election in Carleton Place, the following is recommended also.

That paper balloting with electronic tabulation vote count be offered as an alternative on Voting Day for electors who do not wish to vote by internet.

That paper balloting be offered to residents of the four senior homes in Carleton Place for those residents who do not wish to vote by internet voting.

The Act requires that Council adopt a By-law no later than May 1, 2017 on voting, alternative voting methods and vote counting equipment.

Campaign Finance

Bill 181 prohibits corporate and union contributions to council candidates and school board trustee candidates. It provides for regulations to suspend limits on post-campaign spending on gifts and parties. Candidates do not have to open a special bank account if they do not raise or spend any money.

The nomination fee is only refunded if financial statements are filed on time. A new penalty of \$500.00 has been introduced for filing financial statements after a “grace period” of thirty days after the deadline. The Clerk is responsible for reviewing the financial statements.

Third Party Advertising

Bill 181 introduces a framework to regulate third-party advertising, which includes contribution and spending limits. Only contributors who are eligible under the Act will be able to register as a third party. Third parties also have to identify themselves on signs and advertisements. Spending limits for third-party advertising will be set out in regulation. The Act denies third-party advertising as advertisements supporting or opposing a candidate.

127428 Continued

Advertising that does not cost money to post or broadcast, such as comments made on social media, will not be considered to be third-party advertising.

Election Signs and Advertising

Candidates are now required to include language on all campaign signs and ads to make it clear who is responsible for the messaging. Candidates must provide publishers/broadcasters with contact information which is to be kept on file for four years. There are strengthened provisions for the municipality to remove illegally placed campaign signs.

Recounts

Changes to the Act now direct the Clerk to hold a recount in accordance with a policy adopted by the Municipality. i.e. Close Vote Recount Policy.

Miscellaneous Matters

There is now a new offence for any offer, promise or agreement intended to convince an individual to register, withdraw, or avoid becoming a candidate.

Before May 1st of the year of an election, municipalities and local boards shall establish rules and procedures with respect to the use of municipal or board resources during the election campaign period.

Accessibility

The Act requires municipal Clerks to prepare accessibility plans to identify, remove and prevent barriers that could affect electors and candidates with disabilities and make the plan available to the public prior to voting day.

UPDATE – February 14th, 2017

At the December 13th, 2016 Policy Review Committee it was decided that ranked balloting not be used in the 2018 Town of Carleton Place municipal election.

Intelivote Inc will provide a presentation on electronic voting.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Clerk arrange for electronic voting for the 2018 election.

COMMITTEE DECISION

THAT the Clerk arrange for electronic voting for the 2018 election.

COMMUNICATION 128090

Received from Bill Guest
Addressed to Town of Carleton Place
Date February 7th, 2017
Topic Honouring Local Resident

SUMMARY

Resident will make a presentation asking that a local resident be honoured for his historical accomplishments during the 150th year celebrations.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the request be forwarded to the 150th Celebration organizing committee for appropriate action.

COMMITTEE DECISION

THAT the request be forwarded to the 150th Celebration organizing committee for appropriate action.

COMMUNICATION 128091

Received from Jeff Mills
Addressed to Paul Knowles, Chief Administrative Officer
Date January 26th, 2017
Topic Cycle Tourism Asset

SUMMARY

Friends of the Ottawa Valley Rail Trail wish to present the economic benefits of creating a cycle tourism linking the Ottawa Valley Rail Trail and the TransCanada Trail to the City of Ottawa.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council hear presentation and consider during planning for the trail system.

COMMITTEE DECISION

Mr. Mills decided not to make presentation. Receive and Record

COMMUNICATION 128092

Received from IODE Captain Hooper Chapter
Addressed to Mayor Antonakos
Date February 8th, 2017
Topic Extravaganza Fashions for Guys & Gals

SUMMARY

The IODE Captain Hooper Chapter is hosting an Extravaganza Fashions for Guys and Gals on Sunday, April 9th, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. at the Waterside Community.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council decide who would like to go.

COMMITTEE DECISION

THAT Council decide who would like to go.

COMMUNICATION 128093

Received from Randy Hillier, MPP
Addressed to Paul Knowles, Chief Administrative Officer
Date February 9th, 2017
Topic Kickstarting Public Participation Act Bill

SUMMARY

MPP Randy Hillier has initiated a private members bill the Kickstarting Public Participation Act. This bill would allow non-profit groups to use a ministry web site for crowd funding to raise funds for community projects.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Town support the approval of the Kickstarting Public Participation Act Bill.

COMMITTEE DECISION

THAT the Town support the approval of the Kickstarting Public Participation Act Bill.



Policy Review Committee Agenda
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STAFF RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Town support the approval of the Kickstarting Public Participation Act Bill.

COMMITTEE DECISION

2016 Census

	2016	2011	change	% change	2006
Beckwith	7,644	6,986	658	9.4%	6,387
Carleton Place	10,644	9,809	835	8.5%	9,453
Montague	3,761	3,483	278	8.0%	7,118
Mississippi Mills	13,163	12,385	778	6.3%	5,180
Lanark Highlands	5,338	5,128	210	4.1%	11,734
Drummond North Elmsley	7,773	7,487	286	3.8%	3,209
Tay Valley	5,665	5,571	94	1.7%	5,907
Perth	5,930	5,840	90	1.5%	5,634
Lanark County	59,918	56,689	3,229	5.7%	54,622
Smiths Falls	8,780	8,978	-198	-2.2%	9,163
Canada 35.2 Million increase of 5.0%					
Ontario 13.5 Million increase of 4.6%					
County Including Smiths Falls	68,698	65,667	3,031	4.6%	63,785