



2014 Municipal Election

Frequently Asked Questions

When is the election?

- Voting Day is **Monday, October 27, 2014**. Polls are open from **10 a.m. to 8 p.m.**

What if I am not in the City on Voting Day?

- The City is offering a variety of different voting options for the election. There will be Internet/ Telephone Voting from October 11-25, 2014 and two Advance Voting Opportunities on October 11 and 18, 2014.

Who can vote?

- A person can vote on Voting Day if he or she is a Canadian citizen, is at least 18 years old, resides in the City or is the owner or tenant of land in the City, or is the spouse of a land owner. Voters are only entitled to vote **ONCE** in the City even though he or she may have more than one qualifying address within the City.

Can a person who is homeless vote?

- Yes, eligible voters who are homeless or without a permanent home or fixed address can vote. Their qualifying address shall be determined by the place to which they most frequently returned to sleep or eat during the five weeks prior to the election.

Where do I vote?

- The City is offering a Vote Anywhere concept so that voters can vote at any of the 50 polling sites even though there may be a recommended poll site closest to the residence as indicated in the Voter Identification Card.

How do I know if my name is on the Voters List?

- The Voters List will be available for viewing September 1 at the City Clerk's Office and at library branches throughout the City. It will also be fully searchable online. The City of Cambridge voters' list is compiled and supplied by the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation in accordance with legislation.

How do I add my name or amend my personal information on the Voters List?

- Starting in September 2014, you will have an opportunity to add or change personal information on the voters' list. To do so, please visit the City Clerk's Office at 50 Dickson Street, 2nd Floor.

When should I receive a Voter Identification Card?

- Persons registered as electors in the City should receive their Voter Identification Card in the mail during the first week of October.

How many candidates/offices can I elect?

- The City is based on an eight Ward system. This means that each Ward will have a Council representative. All eligible voters can vote for one candidate for Mayor, two candidates for Regional Councillor and one candidate for local Councillor representing the particular Ward in which you live. Also, if you qualify, you can vote for three candidates for Public School Trustee or Separate School Trustee and candidates for French Public Trustee and French Separate Trustee.

What Ward do I live in?

- To find out what ward you live in, please go to the election website at www.cambridge.ca/vote2014 to download the ward maps.

How can I find out if my ward has changed since the 2010 municipal election?

- There have been no ward boundary changes since the 2010 municipal election.

If I forget to bring the Voter Identification Card on Voting Day, can I still vote?

- Yes, if you don't have identification, and your name is on the voters' list, you can fill out and sign a statutory declaration that you are the person shown on the list. If your name is not on the voters' list, you may be required to show identification in order to have your name put on the list on Voting Day.

If I don't have identification at the voting place, can someone vouch for me?

- No, Vouching is not permitted in municipal and school board elections.

How do you vote using Internet and/or Telephone?

- The Voter Identification Card will outline the choices available for voters. If a voter decides to vote using the Internet or Telephone, the instructions will be outlined as a security code is needed along with the PIN code on the Voter Identification Card. Only the person who is listed on the Voter Identification Card may vote as a declaration is required to proceed using the Internet and/or Telephone.
- **Note:** You should treat your Voter ID and PIN with the same level of secrecy and confidentiality that you reserve for your bank card and PIN. Do not give your Voter ID and/or PIN to anyone.

How will I know that my computer is configured so that I can vote?

- Voters should have a compatible computer that has an operating system such as Windows 7 or 8, Mac OS X 10.8 and a compatible web browser such as Micro Soft Internet Explorer 9 or higher, Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome.

What should I do if I get a time-out error message if using Internet and/or Telephone?

- If you're voting using the Internet and or Telephone and receive a timed-out error message, go back into the system again and continue your voting process.

Can I verify that my vote has been cast?

- You can print a voting receipt that contains a unique identifier.

I am a student living away from home. Where do I vote?

- Students living "away from home" may vote in the municipality where they attend school and in the municipality where their family resides (their "home").

Can someone else vote on my behalf?

- Yes, Proxy Voting is permitted and information must be obtained at the City Clerk's Office, 50 Dickson Street, 2nd Floor from September 15 to October 27, 2014. You are entitled to one proxy vote unless the person is a family member (spouse, sibling, and grand-parent etc.).

Who are the Candidates?

- You can view the most current list of candidates for the offices of Mayor, Councillor, Regional Councillor and School Board Trustee on the City's Web Site after January 2, 2014. You can also contact the City Clerk's Office and we will provide you with a list of the nominated candidates.

Can I give cash to a candidate?

- Only contributions of \$25 or less may be made in cash. All contributions above \$25 must be made by cheque, money order, or by a method that clearly shows where the funds came from.

Can I make a contribution anonymously?

- Candidates cannot accept anonymous contributions that are more than \$10.

May I take time off work to vote?

- If your hours of work are such that you will not have three consecutive hours in which to vote on Voting Day, and you need the three hours in which to vote, you are entitled to be absent from work for as long as is necessary to allow three consecutive hours during the opening of the voting place (10a.m.-8p.m.). The *Municipal Elections Act* states that any absence shall be timed to suit the employer's convenience as much as possible and that the employer shall not make a deduction from the employee's pay or impose any other penalty for the absence from work.

Where can I get election results?

- At the close of voting on October 27, the totals will be electronically tabulated by a central computer and compiled. These results will then be displayed at City Hall and on the City's web site as soon as possible after Voting Day.