



# Staff Report

## Administration – Town Clerk

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**Report To:** Committee of the Whole  
**Meeting Date:** August 24, 2021  
**Report Number:** FAF.21.127  
**Title:** 2022 Municipal Election, Selection of Method of Voting  
**Prepared by:** Corrina Giles, Town Clerk

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### A. Recommendations

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THAT Council receive Staff Report FAF.21.127, entitled “2022 Municipal Election, Selection of Method of Voting”;

AND THAT Council direct that Electronic Voting – Internet and Telephone Voting, be approved as the voting method for the 2022 Municipal and School Board Election, and direct staff to provide a by-law to a future meeting of Council for enactment.

### B. Overview

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This staff report is seeking Council direction on the preferred method of voting for the 2022 Municipal Election.

### C. Background

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This staff report is provided further to Staff Report [FAF.21.042 "2022 Municipal Election - Alternative Voting Method & Use of Vote Counting Equipment"](#) wherein Council directed staff to complete a survey to receive input from the public as to the preferred method of voting for the 2022 Municipal Election.

### D. Analysis

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The *Municipal Elections Act* permits municipalities to make use of alternative voting methods and vote-counting equipment such as voting machines, voting recorders or optical scanning vote tabulators for Municipal and School Board elections. Council is required to pass a by-law by May 1, 2022 setting the method and manner of voting, it being noted that a hybrid voting method is also an option available to Council.

The survey to receive input from the public on the preferred method of voting was open from May 3, 2021 to June 1, 2021. Attachment #1 is the “2022 Municipal Election – Voting Methods, Survey Response Report”, noting 322 responses. In response to the question asking for a

ranking of the preferred method of voting, it is noted that the preferred method of voting is Electronic Voting, with the options listed below in ranked order:

1. Electronic Voting (Online)
2. Vote by Mail
3. In Person (Paper Ballot)
4. Telephone Voting

The survey also included the following questions, and a summary of the responses received are listed below:

**Q6 “Are there any barriers preventing you from voting in the 2022 Election”.**

- travel plans
- COVID or pandemic
- work commitments (shift work)
- unreliable internet
- accessibility (mobility)

**Q7 “Please provide any additional comments regarding your preferred methods of voting”**

- Due to COVID pandemic, electronic voting is preferred
- Provide multiple options to allow electors to vote if unable to attend in person
- The cost of paper ballots, printing, waste of paper
- Provide several advance voting dates
- Electronic is quick and easy, provides a quick tally
- Request stronger guarantees and stronger contractual penalties if doing electronic voting
- Vote by mail is too costly, prefer to drop the ballot off
- Telephone was convenient because of mobility
- Too many options to vote will increase the cost
- Need early and good education public information process to advise electors
- The opportunity for connection at the Town Hall and Community Centres is imperative to our communities to be able to see and talk to staff, and present ourselves in person is a constitutional right.
- In person increases travel time and environmental impacts, more staffing required

Based on the comments received through the election survey, and the comments of Council, staff are recommending a “hybrid” voting method to provide more than one method of voting, similar to that offered in the 2018 Municipal and School Board election, being electronic and telephone.

Staff believe that electronic and telephone voting satisfies any concerns of the public and staff relating to the current or any future pandemic as it reduces the number of staff required to conduct the election, reduces touchpoints between electors and staff, and reduces the number of in-person interactions between the public and staff.

In the 2018 election, electors had the option to vote by telephone, electronically, or in person at the Town Hall during the advance voting period when the Town Hall was open during normal office hours, or during specific extended periods. Allowing electors to vote in the Town Hall satisfied the need or wish of those that preferred to vote in person, and/or required assistance to be able to vote electronically or by telephone. Allowing electors to vote electronically or by telephone also allowed those that were not on the voters list or had misplaced their voter kit, an opportunity to be added to the voters list, and be able to vote. Staff confirm that numerous calls were received in the days leading up to the election, and also on election day, from those that had misplaced their voter kit, or were not on the voters list, and were unable to attend the Town Hall to obtain a replacement voter kit. Subject to the process established by the Clerk's office, these electors were able to receive their voter kit electronically, and allowed them to vote.

### **Changes to the *Municipal Elections Act***

[Bill 218](#), an Act to enact the Supporting Ontario's Recovery Act, 2020 to amend the *Municipal Elections Act, 2020* received Royal Assent November 20, 2020 and made a number of changes to the *Municipal Elections Act*, including the date on which a by-law is required to be passed to establish the method voting. The changes to the *Municipal Elections Act*, effected by Bill 218 are noted below:

1. Deadline to pass a by-law setting the method and manner of voting is now May 1 in the year of the municipal election (May 1, 2022).  
NOTE: the 2018 municipal election deadline was May 1 in the year prior to the municipal election (May 1, 2017).
2. Deadline to publish election procedures is moved to June 1 in the year of the election (June 1, 2022).  
NOTE: the 2018 municipal election deadline was December 31 in the year prior to the election (December 31, 2017)
3. Nomination Day is now the third Friday in August (August 19, 2022)  
NOTE: Nomination Day in the 2018 municipal election was the fourth Friday in July (
4. Removal of the option for ranked ballot voting

### **Question on the Ballot**

Council requested information regarding the inclusion of a question on the ballot. The *Municipal Elections Act* states that Council of a municipality may pass a by-law to submit a question to the electors by March 1 in the year of the election, subject to a specific process as outlined in the *Municipal Elections Act*. The results of a question authorized by by-law are binding upon the municipality if at least 50% of the eligible electors have voted on the question, and if more than 50% of the votes on the question are in favour of those results.

The relevant sections of the *Municipal Elections Act* are provided below for reference:

**Submission of by-laws and questions**

- 8(1)** The council of a municipality may pass a by-law to submit to its electors,
- (a) a proposed by-law requiring their assent;
  - (b) subject to section 8.1, a question not otherwise authorized by law but within the council's jurisdiction;
  - (c) subject to section 8.1, a question, the wording of which is established by an Act or a regulation under an Act.

**Notice to electors**

**Conditions re: submitting a question**

- 8.1(1)**A by-law to submit a question to the electors under clause 8 (1) (b) or (c),
- (a) shall be passed on or before March 1 in the year of a regular election at which it is intended to submit the question to the electors;
  - (b) cannot be amended after the last date referred to in clause (a); and
  - (c) despite clause (b), can be revoked on or before nomination day and, if the election does not include an election for an office, on or before the 31st day before voting day.

**8.1(2)** A question authorized by by-law under clause 8 (1) (b) shall comply with the following rules:

1. It shall concern a matter within the jurisdiction of the municipality.
2. Despite rule 1, it shall not concern a matter which has been prescribed by the Minister as a matter of provincial interest.
3. It shall be clear, concise and neutral.
4. It shall be capable of being answered in the affirmative or the negative and the only permitted answers to the question are "yes" or "no".

**Notice of intent**

- (3) Before passing a by-law under clause 8 (1) (b) or (c), the clerk shall give at least 10 days notice of the intention to pass the by-law to the public and the Minister and hold at least one public meeting to consider the matter.

**Notice of by-law**

- (4) Within 15 days after a municipality passes a by-law under clause 8 (1) (b) or (c), the clerk shall give notice of the passage of the by-law to the public and the Minister.

**Contents**

- (5) A notice under subsections (3) and (4) shall include,
  - (a) the wording of the question;

- (b) in the case of a by-law under clause 8 (1) (b), a clear, concise and neutral description of the consequences of the question if it is approved and the consequences if it is rejected with the special majority under section 8.2, including an estimate of the costs, if any, that the municipality may incur in implementing the results of the question; and
- (c) in the case of a by-law under clause 8 (1) (b), a description of the right to appeal under subsection (6) including, in the case of a notice under subsection (4), the last day for filing a notice of appeal.

### **Results**

**8.2 (1)** The results of a question authorized by a by-law under clause 8 (1) (b) are binding on the municipality which passed the by-law if,

- (a) at least 50 per cent of the eligible electors in the municipality vote on the question; and
- (b) more than 50 per cent of the votes on the question are in favour of those results.

## **E. Strategic Priorities**

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### **1. Communication and Engagement**

We will enhance communications and engagement between Town Staff, Town residents and stakeholders

### **2. Organizational Excellence**

We will continually seek out ways to improve the internal organization of Town Staff and the management of Town assets.

### **4. Quality of Life**

We will foster a high quality of life for full-time and part-time residents of all ages and stages, while welcoming visitors.

## **F. Environmental Impacts**

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None

## **G. Financial Impacts**

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The method(s) of voting will result in a financial impact to the municipality. Council budgeted \$62,000 for the 2018 Municipal and School Board election. Currently there is \$53,000 in the Council Reserve for the 2022 Municipal and School Board election, and \$20,000 will be added in 2022 for a total of \$73,000.

## **H. In Consultation With**

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Shawn Everitt, CAO

Ruth Prince, Director of Finance & IT Services

Sam Dinsmore, Deputy Treasurer, Manager of Accounting and Budgets

## **I. Public Engagement**

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The topic of this Staff Report has not been the subject of a Public Meeting and/or a Public Information Centre as neither a Public Meeting nor a Public Information Centre are required. This Staff Report is in response to a survey conducted to receive input on the preferred method of voting for the 2022 Municipal and School Board election.

Comments or questions regarding this report should be submitted to Corrina Giles, Town Clerk [townclerk@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:townclerk@thebluemountains.ca).

## **J. Attached**

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1. Attachment 1, "Municipal Election Voting Method Survey Report"

Respectfully submitted,

Corrina Giles  
Town Clerk

Shawn Everitt  
Chief Administrative Officer

For more information, please contact:  
Corrina Giles, Town Clerk  
[townclerk@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:townclerk@thebluemountains.ca)  
519-599-3131 extension 232

### Report Approval Details

Document Title:	FAF.21.127 2022 Municipal Election, Selection of Method of Voting.docx
Attachments:	- Att 1 Municipal Election Voting Method Survey Report.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Aug 17, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

**Shawn Everitt - Aug 17, 2021 - 11:26 AM**

# 2022 Municipal Election - Voting Methods

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## **SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT**

03 May 2021 01 June 2021

### **PROJECT NAME:**

2022 Municipal Election Voting Method Survey

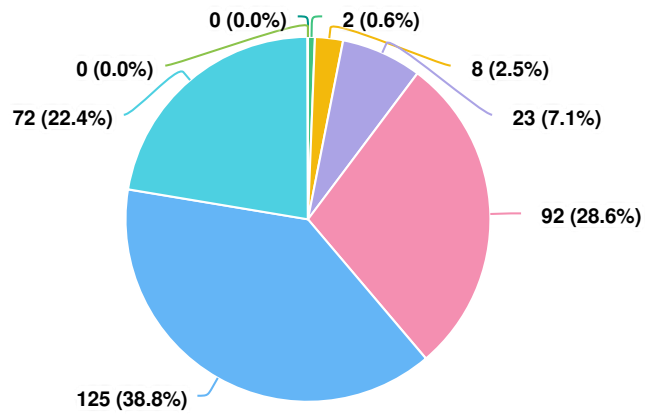


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# SURVEY QUESTIONS

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Q1 Which age group are you in?



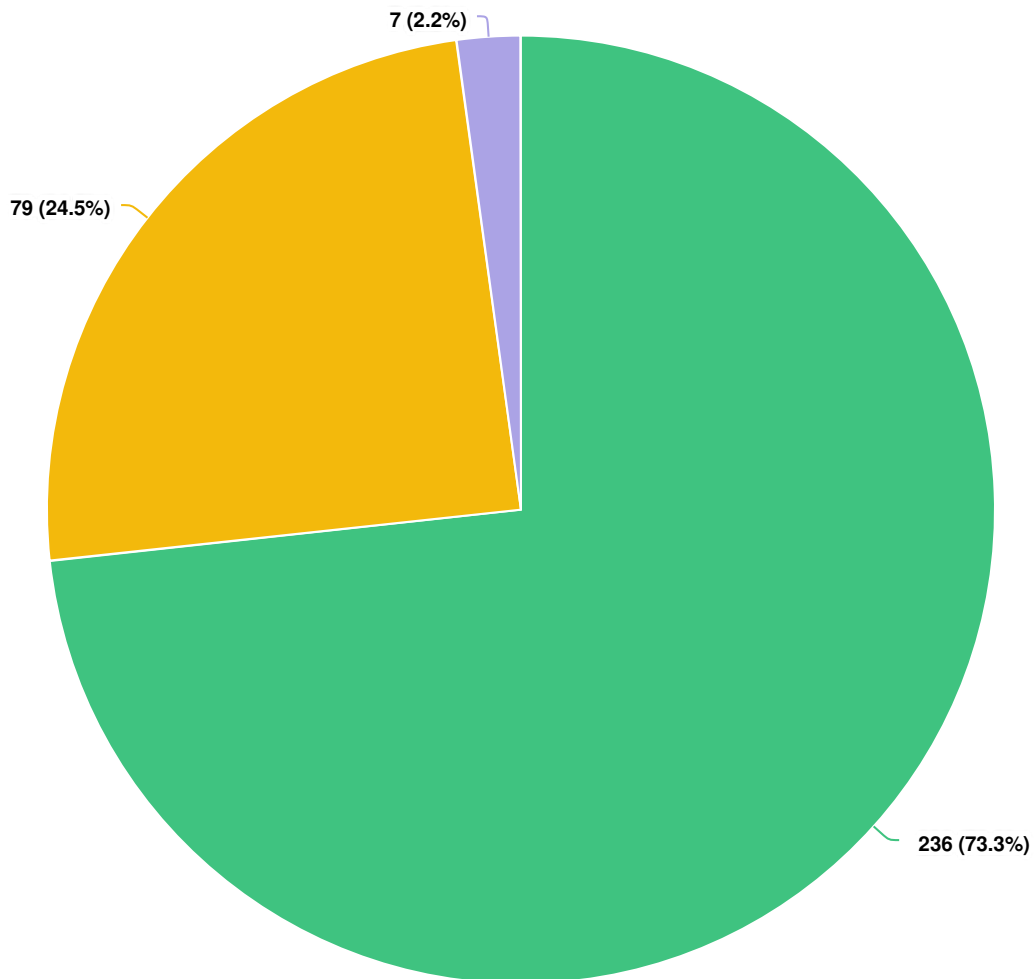
Question options

- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65-74
- 75+
- Under 18
- 18-24

Mandatory Question (322 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q2 | Did you vote in the Town of The Blue Mountains 2018 Municipal and School Board Election?**

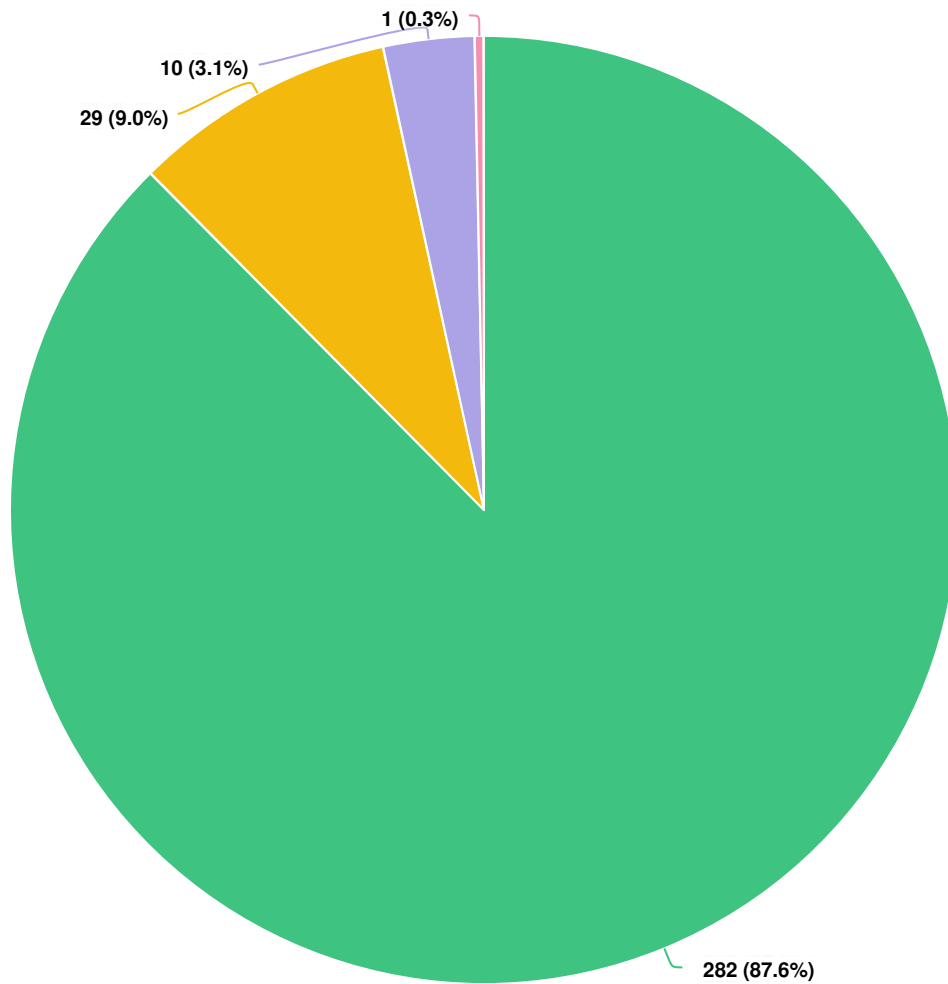


**Question options**

- Yes
- No
- Prefer Not to Answer

Mandatory Question (322 response(s))  
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q3 What type of resident do you consider yourself?

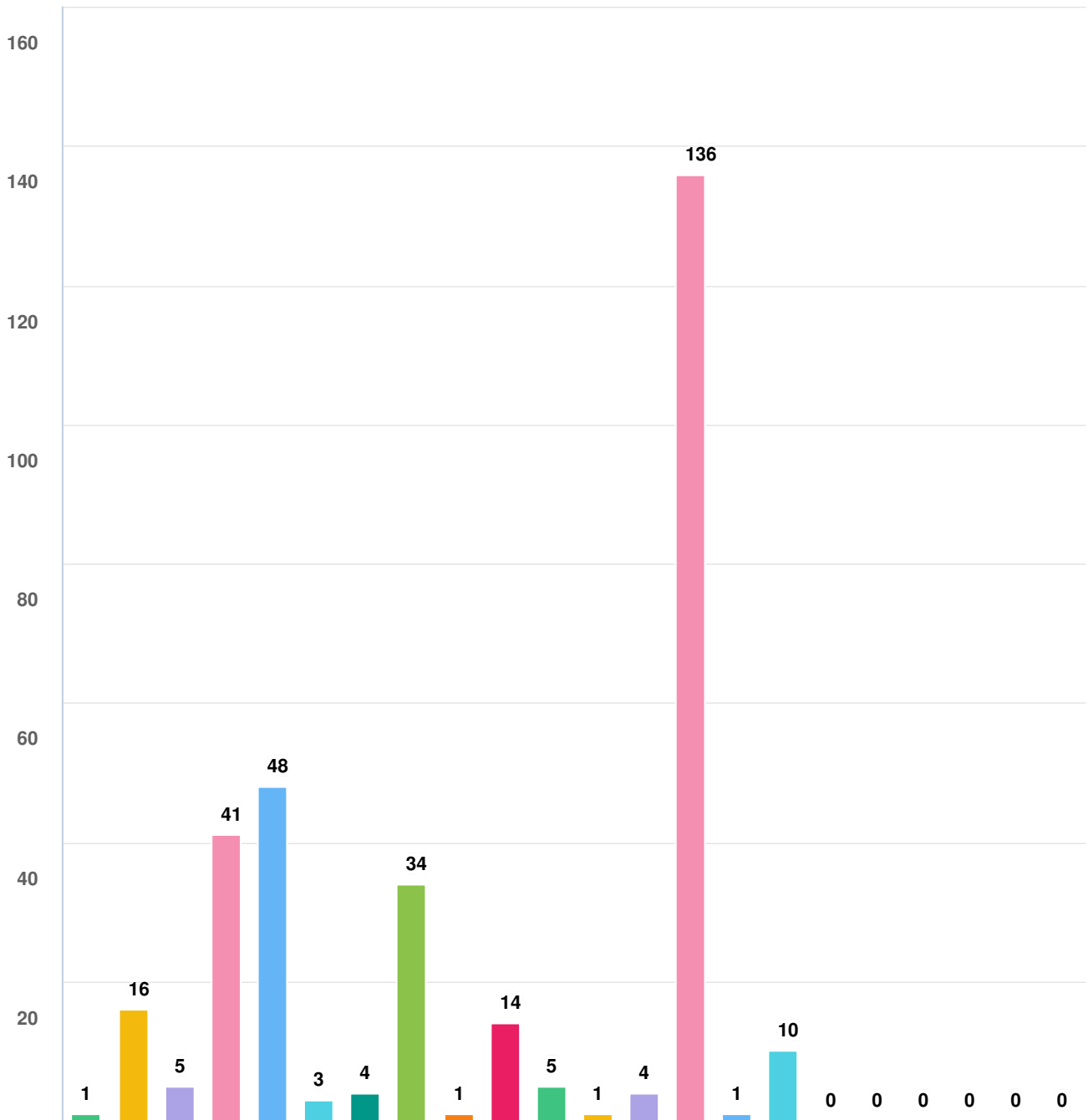


**Question options**

- Full-Time, Year Round
- Part-time, 6 Months – 11 Months
- Seasonal, 6 Months or Less
- I do not live in The Blue Mountains

Mandatory Question (322 response(s))  
Question type: Radio Button Question

**Q4** Where is your property located in the Town of The Blue Mountains?



**Question options**

- Banks    ● Blue Mountain Village    ● Camperdown    ● Clarksburg    ● Craigleith    ● Gibraltar    ● Heathcote
- Lora Bay    ● Loree    ● Ravenna    ● Red Wing    ● Sandhill    ● Swiss Meadows    ● Thornbury
- Victoria Corners    ● Other (please specify)    ● Castle Glen    ● Egypt    ● Kolapore    ● Osler    ● Slabtown
- I do not live in The Blue Mountains

Mandatory Question (322 response(s))

Question type: Checkbox Question

**Q5** Please rank your preference for the following methods of voting with 1 being your more preferred choice, and 4 being your least preferred choice

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
Electronic Voting (Online)	1.34
Vote By Mail	2.76
In Person (Paper Ballot)	2.83
Telephone Voting	3.07

*Mandatory Question (322 response(s))*  
*Question type: Ranking Question*

**Q6** Are there any barriers preventing you from voting in the 2022 Election?

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Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 01:32 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 01:35 PM	No.
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 01:35 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 01:42 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 01:45 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 01:47 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 01:50 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 02:10 PM	None
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 02:16 PM	Travel may be an issue
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 02:23 PM	Covid
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 02:30 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 02:31 PM	may be out of town as a snowbird
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 02:33 PM	Covid
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 02:50 PM	No barriers
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 02:53 PM	Not at this time

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Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 02:54 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 03:04 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 03:16 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 03:26 PM	COVID-19 or similar pandemic concerns
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 03:36 PM	No.
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 03:49 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 04:06 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 04:08 PM	NO
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 04:14 PM	Covid or travelling
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 05:01 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 05:05 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 05:15 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 05:42 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 06:17 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 06:21 PM	No

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Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 06:55 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 07:05 PM	Not if I am still on the right side of the grass
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 09:42 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/06/2021 01:23 AM	No, as long as I can do it when I am not present (electronic/mail)
Screen Name Redacted 5/06/2021 08:40 AM	None that I am aware of at the moment
Screen Name Redacted 5/06/2021 12:19 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/06/2021 12:33 PM	No -- only geographical for in-person voting.
Screen Name Redacted 5/06/2021 02:34 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/06/2021 06:59 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 07:52 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 08:09 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 09:27 AM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 10:49 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 11:04 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 12:55 PM	No

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Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 01:51 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 06:17 PM	None
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 06:26 PM	No barriers, voting online was easy last election
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 07:57 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/08/2021 08:04 AM	NO
Screen Name Redacted 5/08/2021 10:25 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/08/2021 10:26 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/08/2021 10:27 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/08/2021 10:33 AM	NO, I would have no barriers with any of the four options
Screen Name Redacted 5/08/2021 01:26 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/08/2021 09:45 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/09/2021 07:21 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/09/2021 10:22 AM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/09/2021 12:22 PM	No.
Screen Name Redacted 5/09/2021 04:04 PM	No

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Screen Name Redacted	NO
5/10/2021 11:40 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/10/2021 03:12 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	none
5/10/2021 07:01 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	None
5/11/2021 08:14 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 09:41 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 09:42 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 09:44 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 10:21 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 11:19 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No barriers whatsoever, my wi-fi is working well
5/11/2021 12:04 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	I may not be in town.
5/11/2021 12:09 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/11/2021 12:26 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 12:46 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/11/2021 12:54 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 01:50 PM	

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5/11/2021 01:53 PM	area
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 02:21 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 02:50 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 03:15 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No barriers
5/11/2021 03:30 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No barriers
5/11/2021 03:38 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/11/2021 03:46 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 03:46 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 04:24 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 07:58 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/11/2021 08:14 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	Shift worker
5/11/2021 08:32 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	I commute an hour and leave early and arrive home late making some voting times unavailable to me.
5/11/2021 09:25 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/12/2021 06:27 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No. Internet is unstable so it may be unreliable
5/12/2021 09:29 AM	

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Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 09:44 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 10:30 AM	NO
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 10:42 AM	N/A covid
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 10:42 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 10:46 AM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 11:09 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 11:42 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 12:30 PM	I may not be in Ontario when the election happens.
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 01:16 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 01:18 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 02:34 PM	None
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 03:58 PM	COVID 19 restrictions
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 04:09 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 04:17 PM	Covid-19
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 05:15 PM	NONE

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Screen Name Redacted	No
5/12/2021 05:30 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/12/2021 06:15 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/12/2021 06:56 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/12/2021 07:21 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No.
5/12/2021 07:24 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/13/2021 03:06 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	NO
5/13/2021 07:25 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/13/2021 08:19 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/13/2021 08:23 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	Only if one must vote in person
5/13/2021 09:43 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No, not at this time.
5/13/2021 10:01 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	None
5/13/2021 10:17 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/13/2021 11:07 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/13/2021 01:18 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	None
5/13/2021 01:37 PM	

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Screen Name Redacted	no
5/13/2021 01:56 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	NO
5/13/2021 02:00 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	none
5/13/2021 05:44 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	None
5/13/2021 07:07 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	None
5/14/2021 08:32 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/14/2021 08:36 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/14/2021 09:59 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	NO. I really do not care what method is used as we will make the effort to vote.
5/14/2021 11:57 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/14/2021 12:08 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/14/2021 12:13 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	Only barrier would be the inconvenience of voting in person as we are not usually staying at our chalet at that time of year.
5/14/2021 12:22 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/14/2021 12:52 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	None
5/14/2021 12:54 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/14/2021 01:03 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No

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5/14/2021 03:19 PM

Screen Name Redacted No, unless we go away

5/14/2021 03:33 PM

Screen Name Redacted No

5/14/2021 03:59 PM

Screen Name Redacted no

5/14/2021 05:28 PM

Screen Name Redacted Covid times would make me not interested voting in person.

5/14/2021 05:57 PM

Screen Name Redacted No

5/14/2021 06:01 PM

Screen Name Redacted None

5/14/2021 06:10 PM

Screen Name Redacted no

5/14/2021 09:45 PM

Screen Name Redacted no

5/15/2021 08:46 AM

Screen Name Redacted no

5/15/2021 10:04 AM

Screen Name Redacted No

5/16/2021 09:51 AM

Screen Name Redacted No

5/16/2021 10:04 AM

Screen Name Redacted none

5/16/2021 10:28 AM

Screen Name Redacted No

5/16/2021 01:32 PM

Screen Name Redacted no

5/16/2021 08:22 PM

Screen Name Redacted No

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5/17/2021 10:04 AM

Screen Name Redacted No

5/17/2021 01:18 PM

Screen Name Redacted No

5/17/2021 01:40 PM

Screen Name Redacted No

5/17/2021 02:04 PM

Screen Name Redacted No - not at this time and hopefully  
5/17/2021 04:58 PM not in the Fall of 2022

Screen Name Redacted None

5/17/2021 06:08 PM

Screen Name Redacted No barriers at present

5/17/2021 08:40 PM

Screen Name Redacted Not that I am aware of currently.

5/18/2021 06:39 AM

Screen Name Redacted NO

5/18/2021 09:19 AM

Screen Name Redacted No

5/18/2021 10:09 AM

Screen Name Redacted None, unless Covid-19 variants are  
5/18/2021 10:48 AM problematic.

Screen Name Redacted Yes. Travel commitments ( after  
5/18/2021 11:48 AM Covid restrictions ) make in person  
voting difficult at times. Online is  
preferred method.

Screen Name Redacted No

5/18/2021 11:56 AM

Screen Name Redacted None

5/18/2021 12:11 PM

Screen Name Redacted None

5/18/2021 01:44 PM

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Screen Name Redacted 5/18/2021 01:57 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/18/2021 03:04 PM	none
Screen Name Redacted 5/18/2021 05:18 PM	Not at this time.
Screen Name Redacted 5/18/2021 05:20 PM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/18/2021 06:03 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/18/2021 06:29 PM	may be away on vacation
Screen Name Redacted 5/18/2021 06:51 PM	Mobility impairment
Screen Name Redacted 5/18/2021 07:16 PM	as long as I'm here on that date, if not online
Screen Name Redacted 5/18/2021 10:02 PM	No, thanks for asking.
Screen Name Redacted 5/19/2021 08:40 AM	Not that I know of.
Screen Name Redacted 5/19/2021 09:17 AM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/19/2021 10:12 AM	physical condition to travel
Screen Name Redacted 5/19/2021 10:55 AM	No, as long as Covid is over by then
Screen Name Redacted 5/19/2021 11:55 AM	None
Screen Name Redacted 5/19/2021 02:05 PM	i believe voting should be done in person or by mail only with proof of residency

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Screen Name Redacted	no
5/19/2021 02:17 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/20/2021 08:45 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/20/2021 08:59 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No.
5/20/2021 09:14 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/20/2021 09:51 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/20/2021 01:15 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/20/2021 01:46 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	none
5/20/2021 01:58 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No barriers
5/20/2021 01:59 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/20/2021 03:13 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	NO
5/20/2021 04:05 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/20/2021 06:44 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/20/2021 11:11 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/21/2021 07:24 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	None
5/21/2021 08:40 AM	

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Screen Name Redacted	none
5/21/2021 10:36 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/21/2021 12:22 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/21/2021 02:22 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/21/2021 02:28 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/21/2021 03:37 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/21/2021 10:00 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	Need a cane to walk.
5/22/2021 08:56 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/22/2021 09:51 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/22/2021 11:03 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	NO
5/22/2021 12:07 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/22/2021 12:30 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/22/2021 04:00 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/23/2021 10:17 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/23/2021 11:53 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/23/2021 12:54 PM	

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Screen Name Redacted 5/23/2021 02:45 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/23/2021 10:04 PM	Covid potentially
Screen Name Redacted 5/24/2021 09:59 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/24/2021 10:05 AM	no
Screen Name Redacted 5/24/2021 01:03 PM	none
Screen Name Redacted 5/24/2021 06:38 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/24/2021 07:26 PM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/25/2021 01:11 PM	Having to open an account to do this survey was a considerable barrier. No barrier should apply to be able to vote.
Screen Name Redacted 5/25/2021 01:58 PM	None
Screen Name Redacted 5/26/2021 08:47 AM	No.
Screen Name Redacted 5/26/2021 08:53 AM	None.
Screen Name Redacted 5/26/2021 08:55 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/26/2021 09:24 AM	No
Screen Name Redacted 5/26/2021 11:28 AM	I am disabled, I cannot drive, it's a big issue in my town.
Screen Name Redacted 5/26/2021 12:13 PM	no

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Screen Name Redacted	no
5/26/2021 12:43 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/26/2021 02:25 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	None
5/26/2021 07:58 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/27/2021 10:41 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/27/2021 11:04 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/27/2021 05:07 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/27/2021 05:37 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/27/2021 08:27 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	none
5/27/2021 08:53 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No
5/28/2021 10:43 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	no
5/28/2021 11:03 AM	
Screen Name Redacted	No barriers.
5/28/2021 12:52 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	NO
5/28/2021 01:53 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	Access to voting (my own mobility)
5/28/2021 02:33 PM	
Screen Name Redacted	No !
5/28/2021 03:16 PM	

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Screen Name Redacted  
5/28/2021 10:44 PM

It depends on the date as I am a Snowbird and am out of the country in the winter.

Screen Name Redacted  
5/29/2021 09:13 AM

no

Screen Name Redacted  
5/30/2021 08:49 PM

No

Screen Name Redacted  
5/31/2021 07:50 AM

no

Screen Name Redacted  
5/31/2021 10:27 PM

No

**Optional question** (244 response(s), 78 skipped)

**Question type:** Essay Question

#### Q7 | Please provide any additional comments regarding your preferred methods of voting

Screen Name Redacted  
5/05/2021 01:36 PM

Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic I feel that electronic voting is the preferred method of voting

Screen Name Redacted  
5/05/2021 02:10 PM

Voting options needs to reflect the modern age. Paper ballots and walking into a voting station should be one option, on line another to give voters options.

Screen Name Redacted  
5/05/2021 02:22 PM

How about the ward system. It would certainly give better representation for the electorate

Screen Name Redacted  
5/05/2021 02:23 PM

I will be very disappointed if paper ballots return due to the cost of printing, the waste of paper etc.

Screen Name Redacted  
5/05/2021 02:53 PM

Keep it simple

Screen Name Redacted  
5/05/2021 02:54 PM

I only trust in person voting!

Screen Name Redacted

after more than a year of doing

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	backwards and inconvenience people. Having more than one method to vote is good.
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 04:06 PM	We must keep paper cash and paper ballots as part of our democracy for security and rights considerations.
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 04:08 PM	If we are travelling (IF), we would prefer to vote electronically.
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 04:14 PM	Would prefer several advance voting dates in the event that the voting day conflicts with other matters.
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 05:15 PM	none
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 06:17 PM	Electronic is quick, easy and provides a quick tally.
Screen Name Redacted 5/05/2021 06:21 PM	N/A
Screen Name Redacted 5/06/2021 01:23 AM	Electronic (digital) voting is the way things are and need to go, especially under Covid. It is the cheapest once setup and it will get the highest turnout which is what voting systems need to strive for.
Screen Name Redacted 5/06/2021 12:19 PM	Mail us an election form which includes a link to vote online, a phone number to vote by phone, or an address to send the ballot to. Assign an identifier to each ballot so you cannot vote more than once.
Screen Name Redacted 5/06/2021 12:33 PM	Electronic voting is much easier for us as, along with our Thornbury base, we have a workplaces in Toronto and Port Perry where we must spend significant time.
Screen Name Redacted 5/06/2021 06:59 PM	To avoid fraud you must insist on voter identification with photo and do ballots in person. everyone who cares WILL come out to vote.

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Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 09:27 AM	in person
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 10:49 AM	Na
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 11:04 AM	If electronic voting continues, ask the system provider for stronger guarantees, stronger contractual penalties.
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 12:55 PM	None
Screen Name Redacted 5/07/2021 07:57 PM	would like another all candidates meeting - last one was AWESOME
Screen Name Redacted 5/08/2021 10:33 AM	Preference for electronic voting assumes this would be a secure method.
Screen Name Redacted 5/08/2021 01:26 PM	Online voting is wonderful; just make sure that whatever company and system chosen is up to the job. TOBM is fairly small, so there should be NO hiccups online. No excuses are acceptable.
Screen Name Redacted 5/08/2021 09:45 PM	n/a
Screen Name Redacted 5/09/2021 10:22 AM	Easy to participate if not at home for some reason or weather is bad.
Screen Name Redacted 5/09/2021 12:22 PM	Electronic Voting and/or Telephone Voting allow me to participate in the election even if I am temporarily away from The Blue Mountains.
Screen Name Redacted 5/09/2021 04:04 PM	In person is always the best, but for some I understand they need an alternative, so then on line.
Screen Name Redacted 5/10/2021 11:40 AM	Voting on line should be done with a secure website that protects confidential information.
Screen Name Redacted 5/10/2021 07:01 PM	I want a method that allows me to vote on my schedule, within a given

	wind of time. Internet, mail, or ballot drop-off.
Screen Name Redacted 5/11/2021 09:44 AM	I believe that with electronic and mail in or telephone options many of our seniors will be more inclined to vote. It is important to raise the number of voters in a municipal election and anything making it easier can only make the numbers better.
Screen Name Redacted 5/11/2021 12:04 PM	Online is the absolute best method of voting. Just relax at your computer sipping on a coffee and tapping the right keys
Screen Name Redacted 5/11/2021 02:21 PM	Easy is best!
Screen Name Redacted 5/11/2021 02:50 PM	On-line is convenient.
Screen Name Redacted 5/11/2021 03:15 PM	Considering the pandemic, we must choose the safest method.
Screen Name Redacted 5/11/2021 03:46 PM	xx
Screen Name Redacted 5/11/2021 03:50 PM	Mail voting too costly all other methods acceptable
Screen Name Redacted 5/11/2021 07:58 PM	Mail is too slow and insecure and phone reception can be problematic especially with land lines becoming less popular. On line if secure, is a viable option as is the old fashioned way.
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 06:27 AM	no other
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 09:44 AM	Multiple methods as planned with yield the highest participation rate. Good for democracy.
Screen Name Redacted 5/12/2021 10:30 AM	Both in person and online could and should be available
Screen Name Redacted	none

5/12/2021 10:46 AM

Screen Name Redacted

I believe in the democratic process. Security is the first concern, if that is not met, then the process is compromised. After security, access to all eligible voters is the priority.

5/12/2021 11:09 AM

Screen Name Redacted

Electronic voting is most convenient. Security however must be maintained.

5/12/2021 11:42 AM

Screen Name Redacted

Online is fast easy and you don't have to leave your home.

5/12/2021 02:34 PM

Screen Name Redacted

Prefer on line. Have found it secure in past in another location. What if the pandemic is still active in 2022, another reason for online.

5/12/2021 04:09 PM

Screen Name Redacted

Easier certainly in covid time

5/12/2021 06:56 PM

Screen Name Redacted

All are good but online preferred:)

5/12/2021 07:21 PM

Screen Name Redacted

On line voting as long as it is 100% secure

5/13/2021 07:25 AM

Screen Name Redacted

Would like more sources of information on candidates.

5/13/2021 09:43 AM

Screen Name Redacted

Because on on-going COVID concerns, I believe that in-person voting should be the last option at this time.

5/13/2021 10:01 AM

Screen Name Redacted

If the candidate doesn't consider environmental protection, I don't vote for them period!

5/13/2021 10:17 AM

Screen Name Redacted

easy and convenient, I am happy with the on-line security explained by the vendor

5/13/2021 01:18 PM

Screen Name Redacted

Electronically is the safest way to vote during covid or safest and most convenient when no- covid

5/13/2021 01:19 PM

Screen Name Redacted

Would have given in-person,

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	preference. need to keep up with the technology and the times. Electronic Only. The more options, the more expensive it becomes.
Screen Name Redacted 5/13/2021 01:56 PM	It is a great time saver to do this from home, with no contact.
Screen Name Redacted 5/13/2021 05:01 PM	All four should be available but I will use online voting is my go to!
Screen Name Redacted 5/13/2021 05:44 PM	If I were voting by Mail, I would want to have a place that one could drop the vote into to make me feel 'safe' that it will get to you. Canada Post is no longer considered 100% guaranteed in my books. However, my preferred method is online.
Screen Name Redacted 5/13/2021 07:07 PM	I remember I found the telephone very convenient, especially for my husband who had mobility issues and easier than dealing with internet for some older people now.
Screen Name Redacted 5/14/2021 08:36 AM	Explain the \$ costs and environmental impacts of the different methods - we shouldn't be promoting vehicle use and covid risks of 'in person' voting. This is a perfect time to make the transition to online - sure older residents may not want to vote on line but we should be aiming for a very low in person voting %. In person costs more (labour/facility), is higher risk (Covid), takes more time (travel/line up) and is worse for our environment. Thanks
Screen Name Redacted 5/14/2021 11:57 AM	On Line voting provides a good option for those not mobile enough to get out and vote
Screen Name Redacted 5/14/2021 12:13 PM	Voting is important enough that I like the physical act of doing it.
Screen Name Redacted 5/14/2021 12:52 PM	due to Covid I prefer online or mail voting

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Screen Name Redacted 5/14/2021 12:54 PM	It's an online world.
Screen Name Redacted 5/14/2021 03:33 PM	Voting remotely makes a lot of sense; either on line (preferred) or by mail sounds like the easiest to do and the easiest to control
Screen Name Redacted 5/14/2021 05:57 PM	Safety first please.
Screen Name Redacted 5/14/2021 06:10 PM	Computer literate
Screen Name Redacted 5/14/2021 06:10 PM	I'd really only vote electronically
Screen Name Redacted 5/14/2021 09:45 PM	Internet is most accurate and easier than other methods
Screen Name Redacted 5/15/2021 08:46 AM	Paper ballad should be available regardless of method of voting.
Screen Name Redacted 5/16/2021 09:51 AM	I ranked telephone voting #2 assuming it would be all done with recorded messages, easy to use with little to no wait times.
Screen Name Redacted 5/16/2021 10:28 AM	None at this time thank you
Screen Name Redacted 5/16/2021 01:32 PM	no comment - however with Covid-19 this seems viable
Screen Name Redacted 5/17/2021 01:18 PM	We believe that the future is electronic, online voting.
Screen Name Redacted 5/17/2021 01:40 PM	Whatever the voting methods chosen, please consider those residents with mobility issues, access to and capability to use electronic devices, and availability of traditional in-person voting using a ballot box.
Screen Name Redacted 5/17/2021 06:08 PM	None

5/17/2021 08:40 PM

computer technology age

Screen Name Redacted

5/18/2021 06:39 AM

While I am currently able to participate in all voting options presented in this survey not all people are. There are those who have sensory disabilities or lack access to technology and or transportation. Those are the people who need to be accommodated. Given the ability to vote is a 'right', one should have a 'right' to vote in any one of the above methods presented in this survey. To limit methods is a form of discrimination.

Screen Name Redacted

5/18/2021 10:09 AM

electronic voting is my top choice by far...the others are far behind

Screen Name Redacted

5/18/2021 10:48 AM

None.

Screen Name Redacted

5/18/2021 12:11 PM

Will not have to deal with bad weather

Screen Name Redacted

5/18/2021 12:55 PM

Voting in person is the best way to verify that the voter is who they say they are

Screen Name Redacted

5/18/2021 01:44 PM

Extend the voting period to allow for schedules and unplanned scheduling conflicts.

Screen Name Redacted

5/18/2021 03:04 PM

It is the 21st Century. On-line voting must have a secure process by now. How convenient would it be to have this privilege??

Screen Name Redacted

5/18/2021 05:18 PM

Mail in and in person are the most expensive ways to vote. Electronic does not work for everyone. I would suggest a combination of electronic and mail in may be the most effective to reach as many people as possible.

Screen Name Redacted

5/18/2021 06:51 PM

Need fully accessible voting location and accessible transportation if voting in person

5/18/2021 07:16 PM	and that's why online voting is the best option
Screen Name Redacted 5/18/2021 10:02 PM	I would like the easiest possible method to vote.
Screen Name Redacted 5/19/2021 08:40 AM	Ease of schedule - so anytime of day, any day from home via email is easiest - though we are willing to go to vote in person if that is the best possible way to make it valid. Thank-you for asking
Screen Name Redacted 5/19/2021 10:55 AM	As long as fraud prevention/data security is sufficient, I think online voting would cause much higher voter participation
Screen Name Redacted 5/19/2021 11:55 AM	The easier TBM makes voting, the more the residents will participate
Screen Name Redacted 5/19/2021 12:58 PM	My biggest concern. I think we need a ward system to get better representation and accountability.
Screen Name Redacted 5/19/2021 02:17 PM	hours need to be flexible
Screen Name Redacted 5/20/2021 08:59 AM	None
Screen Name Redacted 5/20/2021 01:58 PM	electronic voting is preferred
Screen Name Redacted 5/20/2021 04:05 PM	The way I've listed them works for me.
Screen Name Redacted 5/20/2021 11:11 PM	Online requires equitable access to quality internet
Screen Name Redacted 5/21/2021 08:40 AM	Due to the pandemic situation, online voting is much preferred.
Screen Name Redacted 5/21/2021 02:22 PM	n/a
Screen Name Redacted	Much prefer online voting

5/21/2021 02:28 PM

Screen Name Redacted

5/21/2021 03:37 PM

I prefer in person voting but I recognize this method shuts others out of the voting process. I'm in favour of whatever method gets the most people to vote. No method is perfect for everyone. Thank you.

Screen Name Redacted

5/22/2021 08:56 AM

1. What verification will be made to ensure that the vote cast is really that person? 2. My spouse is in a LTC facility does she get a vote? I have power of attorney.

Screen Name Redacted

5/22/2021 12:02 PM

It is much easier to vote on line as long as there is enough time and voters are patient

Screen Name Redacted

5/22/2021 12:07 PM

Voting in person in my opinion prevents any fraud as a photo ID is required. I do understand there are persons with physical challenges that might prevent a person from attending in person so another method would be required.

Screen Name Redacted

5/22/2021 04:00 PM

A method that does not prevent anyone from easily voting.

Screen Name Redacted

5/23/2021 09:19 PM

Just make it easy and accessible for all.

Screen Name Redacted

5/23/2021 10:04 PM

I used to prefer in person voting until I developed chronic health issues and the pandemic hit.

Screen Name Redacted

5/24/2021 10:05 AM

email is the easiest format

Screen Name Redacted

5/24/2021 06:38 PM

No

Screen Name Redacted

5/24/2021 07:26 PM

I think electronic voting is efficient, effective and safe for everyone

Screen Name Redacted

5/25/2021 01:11 PM

We would prefer not to vote by telephone.



5/26/2021 08:53 AM

however many residents have very poor internet service. We live right in town so we have access to Rogers Communications. But even Lora Bay has slow internet that sometimes disconnects (anyone from Lora Bay who gets on a zoom session seems to cut out or lose their connection sometimes).

Screen Name Redacted

5/26/2021 11:28 AM

For the last 20 years I've had a seasonal residence in Penetanguishene a Georgian Bay. I always voted online it's easy, and we have a lot higher uptake.

Screen Name Redacted

5/26/2021 12:43 PM

none

Screen Name Redacted

5/26/2021 07:58 PM

If I do electronic, I would like a confirmation sent or able to print out

Screen Name Redacted

5/27/2021 08:43 AM

Let democracy reign, make voting as accessible as possible, we are not the States with their foolishness

Screen Name Redacted

5/27/2021 10:41 AM

Electronic voting is quick and secure so that is my first choice!

Screen Name Redacted

5/27/2021 08:27 PM

Electronic voting will be brilliant

Screen Name Redacted

5/27/2021 08:53 PM

We need to make it easy for people to vote by whatever means. I think all of the four choices above are acceptable.

Screen Name Redacted

5/28/2021 12:52 PM

Online is good for some but for others in person is better.

Screen Name Redacted

5/28/2021 01:53 PM

N/A

Screen Name Redacted

5/28/2021 02:33 PM

I definitely believe that voting should be done in person. Photo ID should be shown to verify identity. Paper ballots are preferred over using

