



# Municipality of Brockton

**2026 Municipal and  
School Board Election**

**Candidates Guide**

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## Introduction

This guide has been prepared for the purpose of supplying information to persons intending to stand for elected office. This guide is available electronically on the Municipality of Brockton's website at [www.Brockton.ca/Election](http://www.Brockton.ca/Election).

This Guide is only intended to provide candidates with information on running for office. Candidates are responsible for ensuring they are familiar with the requirements of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 and should consult the Act for complete information and legislative requirements. A copy of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 is available for candidates from the Clerk's Department and it is also available online at [www.e-laws.gov.on.ca](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca).

Candidates must comply with all the requirements relating to election campaign financing. The [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing 2026 Candidates Guide](#) outlines the financial reporting requirements under the Act. This guide is available online from the Province of Ontario's website, the Brockton website, and in hardcopy from the Clerk's Department.

It is the responsibility of prospective candidates to ensure through their own determination that they have complied with the election financing regulations and that they are in fact qualified and not disqualified by law. In all cases of filing times (i.e.: 2:00 p.m.), the time displayed by the Clerk's Department electronic clock shall prevail.

# Important Dates

The following are legislative dates as set out in the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

## 2026

### **Friday, May 1**

- First day for candidates to file a nomination paper for the office of mayor, councillor or school board trustee
- First day for an individual or entity to file a notice of registration as a third party advertiser
- Campaign period begins once a nomination paper or notice of registration is filed
- Preliminary expense limit and other legislative documentation provided to candidates and third party advertisers on the day they file

### **Friday, August 21**

- Nomination Day – last day to file nomination papers
- 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – nominations or withdrawal cannot be accepted beyond 2:00 p.m.

### **Monday, August 24**

- Certification of nomination papers to be completed by 4:00 p.m.
- Declaration of acclamation provided after 4:00 p.m.

### **Tuesday, September 1**

- Voters' List available to certified candidates

### **Wednesday, September 30**

- Final expense limits provided to candidates and third party advertisers

### **Monday, October 5**

- SimplyVoting Candidates Portal available to certified candidates

### **Monday, October 19 - Telephone and Internet Voting Period Begins**

- Opens: Monday, October 19 at 10:00 a.m.  
Closes: Monday, October 26 at 8:00 p.m.

### **Friday, October 23**

- Last day for an individual or entity to file a notice of registration as a third party advertiser

### **Monday, October 26 - Voting Day**

- Voting Period Closes at 8:00 p.m.

### **Sunday, November 15**

- Term of Office commences

### **Thursday, December 31**

- Campaign period ends for candidates and registered third parties
- Last day for candidate or registered third parties to file an Extension of campaign period (Form 6)

2027

**Wednesday, March 1**

- Last day for Clerk to provide notice of financial filing requirements and penalties to candidates and registered third parties

**Thursday, March 25**

- Last day for candidate or registered third party to apply to Superior Court of Justice to extend the time to file the financial statement

**Tuesday, March 30**

By 2:00 p.m.

- Last day to file financial statement for reporting period ending December 31, 2026 – applies to all candidates and registered third parties
- Last day for candidate or registered third party to notify Clerk of filing extension received from the Superior Court of Justice

After 2:00 p.m.

- 90 day compliance audit period begins
- Start of 30 day period in which a candidate or registered third party may file the primary financial statement and pay a \$500 late filing fee

**Thursday, April 29**

- Last day (by 2:00 p.m.) for candidate or registered third party to file a primary financial statement and pay \$500 late filing fee
- Penalties take affect at 2:01 p.m.

**Wednesday, June 30**

- End of supplementary campaign period

**Wednesday, August 25**

- Last day for Clerk to provide notice of supplementary filing requirements and penalties to candidates or registered third parties

**Thursday, September 23**

- Last day for candidate or registered third party to apply to Superior Court of Justice to extend the time to file the financial statement

## 2027 (Continued)

### **Friday, September 24**

By 2:00 p.m.:

- Last day to file financial statement for reporting period ending June 30 – only applies to those who filed a Form 6 to extend the campaign period
- Last day for candidate or registered third party to notify Clerk of filing extension received from the Superior Court of Justice

After 2:00 p.m.:

- 90 day compliance audit period begins
- Start of 30 day period in which a candidate or registered third party may file the supplementary financial statement and pay a \$500 late filing fee

### **Monday, October 25**

- Last day (by 2:00 p.m.) for candidate or registered third party to file a supplementary financial statement and pay \$500 late filing fee
- Penalties take affect at 2:01 p.m.

### **Thursday, December 23**

- Last day to request a compliance audit on a supplementary financial statement

## Municipal Office to Be Elected

Voters in the Municipality of Brockton will elect members for the following offices during the Voting Period beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, October 19, 2026 until 8:00 p.m. on Monday, October 26, 2026 (Voting Day).

### Municipal Council

Mayor - (One position to be elected at large by all electors of the municipality)

Deputy Mayor - (One position to be elected at large by all electors of the municipality)

Councillors - (Five positions to be elected at large by all electors of the municipality)

### School Board Trustees

Nominations for the School Board positions outlined below may be made by filing complete nomination papers with the Municipal Clerk Responsible for the Election (as noted below):

<b>Position</b>	<b>School Board</b>	<b>Included Area</b>	<b>Municipal Clerk Responsible</b>
1 - English Public Trustee	Bluewater District School Board	Municipality of Brockton and Municipality of South Bruce	Municipality of Brockton
1 - English Separate Trustee	Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board	Kincardine, Huron-Kinloss, Brockton Ward 31	Municipality of Kincardine
1 - English Separate Trustee	Bruce-Grey Catholic District School Board	Brockton Ward 34 and 36	Municipality of Brockton
1 - French Public Trustee	Le Conseil Scolaire Viamonde	Counties of Bruce, Grey, Simcoe, Dufferin	City of Barrie
1 - French Separate Trustee	Le Conseil scolaire catholique Providence	Counties of Lambton, Huron, Bruce	City of Sarnia

For the purpose of the school boards, if the distance between the residence of a person seeking nomination and the office of the school board election clerk with whom nominations must be filed is greater than 100 kilometres, the designated Clerk may delegate responsibility to receive nominations; however, the designated Clerk must certify the nominations.

# Qualification of Candidates

## Member of Council

Qualifications for members of Council are set out in Section 256 of the Municipal Act, 2001 and Section 17 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

In order to run for office in the Municipality of Brockton a person must be:

1. A Canadian citizen;
2. At least 18 years old;
3. A resident of Brockton or the owner or tenant of land here, or the spouse of such owner or tenant; and
4. Who is not disqualified by any legislation from holding office.

## Ineligibility

The following are ineligible to be elected as members of Council:

1. An employee of the Municipality of Brockton except during an authorized leave of absence (the leave of absence must begin upon filing the Nomination Form);
2. A person who is not an employee of the municipality but who is the Clerk, Treasurer, Integrity Commissioner, Auditor General, Ombudsman or registrar, or who holds any administrative position of the Municipality.
3. A judge of any court.
4. A member of the Assembly as provided in the Legislative Assembly Act or of the Senate or House of Commons of Canada.

# Nomination Procedures

## Filing Nomination Papers

Every person who proposes to be a candidate must file nomination papers prior to receiving any campaign contributions and/or expending any funds on a campaign. A candidate may file his or her nomination papers as of May 1, 2026 during regular business hours. Nomination papers will be available from the Clerks Department and on the Brockton website at [www.Brockton.ca/Election](http://www.Brockton.ca/Election).

Please note that Nomination Papers submitted by facsimile transmissions or mail will not be accepted. Forms must be completed in person at the Clerks Department, 100 Scott Street Walkerton, ON N0G 2V0. Candidates are required to complete the Nomination Paper, which includes a declaration of qualification, taken before a Commissioner of Oaths. Commissioners of Oaths in the Clerks Department can administer this declaration for you. Photo identification containing the candidate's signature is also required.

The nomination of a person for an office on council must be endorsed by at least 25 persons and the person endorsing the nomination must be eligible to vote in an election for an office within the municipality if a regular election was held on the day that the person endorses the nomination. Original signatures are required to be provided by at least 25 persons in order to certify the nomination.

The final day for filing for the 2026 Municipal Election is Nomination Day on Friday, August 21, 2026 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The nomination must be accompanied by the prescribed nomination filing fee. The prescribed fee is \$200 for the head of council and \$100 for all other offices and can be paid by cash, debit, certified cheque or money order payable to the Municipality of Brockton.

If an agent is filing the nomination on behalf of a candidate, the Candidate's Nomination paper must be commissioned before the agent files the nomination form with the Clerk and the agent must provide a copy of the Candidate's identification as well as providing their own identification.

Candidates are responsible for ensuring that they meet all the qualifications and have followed the procedures with respect to the filing of Nomination Papers.

## Exception for Additional Nominations

If the number of nominations filed for an office is less than the number of persons to be elected to an office, additional nominations may be filed between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. on the Wednesday following Nomination Day (August 26, 2026).

## Refund of Nomination Deposit

A candidate is entitled to receive a refund of the nomination filing fee if he or she files their financial statements with the Clerk by the filing date. For the 2026 Municipal Election the filing date is before 2:00 p.m. on March 30, 2027.

## **Examination and Certification of Nominations by Clerk**

The Clerk shall examine each nomination that has been filed before 4:00 p.m. on the Monday following Nomination Day (August 24, 2026). Any additional nominations filed under the Municipal Election Act, 1996 s.33(5) shall be examined before 4:00 p.m. on the Thursday following Nomination Day (August 27, 2026).

If the Clerk rejects a nomination, he or she will provide notice as soon as possible to the individual seeking nomination and to all candidates. The Clerks' decision to certify or reject a nomination is final.

## **Withdrawal of Nominations**

A person may withdraw their nomination by filing a written withdrawal at/with the Clerks Department before 2:00 p.m. on August 21, 2026.

## **Acclamations**

If, at 4:00 p.m. on August 27, 2026 the number of certified candidates for an office is the same as or less than the number to be elected, the Clerk shall immediately declare the candidate or candidates elected by acclamation.

## Campaign Information

Candidates are advised to refer to the [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing 2026 Candidates Guide](#) for information on Campaign Contributions and Fund Raising and on Campaign Expenses. This guide is available online from the Province of Ontario's website, the Brockton website, and in hardcopy from the Clerks Department.

The Municipal Elections Act, 1996, does not contain restrictions on when a candidate may or may not advertise, but does regulate the amount a candidate can spend on his or her campaign. The candidate must have filed his or her nomination form before spending any money on advertising, and the amount they spend on their campaign is regulated as explained in the restrictions below.

### Campaign Expense Limits

There are limits on the amount that a registered candidate may spend on a campaign. The campaign period begins the day the candidate files a Nomination Paper and ends on December 31, 2026. The limit on campaign expenses is based on a formula related to the number of electors entitled to vote for the office.

Once an individual files their nomination paper, they will be given a completed Estimated Maximum Campaign Expenses form. This preliminary expense limit is based upon the number of electors on the Voters' List as of September 15<sup>th</sup> in the 2022 Election.

The Clerk shall calculate the Final Maximum Campaign Expenses using a calculation based upon the number of electors on the Voters List as of September 20<sup>th</sup> in the 2026 Election. Each candidate will be provided with the Final Certificate of Maximum Campaign Expenses on or before September 30, 2026.

The higher of the two calculations (preliminary and secondary) shall be the final spending limit for the office.

The following are the estimated maximum campaign expenses and estimated maximum expenses permitted personal contributions:

Office	Estimated Maximum Campaign Expenses	Estimated Maximum Personal Contributions
Head of Council	\$14,243.90	\$9,086.60
Deputy Mayor	\$11,743.90	\$6,586.80
Councillor	\$11,743.90	\$6,586.80
English Separate School Board Trustee (Brockton Wards 34 & 36)	\$6,412.70	\$5,332.40
English Public School Board Trustee	\$12,353.35	\$6,730.20

## Filing Financial Statements

All nominated candidates, including those not elected, those who withdrew their nomination and whose nomination was rejected by the Clerk, must disclose and report on or before March 30, 2027 by 2:00 p.m. their contributions and expenses as of December 31, 2026 in accordance with the following:

- All candidates are required to file a detailed financial statement on the prescribed form (Financial Statement - Auditor's Report Candidate – Form 4).
- Candidates must have their financial statement audited and submit the auditor's report to the Clerk along with their financial statement if expenses are over \$10,000.

A candidate must file a separate financial statement for each office they were nominated for during the election period, unless the offices are all on the same council and are elected by a general vote of all electors of a municipality. Each campaign for an office for which the election is conducted by ward is a separate campaign.

The financial statement must be filed by March 30, 2027. Candidates' financial statements are filed with the Clerk and are public documents which are to be available at no charge to the public at [www.Brockton.ca/Election](http://www.Brockton.ca/Election). The Clerk will advise at least 30 days prior to March 30, 2027 filing deadline of all the filing requirements of the Act. The Clerk is not required to give additional notice for each supplementary filing date.

It is the responsibility of the candidate to file a complete and accurate financial statement by the filing date.

Please refer to the Provincial Municipal Elections Guide or the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, for detailed information with respect to:

- Extending a campaign in order to eliminate a deficit;
- Supplementary financial statement information;
- Surplus and deficit information; and
- Enforcement and penalties.

## Scrutineers (Candidates' Agents)

Each candidate may appoint, in writing, any number of persons necessary to act as scrutineers to represent them at a Voter Help Centre, and to be present during the counting of the votes.

Scrutineers must show proof of his or her appointment by the candidate to the election upon request.

Not more than one (1) Scrutineer representing each Candidate may be permitted at one time during the closing of the voting system to observe the process. Only one Candidate or his/her appointed Scrutineer may attend a Help Centre or the Municipal Office at one time to observe the process. The Scrutineer/Candidate must take an Oath of Secrecy at the Help Centre.

If you are appointing scrutineers, please note the following:

- the appointment must be made in writing (using the Appointment of Scrutineer Form)
- scrutineers must take an oath of secrecy;
- scrutineers may not interfere with the activity of voting or the results report;
- acclaimed candidates are not entitled to be at a Help Centre or the Municipal Office during the Voting Period unless appointed as a scrutineer by another candidate unless attending as an Elector with the purpose of voting;
- election campaigning or the distribution/posting of election campaign material at municipally-owned (e.g. Community Centres) or leased facilities (e.g. Municipal Office) is not permitted, with the exception of road allowances.
- election campaigning shall NOT occur upon the property where any Voter Help Centre is located.

Scrutineers and candidates are prohibited from the following:

- engaging electors in conversation while at a Help Centre or the Municipal Office;
- attempting directly or indirectly, to interfere with how an elector votes;
- attempting to campaign or persuade an elector to vote for a particular candidate;
- displaying a candidate's election campaign material in a Help Centre or the Municipal Office;
- compromising the secrecy of the voting;
- interfering or attempting to interfere with an elector who is marking a ballot;
- obtaining or attempting to obtain, in a Help Centre or the Municipal Office, any information about how an elector intends to vote or has voted;
- communicating any information obtained at a Help Centre or the Municipal Office about how an elector intends to vote or has voted.

# Election Signs

Section 5.15 of the Municipality of Brockton's Signs By-law 2012-24 regulates the placement of election signs on municipal roads and intersections:

## Definition

**Political Posters (Election Signs)** - Means a single or double faced sign that is capable of being readily moved or removed, where the duration of the display is in accordance with Part 5 and the purpose is to promote an individual or political party upon the calling of a provincial, federal or municipal election.

## **Part 5 - Special Regulations**

### 5.15 Political Posters

Any number of Political Posters may be erected upon the calling of a Provincial, or Federal election, or anytime within seven weeks of a Municipal election, and shall be removed no later than one week following the day of the election and provided such signs:

- a) Have a maximum sign area of 1.5m<sup>2</sup> (16 sq ft) for each sign.
- b) Have a maximum height of 1.25m (4').
- c) Are mounted on their own support affixed or secured directly to the ground.
- d) Are setback a minimum 2.0m (6'6") from the travelled portion of a municipal roadway (including road shoulder) and setback 0.5m (1'8") from any municipal sidewalk.
- e) Are not erected on any property owned or operated by the Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton, Corporation of the County of Bruce, the Province of Ontario, or the Government of Canada, excluding road allowances where placement does not impede traffic.
- f) Are not erected on any privately owned property or in front of any privately owned property so that it appears the owner is supporting and/or promoting a specific candidate or party unless permission is obtained from the owner of the said lot.
- g) Any signs found to be an obstruction to traffic will be removed.

## Prohibition of Canvassing in Voter Help Centres

The Clerk, as the Returning Officer, is the lessee of the premises used as Voter Help Centres. As the lessee, the Returning Officer does not permit campaigning of any nature in or on the premises used as a Voter Help Centre during the Voting Period. The premises are deemed to include the entire building and the property on which it is located.

Section 48 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 provides as follows:

“While an elector is in a voting place, no person shall attempt, directly or indirectly, to influence how the elector votes. No person shall display a candidate’s election campaign material or literature in a voting place. For the purpose of this section, ‘Voting Place’ includes any place in the immediate vicinity of the voting place designated by the Clerk.”

Election Officials are instructed to immediately remove from any Help Centre or voting place material or literature of any nature which may be deposited in and around a Help Centre or voting place. Candidates or their agents and scrutineers must not engage electors in conversations at Help Centres or voting places and they may not wear campaign buttons or distribute material of any kind in and around a Help Centre or voting place.

## Access to Apartment Buildings, Condominiums, etc. by Candidates (or their Authorized Representative)

Campaign provisions are identified in s.88.1 of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 which allow candidates to campaign in apartment buildings, condominiums, non-profit housing co-ops or gated communities from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. Landlords and condominium corporations may not prohibit tenants or owners from displaying campaign signs in their windows.

# General Voter Information

## Voter Qualifications

A person is qualified to be a voter in the Municipality of Brockton if on Voting Day, they

- a) reside in Brockton or are the owner or tenant of land in Brockton, or the spouse of such owner or tenant;
- b) are a Canadian citizen;
- c) are at least 18 years old; and
- d) are not prohibited from voting as outlined in the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, or any other law.

## Persons Prohibited from Voting

The following persons are prohibited from voting:

- a) a person who is serving a sentence of imprisonment in a penal or correctional institution;
- b) a corporation;
- c) a person acting as executor or trustee or in any other representative capacity, except as a voting proxy (see section on Voting Proxies);
- d) a person who was convicted of a corrupt practice described in subsection 90(3) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, if voting day in the current election is less than five years after voting day in the election in respect of which he or she was convicted.

## Definition of Residence

For the purpose of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, a person's residence is the permanent lodging place to which, whenever absent, they intend to return. The following rules apply in determining a person's residence:

1. A person may only have one residence at a time;
2. The place where a person's family resides is also their residence, unless they move elsewhere with the intention of changing their permanent lodging place;

\*Despite this, a person may have residences in two local municipalities at the same time if:

- a) the person lives in one of the local municipalities in order to attend an educational institution but not with the intention of changing their permanent lodging place; and
  - b) the person's permanent lodging place is in the other local municipality.
3. If a person has no other permanent lodging place, the place where they occupy a room or part of a room as a regular lodger or to which they habitually return is their residence.

## **Voter's List**

The 2026 Voters' List for the Municipality of Brockton is initially prepared by the Elections Ontario. The Voters' List contains the names, addresses and school support of each person who meets the qualifications of a voter.

The information contained on the Voters' List is to be used for election purposes only. The use and sale of the Voters' List for commercial purposes is prohibited.

Candidates will be provided access to the "Candidates Portal" provided by Simply Voting by October 5, 2026. The Voters List through the Candidates Portal cannot be circulated or used for any purpose not identified in the Act.

All Voter information obtained by the candidate during the 2026 Municipal Election shall be destroyed by the candidate after the election and confirmed in writing to the Clerk. The candidate may return documents to the Clerk for destruction with other election material.

## **Revision of the Voters' List**

The Voters' List will be available after Tuesday, September 1, 2026. Applications for amendments to the list will be accepted by the Clerk from Tuesday, September 1, 2026 to the close of voting on Voting Day on Monday, October 26, 2026.

After September 1, 2026, individuals will be able to confirm if they are listed on the Voters' List at the Municipal Office (100 Scott Street, Walkerton) during regular business hours.

## **Proxy Voting**

In keeping with s.42 (5) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, voting proxies will not be used or permitted with telephone and internet voting.

## **Voting Period**

The Voting Period will begin on Monday, October 19, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. and end on Monday, October 26, 2026 at 8:00 p.m. All eligible electors are encouraged to vote early to avoid higher volume activity periods near the end of the voting period.

Candidates may request a copy of the names of the electors who have voted at any point during the Voting Period by submitting a completed Declaration Proper Use of Voters' List – Form.

## **Voter Information Letter**

A Voter Information Letter will be mailed by the Clerk to each voter advising them of the telephone/internet method of voting, the date and time of the Voting Period and locations and hours of the Voter Help Centres and a list of offices and eligible candidates they are eligible to vote for.

## Voter Help Centres

The Help Centre shall also be known as the Revision Centre or Voter Help Centre. The following Help Centres shall serve as Help Centres/Revision Centres as well as places where Electors can be added to the Voters' List and receive assistance and clarification on the election process including access to a telephone and/or internet for voting purposes. The ability to vote at the Help Centre will be limited to hours designated by the Clerk.

### **Municipality of Brockton Municipal Office - 100 Scott Street, Walkerton**

Monday, October 19, 2026 (10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, October 20, 2026 to Friday, October 23 (8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)

Saturday, October 24, 2026 (10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

Monday October 26, 2026 (8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.)

### **Cargill Community Centre – 999 Greenock-Brant Towlne, Cargill**

Monday, October 26, 2026 (8:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.)

## Voting Method

Eligible voters may vote by:

- a) accessing the telephone number provided on the Voter Information Letter by using a cellular or land line, touch-tone telephone but not a rotary dial telephone;
- b) accessing the internet using a dial modem access or a high-speed connection and typing the internet address provided on the Voter Information Letter into the address bar of their browser and following the instructions;
- c) visiting a Voter Help Centre to access an internet terminal or telephone.

## Voting Assistance

Eligible Voters who require voting assistance, or need access to an internet terminal or telephone, may access these services at a Voter Help Centre during the Voting Period.

## Reminders to Candidates

1. Must be an eligible elector for the office being sought.
2. Must file their Nomination Paper in person or by agent.
3. Cannot be nominated for more than one office.
4. Must pay a filing fee of \$100 or \$200 cash, debit, certified cheque or money order payable to the Municipality of Brockton.
5. Cannot accept donations or spend any funds on a campaign until such time as you have filed a Nomination Paper with the Clerk.
6. You are responsible for keeping records of the financial activities related to your campaign. Remember to issue receipts for all donations, including donations of goods or services; obtain receipts for expenses incurred; keep copies of all receipts.
7. Keep receipts for all expenditures and a record of the value of all contributions which are not money (i.e. sign stakes, paper, printing services, etc.)
8. It is the responsibility of the candidate to file a complete and accurate financial statement on time. Candidates should completely familiarize themselves with the appropriate sections of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.