



Frequently Asked Questions about the 2018 Municipal Election

When is the election?

Voting Day is **Monday, October 22, 2018**. Polls are open from **10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

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

The City is offering a variety of different voting options for the election:

- Internet Voting will be available from October 9, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. until October 22, 2018 at 7:59 p.m.
- Advance Voting Opportunities:
 - October 3, 2018 and October 10, 2018 between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. at Cambridge City Hall (Bowman Room); and
 - October 6, 2018 and October 13, 2018 between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. at the Hespeler Arena and Preston Auditorium and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. at Cambridge City Hall (Bowman Room).

Who can vote?

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

Can a person who is homeless vote?

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

Where do I vote?

Each eligible elector will receive a Voter Notification Card which will identify how the elector may vote – either through internet or in-person at a polling station in the ward where they reside. You can also visit our [website](#) to determine your voting location.

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

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

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

You have an opportunity to add or change personal information on the Voters' List. To do so, please visit www.voterlookup.com or the City Clerk's Office at 50 Dickson Street, 2nd Floor to complete the required form.

When should I receive a Voter Identification Card?

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

How many candidates/offices can I elect?

The City is based on an eight Ward system. This means that each Ward will have a Council representative.

Municipal Council	
Mayor	One (1) to be elected by all voters in the municipality
Ward Councillor	One (1) to be elected by all voters in the particular Ward you reside
Regional Councillor	Two (2) to be elected by all voters in the municipality

School Board Trustees	
Public School Trustee or Separate School Trustee	Three (3) to be elected by all voters who qualify
French Public Trustee and French Separate Trustee	One (1) to be elected by voters who qualify

Is Cambridge using a ranked ballot system?

The City is not using a ranked ballot system for the 2018 Election; however, we are analyzing the option for the 2022 election.

Is there a question on the ballot?

Yes. As the City is analyzing the option for a ranked ballot system for the 2022 municipal election, you will be able to answer the following question when you cast your vote.

“Are you in favour of the City of Cambridge using a ranked ballot system for the 2022 municipal election?”

YES NO

What Ward do I live in?

To find out what ward you live in, please go to the [election website](#) at to download the ward maps.

How can I find out if my ward has changed since the 2014 municipal election?

There have been no ward boundary changes since the 2014 municipal election.

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

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

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

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

How do you vote using Internet?

The Voter Identification Card will outline the choices available for voters. If a voter decides to vote using the Internet, the instructions will be outlined and a security code is needed along with the PIN code on the Voter Identification Card (two-step security process). Only the person who is listed on the Voter Identification Card may vote as a declaration is required to proceed using the Internet that affirms that the voter is the person registered and entitled to cast a vote online.

Note: You should treat your Voter ID and PIN with the same level of secrecy and confidentiality that you reserve for your bank card and PIN. Do not give your Voter ID and/or PIN to anyone.

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

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

What should I do if I get a time-out error message if using Internet?

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

Can I verify that my vote has been cast?

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

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

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

Can someone else vote on my behalf?

Yes, Proxy Voting is permitted and information must be obtained at the City Clerk's Office, 50 Dickson Street, 2nd Floor from September 17 to October 22, 2018. You are entitled to one proxy vote unless the person is a family member (spouse, sibling, and grand-parent etc.).

Who are the Candidates?

You can view the most current list of candidates for the offices of Mayor, Councillor, Regional Councillor and School Board Trustee on the City's Website after May 1, 2018. You can also contact the City Clerk's Office and we will provide you with a list of the nominated candidates.

Can I give cash to a candidate?

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

Is there a maximum contribution I can provide to a candidate?

The maximum contribution to a candidate is \$1,200 and as the contributor, you cannot make contributions exceeding a total of \$5,000 to two or more candidates on the same Council.

Who can be a Third Party Advertiser?

Individuals, corporations and trade unions can register as third party advertisers and can also make contributions.

If I am a Third Party Advertiser, do I need to register?

Yes, all Third Party Advertisers are required to register with every municipality where they wish to advertise in. If you are a Third Party Advertiser representing a District Chair candidate, you are required to register within a lower-tier municipality.

May I take time off work to vote?

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

Where can I get election results?

At the close of voting on October 22, the totals will be electronically tabulated by a central computer and compiled. These results will then be displayed at City Hall and on the City's website as soon as possible after Voting Day.