



The Corporation of the Municipality of Morris-Turnberry

Post-Election Accessibility Report

January 16, 2019

Introduction:

The Municipality of Morris-Turnberry was committed to making the 2018 Municipal Election accessible by working to accommodate the needs of the electors by removing barriers to vote, for persons with disabilities.

The focus of the Post-election Accessibility Report is to evaluate the accessibility of the electoral services offered to all electors and candidates in the 2018 Municipal Election. This report outlines the various initiatives undertaken during the course of the 2018 Municipal Election regarding the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities.

Post-election reporting:

In accordance with section 12.(13) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, the Clerk shall provide a report, within 90 days after voting day in a regular election, about identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with accessibility needs. The report will be available to the public and posted on the Municipal website, in an accessible format.

Leading up to the election, an Election Accessibility Plan was developed. The 2018 Plan guides the provision of election related services to persons with disabilities. The Plan was designed to respect the dignity and independence of electors and candidates and ensure that practices and procedures are consistent with the principles of independence, dignity, integration and equality of opportunity.

The following are the various initiatives undertaken by the Municipality during the course of the 2018 Municipal Election:

- Telephone and internet voting provided the electors with the ability to mark their ballot from home at their convenience using the telephone or electronic device. This allowed increased rights of privacy to electors with disabilities whom may find voting at traditional paper-based voting locations and the mail-in ballot more difficult, as they had the ability to vote with little or no assistance required from others.

- Election Officials made electors aware of the availability of assistance for persons requiring the same. Election staff were positioned to greet electors as they came in to the Municipal Office and assist them as may be necessary using a touch- screen computer.
- Election information was communicated through various channels and alternative formats, including emails, social media, newspaper and radio. For election-related inquiries or feedback, all residents were able to contact the municipal office via telephone or through a designated email.
- Election staff ensured that all information was made available to candidates and voters in alternate formats upon request. No such requests were received.
- VoterView was also available through the Township's website enabling electors to search the Voter's list from his or her personal computer or mobile handheld device.
- Extended office hours were provided on election day to assist those residents who were not able to visit the Municipal Office during regular office hours and special hours set up at the Homes for the aged, Nursing homes and Retirement homes.

Feedback:

Public feedback about the manner in which election services were provided to persons with accessible needs may be submitted to the Clerk through a variety of methods:

- Telephone 519-887-6137 (21)
- Email nmichie@morristorynberry.ca
- Mail or in person : 41342 Morris Road, PO Box 310, Brussels, ON N0G 1H0

The feedback process provides election staff with an opportunity to take corrective measures to prevent similar recurrences, address training needs, enhance service delivery and provide alternative methods of providing election services.

Nancy Michie
Administrator Clerk-Treasurer