
Special Council

Date

2016/11/16

Time

9:00 AM

Location

Civic Centre, Council Chamber,
300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C1 Ontario

Members

Mayor Bonnie Crombie	
Councillor Jim Tovey	Ward 1
Councillor Karen Ras	Ward 2
Councillor Chris Fonseca	Ward 3
Councillor John Kovac	Ward 4
Councillor Carolyn Parrish	Ward 5
Councillor Ron Starr	Ward 6
Councillor Nando Iannicca	Ward 7
Councillor Matt Mahoney	Ward 8
Councillor Pat Saito	Ward 9
Councillor Sue McFadden	Ward 10
Councillor George Carlson	Ward 11

Contact

Karen Morden, Legislative Coordinator, Legislative Services
905-615-3200 ext. 5471
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Find it Online

<http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/councilcommittees>

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

4. **DEPUTATIONS**

4.1. Amendments to the Municipal Elections Act

Diane Ploss and Tristin McCredie, Municipal Advisors, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing will be speaking about amendments to the Municipal Elections Act.

4.2. Municipal Election 2018 - Campaign Contribution Rebate Program

Brian Bonner, Elections Officer will speak about the Municipal Election 2018 - Campaign Contribution Rebate Program

Information Item 7.1.1.

5. **PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD - 15 Minute Limit**

(In accordance with Section 43 of the City of Mississauga Procedure By-law 0139-2013) Council may grant permission to a person who is present at Council and wishes to address Council on a matter on the Agenda. Persons addressing Council will ask their question; the time limit is 5 minutes for each question, as public question period total limit is 15 minutes.

6. **INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF CORPORATE REPORTS**

6.1. Report dated October 19, 2016, from the Commissioner of Planning and Building re. **Sign By-Law 54-02, Section 21, Election Signs.**

Recommendation

That a by-law be enacted to amend the City of Mississauga's Sign By-law 54-02, to establish the period of time permitted for displaying municipal election signs in the City of Mississauga to be 45 days, as outlined in the Corporate Report dated October 19, 2016 from the Commissioner of Planning and Building.

Motion

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1. *Information Items*

- 7.1.1. Corporate Report dated August 30, 2016 regarding the Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program for the 2018 Election.

Deputation 6.2.

8. **MOTIONS**

- 8.1. To enact a by-law to amend the City of Mississauga's Sign By-law 54-02, to establish the period of time permitted for displaying municipal election signs in the City of Mississauga to 45 days, as outlined in the Corporate Report dated October 19, 2016.

Corporate Report 8.1.

9. **INTRODUCTION AND CONSIDERATION OF BY-LAWS**

- 9.1. A by-law to amend the Corporation of the City of Mississauga's Sign By-law 54-02, as amended to establish the period of time permitted for displaying municipal election signs.

Corporate Report 6.1.

10. **CONFIRMATORY BILL**

A by-law to confirm the proceedings of the Council of The Corporation of the City of Mississauga at its meeting held on November 16, 2016.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

City of Mississauga Corporate Report



Date: 2016/10/19

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Edward R. Sajecki, Commissioner of Planning and Building

Originator's files:

Meeting date:
2016/11/16

Subject

Sign By-Law 54-02, Section 21, Election Signs

Recommendation

That a by-law be enacted to amend the City of Mississauga's Sign By-law, 54-02, to establish the period of time permitted for displaying municipal election signs in the City of Mississauga to be 45 days, as outlined in the Corporate Report dated October 19, 2016 from the Commissioner of Planning and Building.

Report Highlights

- At the June 20th, 2016 Governance Committee meeting, staff were requested to report back with information regarding what other municipalities were doing to regulate election lawn signs.
- As a result of the passing of the *Municipal Elections Modernization Act, 2016* (Bill 181), the close of nominations for a municipal election has been moved from the second Friday in September of an election year to the fourth Friday in July of an election year.
- Prior to the passing of Bill 181, the City's sign by-law allowed municipal election signs to be erected for approximately 45 days depending on the calendar. Unless Sign By-law 54-02 is amended accordingly, the change of the close of nominations established by Bill 181 would result in election signs being permitted for approximately 87 days.
- To manage the length of time election signs are permitted, and to be consistent with the intent of the Sign By-law, it is recommended that Sign By-law 54-02 be amended to allow municipal election signs to be erected at midnight, 45 days prior to the municipal election.

Background

Municipalities set restrictions on the time period of when election signs are permitted, the location that signs can be erected and the size of the signs.

Staff reviewed sign by-laws and information from comparable municipalities to assess the regulations used by other municipalities. The findings are attached as Appendix 1 of this report.

With the passing of Bill 181, the *Municipal Elections Modernization Act, 2016*, the date for the close of nominations for a municipal election was changed from the second Friday in September to the fourth Friday in July.

The City of Mississauga's Sign By-law (the by-law) currently states *"No candidate or his agent or any other person shall affix, erect or otherwise display an election sign or permit or cause an election sign to be erected, affixed, or otherwise displayed prior to the issuance of writs for a provincial or federal election or until the close of nominations for a municipal election."*

Prior to the passing of Bill 181, the City's sign by-law allowed municipal election signs to be erected for approximately 45 days depending on the calendar. Unless Sign By-law 54-02 is amended accordingly, the change of the close of nominations established by Bill 181 would result in election signs being permitted for approximately 87 days. This significantly increases the length of time that election signs can be displayed prior to a municipal election.

Comments

Sign by-laws and restrictions on election signs vary for each municipality. Differences include but are not limited to:

- The size of election sign allowed;
- Restrictions on the placement of signs;
- Limits on the number of signs allowed per lot;
- Variation on the length of time that election signs are permitted.

As part of the benchmarking of other municipalities, staff looked at when other municipalities allow municipal election signs to be displayed. The findings are as follows:

City	Timeline
Ajax	6 weeks prior to election day
Brampton	24 days prior to election day
Burlington	6 weeks prior to election day
Caledon	24 days prior to election day
Hamilton	28 days prior to election day
London	After nomination papers are filed
Markham	28 days prior to election day (except where major road signs are allowed in which case it is 42 days)
Milton	Following the close of nominations (except for Campaign Office signs which can be displayed after nomination papers are filed)
Oakville	Following the close of nominations
Ottawa	30 days prior to election day – public property 60 days prior to election day – private property
Toronto	25 days prior to election day – election signs 90 days prior to an election – campaign office signs

Those that permit municipal election signs to be displayed following the close of nominations have noted that they are reviewing the length of time election signs will be permitted.

It is recommended that the City of Mississauga's Sign By-law 54-02 be amended to establish the period of time permitted for displaying municipal election signs in the City of Mississauga to be 45 days to be consistent with the intent of the Sign By-law. The by-law currently allows election signs for a municipal election to be displayed following the close of nominations (which was previously approximately 45 days prior to Election Day). This time allotment would also be appropriate for by-elections for which Election Day is required to be 45 days after nomination day.

Financial Impact

Enforcement costs could potentially increase if Sign By-law 54-02 is not amended and municipal election signs are permitted for approximately 87 days. This is because temporary contractors normally hired to help enforce the by-law during an election would be required for additional time. Should additional time be required for contractors, the Sign Unit estimates an increased cost of \$14,100 for temporary contractors.

Conclusion

Upon review of the impact of Bill 181 on the City of Mississauga's Sign By-law, it is recommended that Sign By-law 54-02 be amended to establish the period of time permitted for displaying municipal election signs in the City of Mississauga to be 45 days to be consistent with the intent of the Sign By-law.

Attachments

Appendix 1: Election Sign Regulations - Benchmarking



Edward R. Sajecki, Commissioner of Planning and Building

Prepared by: Darren Bryan, Supervisor, Sign Unit

Appendix 1

Election Sign Regulations - Benchmarking

The following highlights some key election sign allowances and restrictions from various Ontario Municipalities.

AJAX

Time Restrictions

- “No candidate or any other person shall erect or display an election sign or permit or cause an election sign to be erected or displayed prior to the issuance of writs for a provincial or federal election or 6 weeks immediately preceding the day of a municipal election.”
- “An election sign shall be removed within 48 hours of the closing of voting places.”

Size Restrictions

	Max Height	Max Width	Max Area	Min Set Back
Election Sign - Road	1.2m (1)	1m	1.2m ²	N/A
Election Sign – Residential	1m	1m	1m ²	0m
Election Sign – Other Property	1.5m	1.5m	1.5m ²	0m

- “An election sign shall not exceed a maximum sign area of 1.5m² with the exception of those placed on a billboard or at a campaign headquarters located in an industrial or commercial zone.”

Other Information

- “Election signs erected on a Highway under the jurisdiction of the Regional Municipality of Durham must comply with the applicable By-law of the Region.”
- “Election signs shall be permitted on Harwood Avenue North and South, Rossland Road East and West, Church Street North and South, Salem Road North, north of Taunton Road and Pickering Beach Road between Bayly Street and Dreyer Drive provided that such signs shall not be located closer than 1m from a curb or 3m from the travelled portion of the road where there is no curb.”
- “An election sign shall not be permitted on centre medians or traffic islands.”
- “An election sign shall not be permitted within 25m of any property line of a voting location.”
- “An election sign shall not be permitted within 5m of another election sign for the same candidate.”
- “Where an election sign has been erected or displayed in contravention of any provisions of this by-law, an Officer may remove the sign immediately without notice.”

Governing By-law: Town of Ajax By-law 122-2013

BRAMPTON**Time Restrictions**

- Election signs for a municipal election or by-election can only be erected after 5:00 pm 24 days prior to Voting Day.
- Election signs must be removed within 72 hours after the close of the election.

Size Restrictions

- Election signs cannot exceed 2m² in area.

Other Information

- Election signs are limited to no more than two signs per candidate on any one residential property.
- Election signs are limited to no more than three signs per candidate on any one private property other than residential.
- Consent to display election signs must be obtained from the owner of the property prior to displaying the sign.

Governing By-law: City of Brampton By-law 399-2002

BURLINGTON**Time Restrictions**

- Election signs can only be displayed six weeks immediately preceding the day of a municipal election.

Size Restrictions

- None

Other Information

- “Signs are permitted on private property if permission has been obtained from the property owner.”
- “Election signs are not permitted on any portion of public property in Burlington, including the road allowance”.
- “As it is sometimes difficult to determine the exact location of the City property line, City of Burlington staff will remove signs under the following conditions, particularly in residential areas: (a) When there is a sidewalk in existence, signs will be removed if they are in the boulevard (i.e. between the sidewalk and the curb) and/ or if they are located obstructing pedestrian and/ or sidewalk travel... (b) When no sidewalk exists, signs will be removed if they interfere with the travelled portion of the roadway. On a standard residential street, the property line can be back from the curb by as much as 17 feet. Utilities can be located within this area and City of Burlington staff suggest that all signs be located well back from the curb where no sidewalk exists; (c) Signs attached to hydro polls, trees and other public utilities will be removed.”
- Signs are not permitted on the premises of a voting location which includes the entire building and the property on which it is located.
- “Sign regulation falls under the jurisdiction of the City of Burlington for local roads and the Region of Halton for regional roads, and the Ministry of Transportation when placed near a provincial highway”.

Governing By-law: City of Burlington By-Law 34-2007

CALEDON**Time Restrictions**

- Election signs cannot be displayed earlier than 24 days prior to a municipal election.
- Election signs must be removed within 48 hours immediately following 11:59 pm of the day of the election.

Size Restrictions

	Height	Placement
Signs less than or equal to 0.5m ² in area and erected, affixed or otherwise displayed on a lot or on the boulevard	1m	No less than 1.8 meters from the curb or travelled portion of the highway or if placed adjacent to a sidewalk a minimum of 0.6 meters from the edge of the sidewalk. This does not apply when the sidewalk is less than 0.6m from the main wall of a building or other obstruction, in which case the sign shall be placed at the furthest distance possible from the sidewalk.
Less than or equal to 1.5m ² in area and erected, affixed or otherwise displayed on a lot or on the boulevard	2.4m	No less than 7m from the curb or travelled portion of the highway.
When the curb or travelled portion of the highway is less than 7m from the curb or travelled portion of the highway from a fence, wall or other obstruction	Not exceed 2.4m and will not extend above the height of the obstruction and comply with the remaining requirements of the by-law.	The sign shall be placed at the furthest distance possible from the curb or travelled portion of the highway.

Other Information

- “Election signs may be displayed in the Town in the location: (a) where the candidate is running for that position; or (b) promoting a position with respect to a question on a ballot upon which an eligible elector may vote”.
- “Only one election sign per candidate shall be affixed, erected or otherwise displayed on a lot”.
- “On corner lots a second sign per candidate may be affixed, erected or otherwise displayed on the adjoining side of the lot”.
- “An election sign may be affixed to the façade of a building or building unit which is used as a candidate’s campaign office provided such sign complies with the provisions of the Town’s Sign By-law for a wall sign”.
- “Placement: Election signs cannot be placed on municipal, provincial, federal or school property or where they could constitute safety hazards.”
- Where a sign is attached to a vehicle or trailer it shall not be within 100m or the property line of a voting location at any time, it shall not be upon the property where the office for the administration of the election is located; it shall not be on any municipal, provincial federal or school board property.

-“No person shall attach, affix or display or cause the display or attachment of any election sign on a vehicle or trailer which is parked or located for the primary purposes of displaying said sign”.

-Illuminated and rotating signs are prohibited.

-“Where a person has affixed, erected or otherwise displayed or caused or permitted to be affixed, erected or otherwise displayed, a sign contrary to this by-law, a by-law enforcement officer may (a) cause the sign to be removed immediately without notice; or (b) make an order directing the person to: (i) affix, erect or otherwise display the sign in accordance with the requirements of this by-law, or (ii) remove the sign within 72 hours of the date of the order”.

-“If an election sign is removed by By-law Enforcement staff as a result of violations of the by-law, a \$20 fee will be deducted from the deposit. If the costs of removal exceed the deposit, the Candidate must pay the outstanding costs and provide a new deposit”.

-“Signs that have been seized by the Town will be stored only for 30 days and if not retrieved will be destroyed. Signs that are made entirely of paper or other lightweight material may be destroyed immediately upon removal”.

-“Subject to any deductions... a candidate is entitled to have his or her election sign deposit refunded no later than 90 days after voting day”.

SIGN RELATED FEES

Sign Deposit/Fee Type	Cost
Mayoral Sign Deposit	\$300
Councillor Sign Deposit	\$140
Trustee Sign Deposit	\$140
Sign Removal Per Sign	\$20

Governing By-law: Town of Caledon By-law 2013-132

HAMILTON

Time Restrictions

-Election signs cannot be displayed earlier than 28 days prior to voting day with the exception of signage at a building or portion of a building where a candidate maintains his or her office for the purpose of running an election campaign.

-Signs must be removed no later than 3 days after voting day.

Size Restrictions

-There can be a maximum sign area of 1.5m² for an election sign located on a property where the use is for one or more of the following: single detached dwelling, semi-detached dwelling, a duplex, a triplex, a fourplex or quadruplex, a street townhouse, a mobile home, a residential care facility for 6 or less residents, a lodging house for 6 or less lodgers, a retirement home for 6 or less residents or an emergency shelter for 6 or less residents.

-“For an election sign with an area larger than 1.5m², all applicable regulations of the by-law apply provided no permit, except a permit under the Building Code Act 1992, if applicable is required.”

Other Information

-A sign may not be an electronic message display.

-Signs can “only be displayed on private property except if displayed as a poster”.

Governing By-law: City of Hamilton By-law 10-197

LONDON**Time Restrictions**

-Election signs can be erected after nomination papers are filed.

Size Restrictions

-None

Other Information

-“No person shall place a campaign sign, or cause a campaign sign to be placed, on a road allowance if the sign or any portion thereof is: (a) on or over the roadway or a sidewalk (b) closer than 3m to the edge of the roadway (c) within a sight triangle at the intersection of two roadways (d) where a road allowance includes a sidewalk adjacent to a roadway, on the portion of the road allowance between the sidewalk and the roadway and (e) where a road allowance includes two or more separate roadways on the portion of the road allowance between each roadway”.

-“No person shall place a campaign sign, or cause a campaign sign to be placed on a road allowance closer than 3m to a private drive.”

-“No person shall at any time nail or otherwise attach a campaign sign, or cause a campaign sign to be nailed or otherwise attached, to or upon any utility pole, light pole, utility box, tree, bus shelter, planter, bench, waste receptacle, newspaper box or mailbox located on a road allowance”; this “does not apply to a bus shelter in respect of which arrangements have been made with the owner of the shelter for the attachment of a campaign sign”.

-“No person shall at any time place a campaign sign, or cause a campaign sign to be placed, in any public park or on any property owned or occupied by the Corporation or any local board”.

-“No person shall at any time on any election voting day, including those days when advance election voting is held, place a campaign sign, or cause a campaign sign to be placed on any premises used as a polling place for elections”.

-“When the City Engineer has reasonable and probable grounds to believe that a campaign sign on a road allowance or in any public park or on any property owned or occupied by the Corporation or local board (a) is placed nailed or otherwise attached contrary to any provision of this by-law or (b) creates a hazard to vehicular traffic or pedestrians, the City Engineer may cause the campaign sign to be removed pursuant to this section, the candidate is liable to a charge of either \$50 or the actual cost of removing the campaign sign, whichever is greater.”

Governing By-law: City of London By-law 180-305

MARKHAM**Time Restrictions**

-Election signs cannot be posted within the Town prior to 28 days before the date of the election “with the exception of designated intersections on Regional Roads... where Major Road signs only are permitted to be erected 42 days prior to the date of the election”

-All election signs must be removed within 72 hours after midnight of the election.

Size Restrictions**MAJOR ROAD SIGNS**

-“Election signs erected on road allowances at designated intersections or on private property within the Rural Residential Area are defined as major road signs...”

-The area of the sign shall not exceed 1.49m²; the area of the size shall not be less than 1m², the height of the sign shall not exceed 1.22m, the width of the sign shall not exceed 1.22m, the sign shall be no higher than 2m above the ground.

LAWN SIGNS

- “Election signs erected on private property or on the municipal boulevard abutting the front yard in residential zones are defined as lawn signs...”
- The area of the sign shall not exceed 0.75m² and shall be no higher than 2m above the ground.

Other Information

MAJOR ROAD SIGNS

- “There is only one sign per candidate at any corner of a designated intersection.”
- “No portion of the sign shall be located within 3m of the curb, the edge of the travelled highway, or the shoulder of the highway.”
- “No portion of the sign shall be located within 1m of the sidewalk.”
- “The sign shall be placed within 50m of the corner but shall not be placed within the Daylight Triangle.”
- “Only one sign per candidate is permitted on private property within the Rural Residential Area, and the sign shall be placed within the portion of private property being maintained for residential purposes.”
- “Major Road Signs are prohibited in Special Sign Districts (Heritage District Areas).”

LAWN SIGNS

- “The sign may be erected only with the consent of the owner of the private property on which the sign is located or the abutting municipal boulevard.”
- “Only one sign per candidate is permitted on the residential lot or where no sidewalk exists in the abutting municipal boulevard.”
- “Where the sign is placed adjacent to a curb or the travelled portion of the road, the sign must be set back a minimum of 1.8m from the curb or travelled portion of the road.”
- “Where the sign is placed adjacent to a sidewalk, the sign shall be set back a minimum of 0.6m from the edge of the sidewalk”; this “does not apply when the sidewalk is less than 0.6m from the main wall of the building, in which case the sign shall be placed at the furthest distance possible from the sidewalk.”
- “The sign shall be independently attached to the ground.”
- “Within Special Sign Districts (Heritage District Areas) Lawn Signs may be placed on private residential or commercial properties and shall not be placed on the abutting municipal boulevard.”

ELECTION CAMPAIGN OFFICE

- “Each Candidate is permitted to use signage permitted under the Sign By-law for Election Signage, except for Mobile, Portable and Banner signage at one designated Election Campaign Office only, and is further entitled to the following exemptions to the Sign By-law: (a) A single Major Road Sign displaying the words “Campaign Headquarters” may be placed on private property where the candidate does not display any signage on a Ground Sign permitted under the By-law; (b) Within 42 days of the applicable election date, regular Sign By-law restrictions for the placement of signs in windows of the portion of the building occupied by the candidate’s Election Campaign Office are not applicable; (c) The above exceptions for the placement of signs do not apply to an Election campaign Office located in a residential or institutional zone.”

RESTRICTIONS ON SIGN PLACEMENT

-“No Election Signs shall be placed or erected: (a) In any park or open space area or any municipal boulevard abutting any park or open space area; (b) On the property of any municipal, provincial or federal building or any school or on the municipal boulevard abutting such facilities; (c) On the property of a voting place or the municipal boulevard abutting any voting place (d) On vacant lands or the abutting municipal boulevard (e) Attached to a fence, wall, hoarding or any other structure; (f) Attached to a tree, bush, or any other form of vegetation (g) Attached to a utility pole, bus shelter, traffic sign or any other municipal infrastructure; (h) Within 5m of a fire hydrant or bus shelter; (i) Within 10m of a non-residential driveway; (j) On any centre median, traffic island, or centre boulevard within a road allowance; (k) Within a Daylight Triangle (l) So as to impair or obstruct movement of vehicular traffic, or the visibility of warning devices and traffic signs or signals; (m) Other than independently attached to the ground.”

-“For the purposes of this By-law, all fences abutting a municipal boulevard shall be deemed to be on the property line and no Election Sign shall be erected on the fence.”

SIGN RELATED FEES

Fee Type	Cost
Deposit	\$250
Removal Fee	\$25

-The above fee is refundable less the cost of the removal of any election signs that contravene the by-law.

Governing By-law: Town of Markham By-law 2002-94

MILTON**Time Restrictions**

-“No person shall place or permit to be placed an election sign for a municipal election earlier than the day that the candidate has filed his or her nomination with the Town Clerk and no earlier than (a) Nomination Day in the year of a regular election; or (b) Nomination Day for a by-election.”

-“... election signs may be erected on campaign offices once the candidate has filed his or her nomination with the Town Clerk.”

-“Every owner shall remove his, her or its election sign within 72 hours (3 days) immediately following 11:59 pm of the day of the election”.

Size Restrictions

-With the exception of billboards and election signs on vehicles, election signs cannot have an area of more than 2.97m² or a height of more than 2.13m.

Other Information

-“No person shall place or permit to be placed an election sign on public property”.

-“No person shall place or permit to be placed an election sign within a park”.

-“No person shall place or permit to be placed at a voting place an election sign on any day when electors are casting their ballots”.

-With the exception of a billboard sign and an election sign on vehicles, no person shall place or permit to be placed an election sign that: (a) is illuminated; (b) has a sign area more than 2.97m²; (c) has a height more than 2.13m; (d) interferes with the safe operation of vehicular

traffic or the safety of pedestrians; or (e) impedes or obstructs the Town's maintenance operations."

- "No election sign shall be in a state of disrepair nor be located where it will interfere with the safe movement or visibility of any vehicle or pedestrian traffic or where it is a general hazard to public safety."

- "No election sign shall be affixed to a tree, pipe, telephone pole, hydro pole, light standard or any other utility infrastructure."

- "No person shall attach, affix or display an election sign to a motor vehicle which is parked or located for the primary purpose of displaying said election sign."

- "Election signs removed in accordance with this By-law may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the Town without notice and/or compensation to any party".

- "No person shall place or permit to be placed an election sign on a highway structure, except on a highway structure designated by the Town for posters."

- "No person shall place or permit to be placed an election sign on that portion of the boulevard that abuts public property".

- "No person shall dig, drill or drive into asphalt, concrete, brick or any other hard improved surface on a highway when placing an election sign."

- "No person shall drill or drive into a wooden, metal, concrete or other highway structure when placing an election sign."

PRIVATE PROPERTY

- "No election sign shall be located so as to obstruct or impede any fire escape, fire exit, door, window, scuttle, skylight, flue or air intake or exhaust nor so as to prevent or impede the free access of emergency personnel to any part of a building including emergency water connections and/or fire hydrants."

ELECTION SIGNS ON HIGHWAYS

- "No person shall place or permit to be placed an election sign that: (a) is on a roadway; (b) impedes or obstructs the passage of pedestrians where they are reasonably expected to walk; (c) is less than 10m from a roadway on a highway where pedestrians are prohibited (d) is on a median or island located within the roadway; (e) is within a corner daylight triangle; (f) is within a driveway daylight triangle; (g) is less than 3m from a school crossing; (h) is less than 30m from an intersection pedestrian signal; or (i) is on a trailer."

Governing By-law: Town of Milton By-law 011-2013

MISSISSAUGA

Time Restrictions

- "Election signs can be erected after the close of nominations."

- "An election sign shall be removed within 48 hours immediately following 11:59pm of the day of the election."

Size Restrictions

- "An election sign shall not exceed a maximum sign area of 1.5m² with the exception of those placed on billboard signs."

Other Information

- "No candidate or his agent or any other person shall affix, erect or otherwise display an election sign or permit an election sign to be affixed, erected or otherwise displayed: (a) on or

overhanging public property; (b) on a utility pole or light standard unless it is affixed to a poster sleeve on a designated light; (c) on any official sign or official sign structure; (d) within a sight triangle; (e) within 50m of the exterior main entrance to the polling station or the front façade of the building which contains the polling station whichever is greater; (f) at any location where the election sign: i. obstructs the view of any pedestrian or driver of a motor vehicle, or obstruct the visibility of any traffic sign or device, or where it could interfere with vehicular traffic so that it could endanger any person; ii. Obstructs openings required for light, ventilation, ingress, egress or firefighting; iii. constitutes a danger or hazard to the general public (g) on a concrete or masonry noise attenuation wall.”

–“An election sign which is a fascia sign may be affixed to the face of the building or building unit which is used as a candidate’s campaign headquarters provided such fascia sign complies with the provisions of the By-law for a fascia sign.”

–“Where an election sign has been affixed, erected or otherwise displayed in contravention of any provision of this By-law, the Commissioner may cause the sign to be removed immediately without notice and/or take any further action...”

Governing By-law: City of Mississauga By-law 54-02

OAKVILLE

Time Restrictions

- Election signs can be erected after nomination day.
- Signs must be removed within 3 days following voting day.

Size Restrictions

- “The following pole(s) or supports are the approved requirements for displaying election signs on Town or Regional property: (a) 5.0 centimeters by 5.0 centimeters wooden stakes, or less; (b) Metal (wire frames) that have a diameter of less than 6.5 millimeters (0.25 inches).”
- “...Any person may affix or display an election sign on a public utility pole located within the Downtown Oakville Business Improvement Area, the Bronte Business Improvement Area, or the Kerr Street Business Improvement Area, provided: (a) the public utility pole is located within 15m of an intersection; (b) the election sign is at all places affixed flushed with the surface of the utility pole; (c) the election sign is of light-weight construction only; (d) the election sign is no larger than 61cm by 61cm; and (e) the election sign is not affixed with or by a fastener that penetrates punctures or otherwise creates a hole in the surface of a public utility pole.”

Other Information

- “No person shall erect, locate or display an election sign on Town property unless the security specified in Schedule “A” has been deposited with the Designate Official by the sign owner or the sign owner’s authorized agent” (See fees below).
- “The Designated Official shall return the balance of the securities deposited with the Town... after deducting the cost of removing/ disposing the election signs following the election if the signs were removed by the Town and the cost of any damage within the road allowance” (see fees below).
- “No person shall erect, locate or display an election sign: (a) on or within any Town property other than an arterial road allowance as designated by the Town’s Official Plan, including major multi-purpose, minor and industrial arterial road allowances; (b) on or within any road allowance abutting any town owned building (c) overhanging any Town property other than a road allowance; (d) on any utility pole, official sign or official sign structure; (e) on any tree, tree support or fence on Town property (f) at any location on Town property where the election sign

might obstruct any door, window, fire exit or any opening required for light, ventilation, ingress egress or firefighting; (g) at any location on Town property where the election sign might interfere with underground services; (h) at any location where the election sign could obstruct the view of any pedestrian or driver of a motor vehicle or obstruct the visibility of a traffic sign or device, or where it could interfere with vehicular traffic so that it could endanger any person or; (i) at any location where such election sign, in the opinion of Designated Official, constitutes a safety hazard to the general public.”

–“No person shall erect, locate or display an election sign within a road allowance where the election sign is: (a) on a centre median, traffic island or centre boulevard; (b) within 1.5m of a fire hydrant, curb, driveway or the travelled portion of a street; (c) within 30m of any intersection (d) within 15m of any bus stop; (e) on any railing, retaining wall, bridge, bench, garbage can or any structure of any kind; (f) on Town property within 100m of any property line of a voting location (g) within 10m of another election sign for the same candidate.”

–“...an Election sign may be installed in a bus shelter under the direction and control of the Town in accordance with the rules and requirements in effect from time to time regardless of the location of the bus shelter”.

–“An election sign which is a vehicle sign is subject to the following provisions: (a) an election sign which is a vehicle sign may only be displayed during the time period permitted by section 2 (election signs can only be displayed following nomination day and up until 3 days following voting day) and; (b) an election sign which is a vehicle sign may not be displayed (i) within 100m of the property line of a voting location at any time while the polls are open at the voting location; nor (ii) upon the property where the office for the administration of the election (including the office for the administration of the election in a particular riding) is located”.

–“The only election signs which may be displayed in Oakville are: (a) election signs for a candidate running to represent Oakville or a portion of Oakville; and (b) election signs promoting a position with respect to a question on the ballot upon which Oakville residents may vote.”

–“No person shall erect, locate or display an election sign unless the Designate Official has approved the type of pole or support for the election sign in writing, having regard to the public safety and the potential for damage to public property or services within the road allowance”.

–“No person shall erect or permit an election sign to be erected using nails, screws, tacks, staples, glue or wire.”

SIGN RELATED FEES

Sign Type/ Service	Factors Affected Fees	Fee
Deposit – Election Signs	Per Candidate	\$200
Retrieval of Election Signs During an Election Period	Unlimited number of signs	\$50 per retrieval
Removal of Election Signs	Per Sign	\$50

Governing By-law: Town of Oakville By-law 2006-005

OTTAWA

Time Restrictions

–Public property: 30 days prior to an election.

–Private property: 60 days prior to an election.

–“Election signs must be removed within 48 hours following the election date”.

Size Restrictions

–None

Other Information

- “Enforcement by the City is conducted on a request for service basis, or proactively in the event that the placement of a sign is causing a public safety or a line of sight issue”.
- “On public property, signs may be removed and impounded without notice. In the case of private property, notice is given, with a specified period of time for compliance. If there is no compliance, the sign may be removed and impounded”.
- “Election signs may be placed on the road allowance of City streets but must not interfere with the safe movement of vehicles or pedestrians, or create line of sight issues”.
- “For safety reasons, election signs are not permitted on central boulevards or medians, and may not be placed within 50cm of a sidewalk, or where there is no sidewalk, within 2 meters of the roadway, or within 50cm of the edge of a shoulder.”
- “...elections signs may be placed on an inner boulevard, provided that... no sign is placed within 50cm of a sidewalk, or where there is no sidewalk, within 2m of the roadway or within 50cm of the edge of a shoulder where such exists...”
- “Signs may also be placed on private property with the permission of the property owner.”
- “If a By-law Enforcement Officer determines that an election sign is posing a safety risk or a line of sight issue, the sign is removed immediately and is stored ... for 30 days.”
- “A charge of \$50 per sign may be applied upon retrieval.”
- “Set fines for violation of the regulations range from \$260 to \$365 depending on the infraction.”

Governing By-law: City of Ottawa By-laws 2004-239 and 2003-520

TORONTO**Time Restrictions**

- Election Signs: 25 days prior to election day
- Campaign Office Signs: 90 days prior to election day
- “Election signs shall be removed within 72 hours after the completion of voting on voting day”.

Size Restrictions

- “With the exception of billboards and election signs on campaign offices, election signs may not exceed 1.2m² in total sign face area and cannot be higher than 2m above ground”.

Other Information

- “Election signs shall not be (a) illuminated; (b) attached to trees.”
- “Election signs are not permitted anywhere on public public property except on public highways subject to the following conditions:
 - Those highways upon which pedestrians are prohibited;
 - Signs cannot be placed between the curb and the sidewalk;
 - If there is no sidewalk, signs cannot be placed within 1.5m of the curb or edge of the pavement; signs cannot be placed within 15m of an intersection or pedestrian crossover or be located on a median or island;
 - Signs cannot interfere with the safe operation of vehicular traffic or with the safety of pedestrians;
 - Signs cannot be located adjacent to a voting place or any City owned or operated property;
 - The consent of the owner or occupant of the abutting property must be obtained”.

-“Council passed a By-law (#1160-2011) allowing the erection and display of election signs on property owned by or under the control of the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC)”; prices are provided by the TTC.

-“Election signs can be posted on private property subject to the following conditions:

- Signs do not interfere with the safe operation of vehicular traffic, or with the safety of pedestrians;
- Signs are posted with the consent of the owner or occupant of the property.
- Signs posted on private property may be higher than 2m above ground level provided the signs are displayed indoors.”

-An Election Sign Deposit form and a sign deposit of \$250 are required from Candidates wishing to place signs on allowable public property.

-“A \$25 fee will be deducted from the election sign deposit for every illegal sign City staff remove from public property. If a candidate has not paid the deposit and places signs on public property, they will be invoiced the cost of removing all illegal signs. Amounts owing may be recovered by legal action or added to the candidate’s municipal taxes”.

-Amounts owed may be waived if within 30 days from the date of receiving a notice of fees due to the City if the candidate provides a sworn statement to the City Clerk indicating that neither the candidate nor, to the best of the candidate’s knowledge, any person acting on his or her behalf was responsible for the unlawful placement of the sign.

-“Subject to deductions made as a result of the removal of unlawfully erected signs, all or a portion of the sign deposit will be refunded no later than 90 days after voting day”.

-“Signs that have been removed... shall be stored by the City for a minimum of 30 days during which time the owner of the sign or the owner’s agent may retrieve the sign by: (a) paying any amounts owing to the City... and (b) providing the City with a signed acknowledgement and release in a form acceptable to the City.

-“Any signs removed by the City and stored for more than 30 days may be destroyed or otherwise disposed of without notice and without compensation to the owner of the sign. Additionally, signs made entirely of paper or other lightweight material may be destroyed immediately upon removal”.

Governing By-law: Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 693

City of Mississauga

Corporate Report



Date: 2016/08/30

To: Chair and Members of Governance Committee

From: Gary Kent, Commissioner of Corporate Services and
Chief Financial Officer

Originator's files:

Meeting date:
2016/09/19

Subject

Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program for the 2018 Election.

Recommendation

1. That the report from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer dated August 30, 2016 be received for information.
2. That direction be provided with respect to the implementation of a Rebate Program for the 2018 Municipal Election.

Report Highlights

- Providing a rebate program requires additional tax funded financial resources for rebate payments, staffing and administration.
- A rebate program partially subsidizes election campaign financing by the municipality rather than wholly from donors.
- The cost of a rebate program varies depending on the value of the rebate provided, number of candidates that participate and the amount of eligible contributions received.

Background

Municipal Election campaign contributions are not eligible for tax credits under the provisions of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* ("MEA") or the *Income Tax Act*. The MEA states:

88.11 (1) A municipality may, by by-law, provide for the payment of rebates to individuals who made contributions to candidates for office on the municipal council. 2016, c. 15, s. 51.

A rebate program enables a municipality to reimburse contributions made by individuals to the campaign of a candidate running for Mayor or Councillor. The concept for providing a rebate program is to encourage greater participation in municipal politics by reducing the financial burden placed on candidates and campaign donors.

Governance Committee	2016/08/30	2
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A rebate program requires candidates to issue receipts to donors who would then apply for a rebate from the municipality. Staff would prepare rebates for donors after a candidate files his or her financial statements in compliance with the *MEA*. Registration in the rebate program by individual candidates is voluntary.

Currently there is no provision in the *MEA* that allows municipalities the legislative ability to conduct audits to determine if requests for rebates are legitimate. Rebates would be issued using the information provided by candidates and donors in accordance with the program procedures.

Comments

Staff presented three reports to Governance Committee in 2013 (**Appendix 1**) with respect to providing a rebate program for the 2014 Municipal Election. These reports reviewed several rebate programs offered by large Ontario municipalities. Subsequently the City of Markham has compiled updated statistics for rebate programs offered by municipalities during the 2014 election year (**Appendix 2**). Staff have reviewed the statistics between programs offered in 2010 and 2014 and observed that some municipalities saw an increase in campaign contributions while others did not.

All municipalities surveyed have a minimum donation threshold to qualify for a rebate. Too high of an eligibility threshold may discourage some prospective donors that have less financial resources to donate. A lower threshold or a flat rebate amount for lesser contributions may increase accessibility for donors but may also increase rebate payment costs and administration.

In 2013 Council provided direction to staff to develop a rebate program. Staff presented two options having a minimum \$50 and \$100 donation thresholds respectively to be eligible for a rebate. Donors were also required to be Mississauga residents to be eligible. Donations to schoolboard trustee campaigns were not eligible for rebates. Council instructed staff to proceed with the design of a program based on a \$100 donation threshold pursuant to *Council Resolution 0032-2013*. A draft By-law outlining a rebate program was presented by staff to Governance Committee who chose not to implement the program for the 2014 Election (*Governance Committee Resolution 0027-2013*).

Financial Impact

The City's municipal elections are financed by annual contributions to the Election Reserve collected from municipal taxes. Additional tax funding would be required as the 2018 Election budget does not account for a rebate program. The total cost for rebates is determined by three main factors: the total number of candidates registered, the total number of candidates that register for the program and the total number of contributions. It is difficult to accurately forecast the cost. In addition to the rebate payments there will be administration costs associated with the program such as staff costs, cheques processing costs and postage.

Staff have performed an analysis using the campaign contributions from the 2014 Election in an effort to provide an estimated cost of the program. The formula is based on the \$100 minimum donation threshold.

Candidates:	98
Rebate Payout Formula:	50% of contributions between \$100 - \$750
Campaign Contributions Over \$100:	\$1,374,580.11
Estimated Total Rebates Paid at 50%:	\$688,000

The Election Office would require one additional temporary employee for 18 months to administer the program and process rebates.

<u>Expense</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Rebates	\$688,000
Staffing – Elections	\$102,000
Supplies & Postage	\$5,000
Total	\$795,000

*****Staffing: Grade C position for 18 months*****

The cost of the proposed rebate program has not been included in the annual transfer to the Election Reserve and an increase to the transfer will be required if the program is implemented.

Conclusion

Election Campaign Rebate Programs have been implemented in various municipalities in Ontario. A rebate program introduces additional tax funded costs on the municipality and increases the complexity of the Election administration. It is suggested that eligibility for a rebate be restricted to Mississauga residents only in efforts to control costs and to encourage interest in municipal politics amongst Mississauga residents. A by-law is required to establish a rebate program for the 2018 Election.

Alternatively, Council may engage the Federal and Provincial governments to suggest that contributions made to municipal political campaigns should be regarded and processed in the same manner as contributions made to Federal and Provincial campaigns where contributions are included in the donors' Income Tax filing. This would eliminate the financial burden on municipalities to fund rebate payments.

Governance Committee

2016/08/30

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Attachments

Appendix 1: Previous Corporate Reports

Appendix 2: Election Contribution Rebate Program



Gary Kent, Commissioner of Corporate Services and Chief Financial Officer

Prepared by: Pina Mancuso – Manager, Elections



Corporate Report

Clerk's Files

Originator's
Files

5.

DATE: January 8, 2013

TO: Chair and Members of Governance Committee
Meeting Date: January 14, 2013

Governance Committee

JAN 14 2013

FROM: Brenda R. Breault, CMA, MBA
Commissioner of Corporate Services and Treasurer

SUBJECT: **Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program**

RECOMMENDATION: That the report entitled Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program, from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Treasurer, dated January 8, 2013 be received for information.

**REPORT
HIGHLIGHTS:**

- In response to a request of the Governance Committee, the details regarding Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Programs implemented in other municipalities have been reviewed.
- There are a number of options for a Rebate Program and the cost of a program will vary depending on the rebate provided, the number of candidates who participate, and the amount of campaign contributions received.

BACKGROUND:

A request has been received by the Governance Committee from a member of the public, for the City to restrict the collection of Election Campaign Contributions from corporations and trade unions. In addition, the Governance Committee has requested staff to investigate the implementation of an Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program by the City of Mississauga. The purpose of this report is to provide the Chair and Members of the Governance committee with

information regarding the operation of a municipal election campaign contribution rebate program. Unlike Federal and Provincial election campaign contributions, Municipal Election campaign contributions are not eligible for tax credits under the provisions of the *Municipal Elections Act* or the *Income Tax Act*.

In accordance with the Municipal Elections Act (MEA)

82. (1) “A municipality may, by by-law, provide for the payment of rebates to individuals, corporations or trade unions who made contributions to candidates for office on the municipal council.”

The essence of a contribution rebate program is that a municipality would rebate a contributor a percentage of a contribution made to a candidate’s campaign. The rationale for implementing a rebate program is to:

- encourage more candidate participation
- create more interest in Municipal Elections, therefore increasing turnout
- Increase contributions from individual electors rather than corporations and trade unions.

Registration in the rebate program is completely voluntary and during the nomination process the candidate is asked whether or not they would like to participate. No rebate will be issued until the candidate files their financial statement by the relevant date, and in compliance with all requirements of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as amended. Most municipalities track the registration manually and assume all administrative tasks in house.

COMMENTS:

Various municipalities across Ontario have established Election Campaign Contribution Rebate programs. Each program has different criteria regarding eligibility of a contributor (individuals vs Corporations), percentage of rebate (formula) in relation to the amount contributed and timeframe in which a contributor may apply for the rebate. See Appendix 1 - Rebate Program Benchmarking for the details regarding each program.

The following factors must be taken into consideration when considering the financial impact of the program on the municipality, as well as the administrative impact;

- number of candidates eligible
- number of contributors
- number of candidates elected who used the program
- dollar value of contributions received

Appendix 2 – Rebate Program Statistics outlines the experience of other the municipalities who have implemented a program.

Rebate Formula Options

There are a number of options for rebate formulas. The total cost of the Rebate Program would vary depending on the formula included in the By-law. In addition, the administration of the program becomes more complicated based on the rebate formula implemented.

Appendix 3 provides an overview of the rebate formulas currently used by other municipalities.

Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program Implementation

Staff from the Elections Office discussed the merits of the Election Campaign Rebate Program with the election staff in the Town of Oakville, City of Vaughan and Town of Markham.

They indicated that having a Rebate program provided a perceived opportunity to increase participation in the electoral process and an opportunity to assist candidates in their fundraising efforts, particularly for non-incumbent candidates.

The criticism of a program is that all taxpayers subsidize individuals who contribute to any candidate's campaign. If the program does not place restriction on who is eligible for a rebate this would include contributions received from non-residents, candidates, candidate's spouse and family members, and corporations and trade unions. In addition, any Rebate program will result in additional costs to the corporation in terms of funding and administration.

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The Town of Oakville implemented a rebate program in 2003 on the bases of meeting the goals of encouraging more candidate participation, creating more interest in the Municipal Elections and increasing turnout, and increasing contributions from individual electors rather than corporations. Following the 2010 election, the City Clerk determined *"that the rebate program had not met the goals for which it was established"*. As a result of the findings and the experience with the rebate program the City Clerk recommended that the program be discontinued for the 2014 Municipal Election. Nonetheless, the Town of Oakville's Council chose to continue with the program.

It is important to note that according to section 68(1) of the MEA *"a candidate's election campaign period for an office shall be determined in accordance with the following rules:*

- 1. The election campaign period begins on the day he or she files a nomination for the office under section 33.*

Regardless of whether a candidate withdraws his/her nomination, if the candidate collected contributions, the contributors may be eligible to apply for a rebate.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Any rebate program established would result in additional tax funded costs to the municipality. It is difficult to forecast the financial impact because the cost of the program would be impacted by the details of the program and the number of candidates and contributors who participate. In addition, it is estimated that the Election Office would require one additional position to oversee the program and process the rebates.

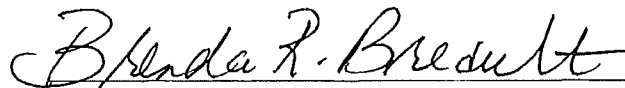
The Municipal Elections are funded from the Election Reserve. Each year \$550,000 is placed into the Reserve to fund the next election. An Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program was not included in the proposed budget. Additional tax funding would be required to cover any contribution rebate program.

CONCLUSION:

Election Campaign Rebate Programs have been implemented in a number of municipalities across the Province. The Rebate Programs vary between these municipalities, including who is eligible to receive a rebate, and what amount of rebate is provided. The financial impact is also difficult to predict because it is dependent upon the number of candidates and the amount of campaign contributions that are collected. Regardless of the Rebate Program selected, the administration of the program is complex.

ATTACHMENTS:

Appendix 1 - Rebate Program Benchmarking
Appendix 2 – Rebate Program Statistics
Appendix #3 – Rebate Formulas



Brenda R. Breault, CMA, MBA
Commissioner of Corporate Services and Treasurer

Prepared By: Pina Mancuso, Manager of Elections

REBATE PROGRAM BENCHMARKING

Municipality	Highlights of Program
Oakville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any eligible elector residing in the town of Oakville who is not a candidate, candidate's spouse, common-law spouse, same-sex partner, children of the candidate are eligible for a rebate. Only contributors of money are eligible. Corporations, trade unions, non-resident eligible electors are not eligible for rebates.
Ajax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any eligible elector, who is not a candidate, spouse or child of candidate, is eligible. Only contributions of money are eligible for rebate. Rebates are only available to those individuals who make a contribution between the date of the candidate's nomination filing up to and including Voting Day. An individual who contributes to more than one candidate is eligible for a rebate in respect of each contribution but no more than the maximum allowable rebate (\$150). Contributions from corporations and trade unions are ineligible.
Toronto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any resident in the province of Ontario is eligible to receive a rebate. Candidates, their spouses and children are eligible but not until after the Candidate's campaign closes and the final financial statement is filed. Only contributions of money are eligible. Contributions from corporations and trade unions are ineligible.
Whitby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whitby's program was approved by Council in principal and is subject to the 2012 Budget approval. Whitby's program is to be identical to Ajax.

*Formula's and criteria will vary across all municipalities that have implemented the program.

*These statistics are based on information from the City of Ottawa

Municipality	Program Highlights
Markham	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any individual who is a resident of the Province of Ontario is eligible for a rebate.• The following are ineligible:<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Contribution of goods and services.-A Candidate's contribution of inventory from a prior election.-Contributions made by corporations and trade unions.
Vaughan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any resident of the City of Vaughan is eligible for a rebate• The following are ineligible:<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Contributions of goods and services.-A Candidate's contribution of inventory from a prior election.-Contribution made by corporations and trade unions.-Contributions made by the Candidate and Candidate's spouse, siblings, grandparents, parents, children and grandchildren.

*Formula's and criteria will vary across all municipalities that have implemented the program.

*These statistics are based on information from the City of Ottawa

Rebate Program Statistics

Municipality	Oakville	Ajax	Toronto	Whitby	Markham	Vaughan
Electoral Population	121,330	69,624	1,637,310	81,713	185,469	175,470
Voter Turnout	40%	25.4%	50.55%	31.05%	35.5%	40.55%
# of rebates paid	465	116	14,051	12	2,300	434
% of electors contributing (based on the # of rebates paid)	0.38%	0.16%	Unavailable	.015%	1.24%	0.25%
# of Candidates that participated	28 total (63%)	12 total (57%)	176 total (55%)	4 total (16%)	42 total (95%)	42 total (93%)
# of Candidates eligible	44	21	319	24	44	45
Amount paid in rebates	\$78,105	\$10,605	\$3,680,820 (to date)	\$775	\$375,000	\$61,717
Cost of administering Program	\$27,551	\$6000	Unavailable (Approx. 46 mths of staff time)	Unavailable	\$11,541	\$28,279
Total cost of Rebate Program	\$105,656	\$16,605	\$3,680,820	\$775	\$386,541	\$89,997

*These statistics are based on information from the Town of Richmond Hill

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Rebate Program Formulas

Municipality	Formula
Oakville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions less than \$100 = INELIGIBLE • Contributions over \$100: rebate = 50% of total contribution
Ajax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions less than \$25 = INELIGIBLE • Contributions \$25 - \$100: rebate = 75% of the total contribution • Contributions over \$100: rebate = \$75.00 + 50% of the difference between the total contribution and \$100 • Maximum rebate regardless of contribution = \$150
Toronto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions less than \$25 = INELIGIBLE • \$25 - \$300: rebate = 75% of the total contribution • \$301 - \$1000: rebate = \$225.00 + 50% of the difference between the contribution and \$300 • Contributions over \$1000: rebate = the lesser of \$575 + 33.3% of the difference between the total contribution and \$1000 • Maximum rebate = \$1000
Whitby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as formula for Ajax
Markham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions less than \$50 = INELIGIBLE • Contributions \$50 - \$300 = 75% of total contribution • Contributions over \$300 = 75% of \$300 + 50% of the difference between the total contribution and \$300 (maximum rebate = \$350)
Vaughan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions less than \$50 = INELIGIBLE • Maximum rebate regardless of contribution = \$150 • Contributions over \$50 = 75% of total contribution

*Information regarding the above formulas is from the City of Ottawa



Corporate Report

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Governance Committee

FEB 27 2013

DATE: February 21, 2013

TO: Chair and Members of Governance Committee
Meeting Date: February 27, 2013

FROM: Brenda R. Breault, CMA, MBA
Commissioner, Corporate Services and Treasurer

SUBJECT: **Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program**

RECOMMENDATION: That the report dated February 21, 2013 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Treasurer, entitled Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program be received, and that direction be provided to staff with respect to the establishment of a rebate program for the 2014 Municipal Election.

**REPORT
HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Governance Committee requested staff to report back on a Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program for Mississauga residents.
- Two options are provided for which costs have been estimated based on the 2010 Municipal Election campaign contributions.
- Direction is requested with respect to the establishment of an Election Campaign Contribution Program for the City of Mississauga. If a rebate program is supported, a by-law will be prepared to outline the conditions under which an individual is entitled to receive a rebate and the rebate amount and the rebate amounts.

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BACKGROUND:

On January 14, 2013, the Governance Committee approved Recommendation GOV-0006-2013 which stated:

That the report entitled Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program from the Commissioner of Corporate Services and Treasurer, dated January 8, 2013 be received for information and that staff be directed to report back on a rebate program for the City that includes the following:

- a) Mississauga residents only; and*
- b) Rebate for individual contributions; and*
- c) Rebate of 50% up to a maximum of \$375 for contributions over \$100.*

Recommendation GOV-006-2013 was adopted by Council on February 6, 2013. Discussion at Council clarified that the Committee also wished to consider rebates for smaller donations. This report provides information regarding the scope, structure and costs associated with a proposed Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program. The previous report on the Rebate Program to the Governance Committee, dated January 8, 2013, which contained details of programs implemented in other municipalities, is attached as Appendix 1.

COMMENTS:

Based on the direction provided by the Governance Committee, two options are being presented as possible frameworks for a rebate program that would provide Mississauga residents with a rebate for making a campaign contribution to candidates in the Municipal Election. Under both options, it is proposed that campaign contributors must be residents of the City of Mississauga in order to be eligible for rebate. Further, contributions from candidates, their spouses, businesses, corporations and trade unions would be ineligible for rebate.

There was considerable discussion at the previous Governance Committee meeting regarding the structure of a rebate program to support and encourage donations from Mississauga residents at the lower range of the total permissible donation amount of \$750 per candidate. The options presented provide opportunity for a rebate of 50% of the total amount contributed once the contribution reaches a

certain minimum threshold. Estimates of the cost of the options presented have been determined based on campaign contributions made during the 2010 Municipal Election.

The first option proposes a 50% rebate on total contributions of \$50 or more. The maximum rebate would be \$375 based on a \$750 contribution.

OPTION 1

Estimated cost \$115,000**

Contribution Amount	Applicable Rebate
Less than \$50	Ineligible
\$50 up to \$750	50% of total contribution

The second option is also designed to provide the same rebate for all eligible contributors but requires a higher minimum threshold contribution before the rebate applies. The maximum rebate would continue to be \$375.

OPTION 2

Estimated cost \$85,000**

Contribution Amount	Applicable Rebate
Less than \$100	Ineligible
\$100 up to \$750	50% of total contribution

**** estimated costs based on 2010 candidate financial statements**

The rebate program would require candidates to issue receipts to contributors. Contributors would be required to file a request for rebate with the City and Election staff would prepare rebates only after a Candidate's Financial Statement had been submitted in compliance with the *Municipal Elections Act*, 1996, as amended (MEA).

The rebate program would only apply to candidates for Council. The school boards would be responsible for determining if any rebate would be provided to those who made contributions to candidates for

office on the school board. This rebate would be paid and administered by the school board.

Administration of the program will require an additional staff resource for 18 months at a cost of \$90,000. Implementation of the program will also require upgrades to the existing election module and/or new software. A further assessment of the technical requirements will be undertaken is if a decision is made to proceed with a rebate program.

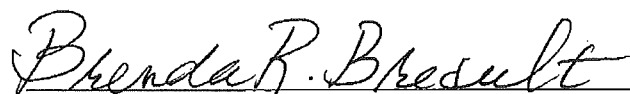
Should it be the desire of Council to proceed with the establishment of a rebate program, a by-law must be prepared which shall establish the conditions under which an individual is entitled to a rebate and the rebate amounts.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Although estimates of the cost of implementing the program have been provided, it is important to note that the financial impact associated with the program is difficult to predict because it is dependent upon the amount of campaign contributions collected by candidates. Funding for a rebate program is not currently included in the 2014 Municipal Election budget. Should direction be provided to proceed with the establishment of a rebate program, the 2014 Municipal Election budget must be increased to cover the anticipated cost of the rebate and an additional staff resource be provided at a cost of \$90,000 for 18 months.. In addition, the annual funding of the Election Reserve will be required to increase to reflect the additional cost of the election program.

CONCLUSION: Municipal Election Contribution Rebate Programs have been established by other municipalities with the expectation that the program may encourage more residents to contribute to candidates and thereby somewhat ease the financial burden associated with election campaigns as well as encourage more residents to get engaged in Municipal Elections and thereby increase voter turnout. Assessing the overall success of a rebate program in achieving these goals is difficult. Direction is sought with respect to the implementation of a rebate program for the 2014 Municipal Election.

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ATTACHMENTS: Appendix 1 – Report dated January 8, 2013

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Brenda R. Breault", is written over a horizontal line.

Brenda R. Breault, CMA, MBA
Commissioner of Corporate Services and Treasurer

Prepared By: Pina Mancuso, Manager, Elections



Corporate Report

Clerk's Files

Originator's
Files

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DATE: May 28, 2013

TO: Chair and Members of Governance Committee
Meeting Date: June 12, 2013

FROM: Brenda R. Breault, CMA, MBA
Commissioner, Corporate Services and Treasurer

SUBJECT: **Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program
Procedure and By-law**

Governance Committee

JUN 12 2013

- RECOMMENDATION:**
1. That a pilot Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program be approved for the 2014 Municipal Election, as outlined in Appendix 3 of the Corporate Report dated May 28, 2013 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services.
 2. That the implementing By-law, substantially in the form outlined in Appendix 4, be enacted in accordance with Section 82 (1) of the *Municipal Elections Act 1996*.

**REPORT
HIGHLIGHTS:**

- At the Council meeting on March 6, 2013, Council passed resolution 0032-2013 directing staff to pursue the implementation of a Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program (the Rebate Program) and report back.
- Procedures for the Rebate Program and a draft by-law are attached to this report.

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BACKGROUND:

On March 6, 2013 Council approved resolution 0032-2013 which stated:

Recommendation GOV-0016-2013 to GOV-0018-2013 inclusive contained in the Governance Committee Report 3-2013 dated February 27, 2013 be approved save and except GOV-0017-2013 regarding the Election Rebate Program which was amended to direct staff to pursue option two and report back.

This report provides information regarding the detailed procedure, scope, structure and costs associated with the Rebate Program. The previous two reports presented to the Governance Committee regarding the Rebate Program are included as Appendices 1 and 2.

COMMENTS:

At Council's direction, rebates would be issued as follows:

Contribution Amount	Applicable Rebate
Less than \$100	Ineligible
\$100 up to \$750	50% of total contribution

The scope of the Rebate Program is outlined in Appendix 3. The draft By-law is attached as Appendix 4.

Through detailing the procedures and writing the draft implementing the By-law, the Elections Office has identified the following concerns that relate to the Rebate Program:

- The cost of administering the program cannot be accurately estimated as cost will depend on the number of Candidates and contributors that participate and the amount of contributions that are made.
- The City of Mississauga does not have the legislated right to conduct audits to determine if requests for rebates are legitimate. Rebates will be issued based on the information provided by Candidates and Contributors and the program in accordance with the requirements of the Rebate Program.
- If a rebate is found to be illegitimate, the City of Mississauga has no legislated disciplinary course of action.
- Based on information provided by other municipalities who have a Rebate Program it has been identified that it may not meet the

goals of Council to encourage more residents to contribute to Candidates and thereby somewhat relieve the financial burden on Candidates, and generate more resident interest in Municipal Elections and thereby increase voter turnout.

Given the uncertainty of the outcomes which will be achieved from the implementation of a Rebate Program, it is recommended that the Program be undertaken as a pilot program for the 2014 Municipal Election, and that Election staff review and report back to Governance Committee following the conclusion of the 2014 Rebate Program.

**FINANCIAL
IMPACT:**

The anticipated costs associated with the Rebate Program are as follows:

- \$400,000 in rebate payouts are estimated based on the following estimates: approximately 175 candidates participate in the program, each candidate having 15 contributors requesting a rebate for contributions made on an average of \$300 (initiating a payout of \$150 per contributor).
- Program administration cost estimated to be \$100,000 which includes one staff person for 18 months and postage and other material costs.

The estimated number of contributions and average contribution is based on an analysis of the 2010 Municipal Election. The number of candidates is predicted to be higher as this is the first Election in quite some time where there is no incumbent for Mayor. Funding for the Rebate Program will be included in the Election Budget.

This program will be funded from the Election Reserve Fund. Since this program requires an additional \$500,000 be drawn from the Reserve Fund, the annual election reserve contribution must be increased by \$125,000 starting from 2014. As a result of this change the annual election contribution level funded through the operating budget will be increased to \$625,000 from \$500,000.

Should the amount of the rebates paid out following the 2014 Municipal Election exceed the estimate, the annual contribution to the Election Reserve will have to be increased for future years.


CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the Rebate Program be implemented as a pilot

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2014 Municipal Election and payout of all rebates, staff will evaluate the effectiveness and financial impact of the pilot program and report back to Governance Committee.

- ATTACHMENTS:**
- Appendix 1: Corporate Report dated January 8, 2013 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services entitled Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program.
 - Appendix 2: Corporate Report dated February 21, 2013 from the Commissioner of Corporate Services entitled Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program.
 - Appendix 3: Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program Detailed Procedures.
 - Appendix 4: Draft Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program Implementing By-law.



Brenda R. Breault, CMA, MBA
Commissioner, Corporate Services and Treasurer

Prepared By: Pina Mancuso, Manager, Elections

Rebate Program Formulas

Municipality	Formula
Oakville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions less than \$100 = INELIGIBLE • Contributions over \$100: rebate = 50% of total contribution
Ajax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions less than \$25 = INELIGIBLE • Contributions \$25 - \$100: rebate = 75% of the total contribution • Contributions over \$100: rebate = \$75.00 + 50% of the difference between the total contribution and \$100 • Maximum rebate regardless of contribution = \$150
Toronto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions less than \$25 = INELIGIBLE • \$25 - \$300: rebate = 75% of the total contribution • \$301 - \$1000: rebate = \$225.00 + 50% of the difference between the contribution and \$300 • Contributions over \$1000: rebate = the lesser of \$575 + 33.3% of the difference between the total contribution and \$1000 • Maximum rebate = \$1000
Whitby	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as formula for Ajax
Markham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions less than \$50 = INELIGIBLE • Contributions \$50 - \$300 = 75% of total contribution • Contributions over \$300 = 75% of \$300 + 50% of the difference between the total contribution and \$300 (maximum rebate = \$350)
Vaughan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions less than \$50 = INELIGIBLE • Maximum rebate regardless of contribution = \$150 • Contributions over \$50 = 75% of total contribution

*Information regarding the above formulas is from the City of Ottawa

Eligibility Criteria

Eligible	Ineligible
Must be a City of Mississauga resident.	Contributions made by non-residents and contributions made by the candidate, candidate's spouse, siblings, grandparents, parents, children or grandchildren are ineligible to receive a rebate.
Contributions must be over \$100.00 but no more than \$750.00.	Contributions under \$100.00.
Candidates nominated for Council.	Candidates nominated for Trustee.
Candidates must sign their Nomination Form (EL01) indicating that they are enrolling in the Rebate Program.	Candidates who have opted out of the Rebate Program.
Monetary contributions given to an eligible Candidate during their campaign period.	Contributions of goods and services; contributions made by a corporation or trade union; proceeds of fundraisers.
Rebates will only be issued once the candidate files their financial statement (EL04) by the legislated deadline as stated in the MEA under section 77.	Contributions given to a Candidate who is in default.

Responsibilities**Candidate**

1. Must enroll in the program by signing their Nomination Form (EL01) indicating they wish to participate and will adhere to the set out guidelines.
2. Candidates must initial contribution receipts (EL08) confirming that the Candidate has communicated to the contributor whether or not they are participating in the Rebate Program.
3. All monetary contributions over \$100.00 must be recorded under Schedule 1 on the Candidate's Financial Statement (EL04) and information must include the Contributors name, qualifying address and mailing address.
4. All monetary contributions over \$100.00 must be also documented on the electronic template provided by the Clerk's Office with the Contributors name, qualifying address and mailing address and submitted at the time of filing the Candidate's Financial Statement (EL04).
5. At the time the Candidate files their Financial Statement (EL04), they must include the pink copies of the Receipt for Campaign Contributions (EL08), as well as the electronic template provided by the Clerk's Office for all contributions exceeding \$100.00.
6. A Financial Statement (EL04) must be submitted by the legislated date to the Office of the City Clerk as stated in Section 78 (1) of the MEA in order for their contributions to be eligible for rebates.
7. Candidates who are participating in the Rebate Program are required to use the prescribed Form (EL08, Receipt for Campaign Contributions) in order for their contributors to be eligible for rebates.

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Contributor

1. The request for rebate must be brought in person or submitted by mail to the Clerk's Office, or by email accompanied with a scanned copy of the receipt (EL08) by September 30, 2015 4:30pm.
2. Rebates will only be issued for those contributions made during the Candidate's campaign period.
3. Must provide qualifying address and mailing address to the Candidate and notify the Clerk's Office by mail, in person, or by email if any changes take place prior to receiving the rebate.

Election Office Administration

Elections Office Administration process:

1. Elections staff will prepare rebates only after a Candidate's Financial Statement (EL04) has been submitted in compliance with the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 (MEA) and only if the Clerk is satisfied that the rebate request was received during the Candidate's campaign period.
2. Election staff must confirm upon the filing of the Candidate's Nomination Form (EL04) whether or not they are participating in the program.
3. Elections staff will provide numbered receipts (batch of 25 will be provided upon filing and additional copies can be purchased for a sum); explain the importance of obtaining the required contributor information and filling out the electronic spreadsheet for all contributions over \$100.00.
4. Requests for rebate will be accepted in person at the Clerk's Office, by mail or by email accompanied with a scanned copy of the receipt (EL08).
5. Request for rebates will not be processed after September 30, 2015. All inquiries must be submitted before this deadline.



A BY- LAW TO ESTABLISH A MUNICIPAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION REBATE PROGRAM

WHEREAS section 82 (1) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as amended, (*MEA*), permits a municipality to enact a By-law, to provide for the payment of rebates to individuals, corporations, or trade unions who made contributions to candidates running for office on the municipal council;

AND WHEREAS section 82 (3) of the *MEA* states that the By- law or resolution shall establish the conditions under which an individual, corporation or trade union is entitled to a rebate;

AND WHEREAS section 82 (4) of the *MEA* states that the By- law or resolution may provide for the payment of different amounts to different individuals, corporations or trade unions, on any basis;

AND WHEREAS, on _____, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Mississauga (the "Council") approved the establishment of a City of Mississauga Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program (the "Rebate Program") that would pay rebates to individuals that made contributions to candidates running for office on the Municipal Council;

AND WHEREAS procedures and requirements must be established for the administration of the Rebate Program;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the City of Mississauga ENACTS as follows:

- (1) In this By- law,
 - (a) "City" means the Corporation of the City of Mississauga in the Regional Municipality of Peel;
 - (b) "The Rebate Program" means the Mississauga Municipal Election Campaign Contribution Rebate Program;
 - (c) "The Elections Office" means the section of the Office of the City Clerk that administers the Rebate Program.
 - (d) "The Clerk" means the City Clerk.
 - (e) "The Candidate" means a candidate running for office on Council.
 - (f) "The Contributor" means an individual who has contributed to a candidate's campaign in the 2014 Municipal Election and is eligible for a rebate as prescribed in this By- law.

By- Law _____

APPENDIX 4

- (2) A Rebate Program providing for the payment of rebates to individuals residing in the City, who make contributions to candidates running on Council, for the 2014 municipal election is hereby authorized.
- (3) The Council hereby establishes the qualifications and requirements for participation in the Rebate Program as described in Schedule "A" to this By- law.
- (4) The Council hereby establishes the administrative procedures as described in Scheduled "A" to this By- law as they relate to the Rebate Program.
- (5) The Council hereby establishes the responsibilities of the City, the Candidate and the Contributor insofar as they relate to the administration of, and participation in the Rebate Program.

ENACTED AND PASSED this day of 2013.

MAYOR

CLERK

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By- Law _____

APPENDIX 4

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY- LAW _____

**QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENROLMENT IN AND
ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES FOR THE MUNICIPAL
ELECTION CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION REBATE PROGRAM**

1. Enrolment in the Rebate Program

A Candidate running for municipal office in the 2014 City of Mississauga Municipal Election may, if they so choose, enrol in the Rebate Program whereby residents of the City of Mississauga that contribute to the Candidate's campaign will receive a rebate from the City of Mississauga (see Section 3, *Rebate Calculation*). To enrol in the Rebate Program, Candidates must sign their Nomination Form (EL01) in accordance with s.33 of the *Municipal Elections Act*, indicating that they wish to participate. (see Section 4, *Candidate/ Contributor Responsibilities*).

2. Eligibility

Eligibility for participation in the Rebate Program is as follows:

Eligible	Ineligible
Must be a Mississauga resident.	Contributions made by non- residents and contributions made by the Candidate, Candidate's spouse, siblings, grandparents, parents, children or grandchildren are ineligible to receive a rebate.
Contributions must be over \$100.00 but no more than \$750.00.	Contributions under \$100.00.
Candidates nominated for Council.	Candidates nominated for Trustee.
Candidates must sign their Nomination Form (EL01) indicating that they are enrolling in the Rebate Program.	Candidates who have opted out of the Rebate Program.
Monetary contributions given to an eligible Candidate during their campaign period.	Contributions of goods and services; contributions made by a corporation or trade union; proceeds of fundraisers.
Rebates will only be issued once the Candidate files their financial statement (EL04) by the legislated deadline as stated in the <i>MEA</i> under section 77.	Contributions given to a Candidate who is in default.

3. Rebate Calculation

Rebates shall be calculated as follows:

Contribution Amount	Applicable Rebate
Less than \$100	Ineligible
\$100 up to \$750	50% of total contribution

4. Candidate/ Contributor Responsibilities

The administrative procedures herein only apply to candidates who opt in to the Rebate Program. Participation in the Rebate Program is discretionary and any Candidate or Contributor participating in the program shall comply with the provisions set out in this by-law.

The responsibilities of the Candidate and Contributors for participation in the Rebate Program are as follows:

Candidates:

- (a) Must enroll in the program by signing their Nomination Form (EL01) indicating they wish to participate and will adhere to the set out guidelines.
- (b) Candidates must initial contribution receipts (EL08) confirming that the Candidate has communicated to the contributor whether or not they are participating in the Rebate Program.
- (c) All monetary contributions over \$100.00 must be recorded under Schedule 1 on the Candidate's Financial Statement (EL04) and information must include the Contributors qualifying address and mailing address.
- (d) All monetary contributions over \$100.00 must be also documented on the electronic template provided by the Clerk's Office with the qualifying address and mailing address and submitted upon filing the Candidate's Financial Statement (EL04).
- (e) At the time the Candidate files their Financial Statement (EL04), they must include the pink copies of the Receipt for Campaign Contributions (EL08), as well as the electronic template provided by the Clerk's Office for all contributions exceeding \$100.00.
- (f) A Financial Statement (EL04) must be submitted by the legislated date to the Office of the City Clerk as stated in Section 78 (1) of the MEA.
- (g) Candidates who are participating in the Rebate Program are required to use the prescribed Form (EL08, Receipt for Campaign Contributions) in order for their contributors to be eligible for a rebate.

Contributors:

- (a) The request for rebate must be brought in person or submitted by mail to the Clerk's Office, or by email accompanied with a scanned copy of the receipt (EL08) by September 30, 2015 4:30pm.
- (b) Rebates will only be issued for those contributions made during the Candidate's campaign period.
- (c) Must provide qualifying address and mailing address to the Candidate and notify the Clerk's Office by mail, in person or by email if any changes take place prior to receiving the rebate.

5. Election Office Administrative Practices

The Election Office Administration process for the Rebate Program is as follows:

- (a) Elections staff will prepare rebates only after a Candidate's Financial Statement (EL04) has been submitted in compliance with the MEA and only if the Clerk is satisfied that the rebate request was received during the Candidate's campaign period.
- (b) Election staff must confirm upon the filing of the Candidate's Nomination Form (EL04) whether or not they are participating in the program.
- (c) Elections staff will provide numbered receipts (batch of 25 will be provided upon filing and additional copies can be purchased for a sum); explain the importance of obtaining the required contributor information and filling out the electronic spreadsheet for all contributions over \$100.00.
- (d) Rebates will be processed only in person at the Clerk's Office, by mail or by email accompanied with a scanned copy of the receipt (EL08).
- (e) Request for rebates will not be processed after September 30, 2015. All inquiries must be submitted before this deadline.

Municipal Election Candidate Contribution Rebate Programs in Ontario

The following table outlines the scope and financial impact of Municipal Election Candidate Contribution Rebate Programs across Ontario for the 2014 Municipal Election.

	Ajax	Oakville	Ottawa	Markham	Toronto	Vaughan	Whitby
Electoral population in 2014	74,891	125,722	632,385	195,805	1,813,915	190,724	87,406
Criteria for contributor to qualify for contribution rebate	Ajax voter	Oakville voter & resident	Ontario resident	Ontario resident	Ontario resident	Vaughan voter & resident	Whitby voter
Corporation or trade union eligible	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Contributor must apply for contribution rebate directly to the municipality	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Cut off date to apply for contribution rebate	12 noon Dec. 1 the year following an election	90 days after financial filing deadline	4:30 pm on the 90th day after the last financial filing deadline	Not applicable	December 31 the year following an election	December 31 the year following an election	Not applicable
Timeframe for a contribution to be made & qualify for a contribution rebate	Between candidate's nomination filing and Voting Day	Between candidate's nomination filing and final financial filing	Between candidate's nomination filing and supplementary period, if applicable	No restriction	Between candidate's nomination filing and supplementary period, if applicable	Between candidate's nomination filing and supplementary period, if applicable	Between candidate's nomination filing and Voting Day
Program excludes candidate, spouse or children of candidate	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Audited statement required	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Formula used to calculate contribution rebate	75%	50%	See below	See below	See below	75%	25%
Minimum contribution eligible for a contribution rebate	\$50	\$100	\$25.01	\$50	\$25	\$50	\$25
Maximum allowable contribution rebate	\$200	\$375	\$75	\$350	\$1000	\$150	\$150
Number of contribution rebates issued*	89	263	2,166	2,781	16,543	341	43
Total contribution rebates issued*	\$12,266	\$40,402.65	\$105,185	\$546,363	\$4,005,376	\$48,615	\$3,750
CCRP cost per elector* (Total contribution rebates issued / Electoral population)	\$0.16	\$0.32	\$0.17	\$2.79	\$2.20	\$0.26	\$0.04
Number of candidates eligible to use Program	21	46	148	51	423	31	35
Number of candidates that used Program	10 (48%)	22 (48%)	117 (79%)	44 (86%)	181 (43%)	28 (90%)	12 (34%)
Number of candidates elected who used Program	4 of 7	11 of 13	24 of 24	12 of 13	45 of 45	9 of 9	5 of 8

* These numbers are as of April 2016.

Ottawa Formula:

- Contribution between \$25.01 and \$100, rebate is 50% of the contribution
- Contribution between \$100.01 and \$200, rebate is \$50 plus 25% of the amount by which the contribution exceeds \$100

Markham Formula:

- Contribution between \$50 and \$300, rebate is contribution x 75%
- Contribution between \$301 and \$550, rebate is \$225 + 50% of contribution between \$300 and \$550

Toronto Formula:

- Total contributions between \$25 and \$300, rebate is contribution x 75%
- Total contributions over \$300 but not more than \$1,000, rebate is contribution - \$300 x 50% + \$225
- Total contributions more than \$1,000, rebate is contribution - \$1,000 x 33 1/3% + \$575