

## Introduction to Candidates Guide for the 2018 Election

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Deciding to commit to four years for Municipal Office is not a choice one makes lightly, so on behalf of all of the staff at the Municipality of Brockton we'd like to offer our congratulations for taking this step.

The *Municipal Elections Act* sets out in detail, the requirements to be met by candidates for office. These requirements have been summarized for your convenience. We urge you to obtain your own updated copy of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, which can be downloaded from the Ministry's web site at [www.e-laws.gov.on.ca](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca).

This guide has been prepared for the purpose of supplying information that will be of assistance to persons intending to stand for elected office. It is most important to note that the contents of this document are intended only as a guide to certain provisions of relevant legislation and do not purport to recite all applicable statutory references.

The Municipality of Brockton will be offering Telephone / Internet Voting for the 2018 Municipal Election. It is our goal to provide the electors of Brockton the most efficient, accessible and secure voting method possible. Having used this method in the 2010 and 2014 election we are confident the e-voting method of election can achieve this for the electors of Brockton. In the event that you are asked questions about the process and are unsure of the answers, we would encourage you to direct residents to [www.Brockton.ca/Election](http://www.Brockton.ca/Election) or to the Deputy Clerk, Brandy Patterson or myself. As candidates you should not be expected to provide this information; that is the Clerk's statutory responsibility and we want to ensure a consistent message is delivered.

We will endeavor to answer all questions that come our way in a timely and accurate manner. The Telephone/Internet Policies and Procedures have been provided to you and include detailed information regarding the 2018 Municipal Election. We have also included a list of key dates that may be of interest to you.

We have provided a copy of the complete "2018 Candidate's Guide for Ontario Municipal and School Board Elections" prepared by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. This guide contains detailed information on qualifications for municipal office and requirements around election finances. We have also provided the "Candidate's Guide to Accessible Elections" prepared by AMCTO. This document will aid you in understanding accommodations that can be made to ensure equal opportunity for all electors.

The organizers of All Candidates Meetings and members of the press often request phone numbers and information about those nominated. We have included a form called "Freedom of Information (FOI) Release" that we request you sign authorizing the use of your specified personal information on the website and to release that same information to members of the press and public.

We have also included information on Campaign Expenses and the Form 4 “Financial Statement-Auditor’s Report” that is required to be submitted to the Clerk following the election.

As this election year progresses, additional information will be available regarding the specifics of the election process. It will be provided to you directly as a nominated candidate as it pertains. However, information will also be available on the Municipality of Brockton website at [www.Brockton.ca/Election](http://www.Brockton.ca/Election) and we encourage you to visit [www.Brockton.ca/Subscribe](http://www.Brockton.ca/Subscribe) to sign up for regular updates.

We also encourage you to follow our municipal Social Media pages for regular updates and key election information ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#)). Municipal Social Media pages shall not be used for the purposes of promoting or endorsing a candidate for the municipal election. All posts of this nature will be removed.

We will be providing you with up-to-date information as soon as it becomes available, or at the appropriate time in the process. You are advised to read the enclosed material carefully. It is important that you are aware of your responsibilities as a candidate. Please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Brandy Patterson with any questions you may have about the election process.

Best wishes for a successful campaign



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