



100 John West Way
Aurora, Ontario
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aurora.ca

Town of Aurora
Candidate FAQ
Legislative Services

Candidate FAQ

- 1. Since Elections Ontario does NOT administer Municipal elections who does? What Authority will oversee the integrity of this year's election both online and in-person? Who owns this, registertovote, website? Also, I have previously delegated my concerns with York Region controlling one vendor for ALL on-line votes and having exclusive access to this database, at a time when Strong Regional Chair Powers are being issued by the Premier. Can you offer any peace-of-mind to voters?**

Elections Ontario is responsible for collecting and maintaining the permanent register of electors and each municipal clerk is the responsible for conducting the election within their municipality. RegistertovoteON.ca is managed by Elections Ontario and it is a tool to help electors register to vote and check their voter information. In August 2026, Elections Ontario will provide a list of electors to the municipal clerk and there are restrictions on who can access the list and when. Although the Town of Aurora participated in the joint procurement of the internet voting vendor, access to the database is strictly controlled by the Clerk.

- 2. Is it possible to get the final excel Elector list from 2022?**

Here is the [Certificate of Election Results](#). The 2026 Voters' List will not be available until September and it will only be provided to those entitled to receive a copy of the Voters' list under Section 23 of the Municipal Elections Act.

- 3. What are the rules for hosting a campaign-related event on town property? For instance, could I book a gym/room at the SARC or ice time at one of the arenas if it's related to my campaign? Or could I get a park permit to have an event in one of the parks?**

Section 4 through 6 of the [Use of Corporate Resources for Election Campaign Purposes](#) prohibit the use of Town facilities for campaigning purposes.

- 4. When will the Voters' List become available to Candidates?**

Elections Ontario is responsible for preparing and maintaining the preliminary list and they have indicated to us that they will release the list to the Municipal Clerks on August 14, 2026. Once we have received the preliminary list of electors, we will reproduce it as the Voters' List and release it to the candidates on September 1, 2026 (Answer corrected August 28, 2026).



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5. What type of bank account should Candidates open?

The Municipal Elections Act does not prescribe the type of bank account.

6. Can Aurora have both bike lanes and a MUP on Yonge Street South?

The purpose of the MUP is to accommodate all active transportation facilities in the corridor, including bike lanes.

7. Can the Town install a MUP after YR widens Yonge Street with new bike lanes? When will YR begin their work?

The widening of Yonge Street in this area is not currently in the Region's 10-year capital plan.

8. Why did YR not install bike lanes (even temporary ones) a few years ago when Yonge Street South was resurfaced and repaired?

A major road rehabilitation of this segment of Yonge Street has not occurred recently. Maintenance activities have been undertaken by the Region but nothing large enough to include active transportation facilities. This question would be best directed to York Region as to how they determine their infrastructure works programming.

9. Can Candidates Register Aurora Chamber Street Festival?

Yes, at this community event, candidates are permitted to campaign. This would be the only Chamber event where candidates are permitted to do any campaigning.

10. How do violations related to the Use of Corporate Resources for Election Purposes Policy get addressed?

Please refer to the Complaints about the Use of Use of Corporate Resources document found in the Candidate's Package under Tab 4.

11. What happens to the money that is given to the municipality as a surplus?

Any excess election revenues, including revenues such as this, would be contributed to the Elections reserve. As a Town best practice any Election Department surplus or deficit is balanced to zero through an equivalent contribution TO/FROM the Elections reserve.



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12. Is the spending limit for parties and expressions of appreciation subject to the general spending limit?

Your general spending limit covers expenses that you incur between the beginning of your campaign and voting day. The expenses related to holding parties or other expressions of appreciation would be subject to your spending limit for parties.

13. Is there a minimum number of votes a candidate must receive to be entitled for a refund of the contributions made by the candidate or their spouse?

There is no minimum vote requirement. If the financial statement filed with the clerk shows a surplus and the campaign period has ended at the time the statement is filed, the candidate is entitled to reimburse contributions made by themselves or their spouse out of the surplus. For example, if the surplus was \$500 and you contributed \$400 to your campaign, you may deduct that \$400, leaving your campaign with a surplus of \$100.

14. Do I need to register before I'm allowed to start campaigning?

Candidates cannot incur and spend campaign expenses or accept contributions until they have filed their nomination with the Town Clerk.

15. Are candidates allowed to post content on Town property with their campaign logo?

According to the Town's Use of Corporate Resources for Election Purposes Policy, no person shall use Town resources for campaigning.

All complaints must be submitted in writing to the Town Clerk or designate by emailing elections@aurora.ca. The complainant must provide evidence of violation and reference the section in the Use of Corporate Resources Policy which was contravened.

Upon receipt, the Town Clerk will acknowledge the complaint in writing and look into the complaint.



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16. What is the number of closed sessions per Term of Council since 2006?

Council Closed Session (CCS) Meetings by Term of Council		
Council Term	Term of Office Dates	Number of Meetings
2006-2010	Dec 1, 2006 – Nov 30, 2010	129
2010-2014	Dec 1, 2010 – Nov 30, 2014	84
2014-2018	Dec 1, 2014 – Nov 30, 2018	100
2018-2022	Dec 1, 2018 – Nov 14, 2022	70
2022-2026	Nov 15, 2022 – Nov 14, 2026	(as of May 12, 2026) 58

17. What are the potential consequences of candidates appearing to incur campaign expenses prior to submitting their nomination forms?

Enforcement of the Municipal Elections Act is done through the courts. The Clerk is not responsible for enforcing the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. We do provide information to candidates on the requirements under the Municipal Elections Act. We are happy to answer questions about the requirements but cannot interpret the legislation.

If an eligible elector believes that a candidate has contravened the election finance rules, they may apply for a compliance audit of the candidate's campaign finances. The application must be in writing and must set out the reasons why the elector believes a candidate contravened the rules. An application for a compliance audit must be submitted to the municipal clerk who conducted the election within 90 days of the deadline to file the campaign financial statement. The compliance audit committee will consider the application and decide whether to grant or reject the application.

Candidates are encouraged to review the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 and the Ministry's 2026 Candidates' Guide, which contain important information and requirements for candidates.

18. How do you align yourself with a political party to run for?

There is no party affiliation when running in the municipal election and candidates are not elected to represent a political party. Candidates run as individuals. Furthermore, a MP or a MPP serving in parliament, the legislature or the senate are not eligible to hold municipal office.



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19. Is there a document that outlines the particular the voting locations with poll mapping, and is there a summary of voter turnout for each poll?

Here is the [Town Map divided up by Polls](#). This will be slightly adjusted for the 2026 Election. We don't have a record of voter turnout by poll. That is an enhancement we hope to do this year.

20. Excluding Lawn Signage, when can outdoor campaign signage begin and where is it permissible? Specifically, is campaign signage permitted on private property, starting May 1, 2026, such as on retailer windows, on vehicles, billboards, portable trailers etc.

There is no exception for lawn signs. All signs used for the election whether a lawn sign, mobile sign or billboard are covered under the same parameters the Town's bylaw.

Signage is permitted only during the election period which commences 12:01 a.m. on the 28th day prior to voting day and ends 72 hours after the close of polls on voting day. All signs must be removed within 72 hours of the conclusion of the election.

21. Please share the sign bylaw and who created and approved it. Was it created by Elections Canada/Ontario and mandated throughout the province? Can municipalities customize their own bylaw to modify Election Sign rules? Why was the amendment not completed and approved prior to May 1? Can you share a copy of the 2022 bylaw.

A link to the consolidated Sign By-law is [here](#). The amendment was approved by Council at its May 26th meeting.

Here are some links for your ease of reference:

- [Staff report dated April 14, 2026](#)
- [Minutes of the April 14, 2026 COW Meeting](#)
- [Minutes of the April 28 Council meeting](#)
- [Minutes of the May 26th Council Meeting](#)

Section 11 of the Municipal Act gives each municipality the authority to pass by-laws respecting signs and the by-laws can differ from municipality to municipality. Elections Ontario has no responsibility in the municipal election except for preparing the preliminary list of electors. A copy of the previous bylaw was included in your candidate package. You can also refer to the staff report dated April 14th for a summary of the changes from the previous election to this one.



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22. Are you able to provide Candidates with physical receipts to give to donors to let them know that the donation went to the campaign account?

It is the candidate's responsibility to provide the receipts and keep track of every contribution. The Clerk's office cannot make recommendations/provide candidates tools to manage campaign finances.

23. May I receive the 2022 voting locations and poll mapping in a GIS format?

Yes. The [2022 Town Map divided up by Polls](#) was provided to the candidate and available to all candidates upon request.

24. Can you clarify the terms of employment for the role of Councillor. Does the Town of Aurora have established guidelines or a bylaw which identifies a minimum number of hours required to be worked or a minimum number of meetings to be in attendance for, in addition to the Conflict-of-Interest guidelines within the Municipal Act.

There is no established employment terms for a Councillor in the same manner that would apply to a Town employee. There is no minimum number of hours that a Councillor must work. Members of Council are governed primarily by the Municipal Act, the Town's procedural by-law, code of conduct and other policies. The Office of Mayor is a full-time member of Council, while Councillors are considered part-time.

With respect to attendance, the Municipal Act states that a member's seat may become vacant if the member is absent from meetings of Council for three successive months without authorization by resolution of Council.

This document was prepared to provide a high-level overview about time commitment, constituency work, responsibilities of members. It also has links to the Code of Conduct, the 2026 remuneration rates, etc: <https://media-002-ca.cdn.govstack.com/aurora-010-ca/media/0ayds42w/1-nomination-procedures.pdf>

The [Council Code of Conduct](#) is probably the most comprehensive document that outlines a member's responsibilities.

Other Links:

- [By-law - Adopt Code of Ethics for Members of Council - 20130625 - 553213](#)
- [Municipal Conflict of Interest Act](#)
- [2018-2022 Council Orientation Binder](#)



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25. Are you able to confirm requirements for accepting online contributions on my campaign website?

We cannot provide advice about election campaign finance rules. We can refer you to the [Candidate's Guide](#) which has information on contributions and how to keep record of all contributions to your campaign. This document was provided in your Candidate's Package under Tab 3.

26. Is there a URL or QR code that will direct residents to online voting?

For security purposes, we have not released the internet voting URL to the candidates or the public. We are also conducting testing of the site at this time.

It will be available on the Town's [Voter Information Page](#) early October and it will be in the Voter Information Letters to be delivered to each elector in October.

27. Wondering if the voters' list provided by the Town of Aurora to trustee candidates will also include the voters' list from the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville?

The Town of Aurora Voters' List contains the eligible electors in the Town of Aurora only. To request the eligible electors in the Whitchurch-Stouffville, you will have to reach out to the Town Clerk at Whitchurch Stouffville.

28. What dates will the candidates be receiving the list of those in one's ward who have yet to vote? Will we just receive one after online voting ends? Or will we be receiving 2 or more update lists during the 10 days or so of being able to vote.

With the electronic Candidate Access portal, you would be able to download a new extract of the Voters' List every 30 minutes. This means candidates will have access to live updates to the list, instead of having to wait for the Election Team to generate a new physical copy of the list. After an elector has voted, their status will be recorded as "Voted".

If you requested a paper copy, given the logistical and environmental challenges, one copy of the list showing the name of each elector who has voted during Advance Voting Period would be provided to Candidates on October 25, 2026 (after internet voting has closed).



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29. What are the rules regarding campaigning at Town events?

The Town's Use of Corporate Resources for Election Campaign Purposes Policy defines campaigning broadly as an election-related activity intended to support or promote the election of a candidate, including the display of materials and advertising.

Sections 1,4 and 5 expressly state that Town operations, events, and facilities are to be used for non-partisan purposes and not for election campaign related activities. he policy

Campaign-related promotion, whether through signage, verbal campaigning, apparel, websites, slogans, or other materials that could reasonably be interpreted as campaign advertising, is not permitted within Town facilities or at Town-operated events.

30. When will the updated candidate expense amount be sent?

The certificate of maximum expenses will be provided to Candidates on or before September 30. As per section 88.20(11), it is calculated based on the number of electors as it exists on September 20 in a regular election.

31. Does the Voters' List contain phone numbers?

We do not have the phone numbers of the voters to share with candidates. The Voters List contains the name and address of each person who is entitled to be an elector and any additional information the clerk needs to determine for which offices each elector is entitled to vote.

32. Can I give something away as a marketing strategy?

We can't provide advice on whether a marketing strategy is acceptable. However, if you are giving something for free and you would have normally charged for, it may be considered a contribution that you make to your campaign. There is a section on Campaign Finances in this 2026 Candidate's Guide: [2026 candidates' guide – Ontario municipal council and school board elections](#)

33. Can I pay the \$310 permit fee using my personal credit card and then reimburse myself for the exact \$310 amount from the campaign bank account?

Candidates are responsible for ensuring that all campaign expenses, contributions, and reimbursements are recorded and reported in accordance with the applicable election finance rules.



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I recommend reading the Campaign Expenses Section in the [MMAH Candidate Guide](#) (Page 21), consulting the relevant campaign finance provisions under the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 or seeking advice from a qualified election finance professional.

34. Please clarify the Sign Permit process. Once I pay the fee and get the permit where I am able to place the signs? Is it only on designated intersections in my ward? Because my understanding that permit allows up to 50 signs. Are the signs that I can post on Regional Roads only in Ward 6 or other locations as well?

Please note that candidates are required to pay both the Town of Aurora Election.

Sign Fee and any applicable York Region Election Sign fee if they wish to use both Town of Aurora intersections and regional intersections.

The Town's election sign application form is included in the Election Sign Package provided to all candidates.

The Town of Aurora permit allows you to place election signs at the Ward 6 intersections listed in Schedule C of the Election Sign Package. Please note that, at any one time, a maximum of two (2) election signs are permitted at each intersection listed in Schedule C, with no more than one (1) election sign per corner of the intersection.

If you are seeking information regarding election signs on regional roads, you will need to contact York Region directly. York Region administers its own election sign program, including permit requirements, fees, and sign placement regulations. Their program is based on a sticker system, and candidates are required to obtain the appropriate permit and stickers before placing signs.

With respect to locations, regional sign permissions apply to intersections located on regional roads. You will need to refer to York Region's election sign guide and mapping resources to determine where signs may be placed, as well as any limits on the number of signs permitted.

For your convenience, I have included the York Region election sign information below:

<https://www.york.ca/newsroom/news/election-sign-guidelines>

Email: permits@york.ca

35. As a security precaution, can I request that my address be redacted from my nomination form?

Section 120(5) of the Act states "Despite anything in the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, documents and materials filed with or prepared by the clerk or any other election official under this Act are public records and, until their destruction, may be inspected by any person at the clerk's office at a time when the office is open."



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Your nomination form (Form 1 and Form 2) will be made available for public viewing upon request and only in the office. We will never email a copy or allow someone to make a copy of the nomination forms.

36. Am I allowed to display my signs on a private commercial property?

Yes, you may display your election signs on private commercial property, provided that you have the permission of both the business owner and, where applicable, the property owner or property management company.

Please note that election signs are not permitted on Town property, with the exception of locations specifically identified in the Election Sign Guide. This means signs cannot be placed on sidewalks, boulevards, medians, parks, or any other municipal property. The sign would need to be located entirely on private property.

Additionally, all election signs must comply with the size requirements outlined in the Election Sign Guide. As a reminder, the maximum permitted dimensions are 1.22 m in height and 1.22 m in width.

37. Are we allowed to advertise and rent a billboard or those trashcans? I already paid for the signs and submitted a draft of the signs but I change my mind on the size?

Unfortunately, a billboard would not be permitted. Under the by-law, the maximum permitted height is 1.22 m and the maximum permitted width is 1.22 m. These dimensions are maximum allowances and cannot be exceeded.

You are welcome to adjust the size of the sign, provided that it does not exceed the maximum permitted dimensions of 1.22 m in height and 1.22 m in width. Please send an updated version or image of the proposed sign for our records.

38. Do you have the list of eligible voters in the 2022 election who voted list?

That information would've been destroyed 120 days after voting day.

39. What is the process to add an elector to the voters list between now and Voting Day?

Electors can request to be added to the voters' list until 8 p.m. on Voting Day but the method changes as we get closer to Voting Day. The process is not automatic, and an Election Official will check for ID and approve/deny the request.

This [Online Voter Registration portal](#) will be available until October 1. If an elector is added to the Voters' List before October 1, they will get their letter in the mail. If they want to make changes to the Voters List or get added to the List after October 1, we will need to find another way to get the letter to them (email, in person, etc). Starting on October 17, we will encourage all electors to go to the advance voting location or their assigned voting location on Voting Day to get added to the Voters' List. When they



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attend a voting location (advance or on Voting Day), they will not receive a Voter Information Letter. They will receive a paper ballot. Meaning they can't go home and vote by internet -they have to vote at that location.

- 40. Can you please confirm that in Ward 3, there are only four locations where election signs can be erected (Not including signs subject to York Region approval on Regional Road)? I recall in the 2022 election there were a lot more places the Town of Aurora allowed election signs to be placed.**

There have been recent amendments to the Sign By-law, and the number of permitted intersections within each Ward has been reduced. As a result, you are correct that there are now only four (4) approved intersections available.

Please note that, prior to placing any election signs at Town of Aurora intersections, you must ensure that the applicable permit fee has been paid and that a completed permit application has been submitted and approved by the Town.

In addition, if you wish to place election signs at Regional intersections, you are required to obtain the necessary permit from the Region and comply with all applicable Regional requirements before installing any signs.

- 41. Can you explain how to ensure signs are within a 6m daylight triangle including private property?**

If the signs become an issue in these areas, we will address them on a per case basis. The signs need to just ensure that they maintain a sightline for vehicle and pedestrian traffic. We understand that there is going to be some sign congestion depending on the number of candidates running in each Ward and we are happy to work with candidates.

- 42. What are some security measures we are using of internet voting security?**

We focus on using AWS Shield and AWS WAF (web application firewall) to block known bad actor IPs and block potential DDoS attacks in combination with recaptcha on the login form to deter bots. We find that this provides strong protection.

- 43. Is there a cost, \$203 that needs to be paid to the Town, to allow candidates the privilege to put out road signs?**

Yes, candidates wishing to place election signs at the permitted intersections listed in Schedule C of the Town of Aurora's Election Sign By-law are required to pay a non-refundable fee of \$203.00.



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This fee authorizes the placement of election signs at the Schedule C intersections permitted by the by-law. For Ward Councillor candidates, sign placement is limited to the Schedule C intersections located within the ward they are seeking to represent. Candidates running for Mayor may place signs at all Schedule C intersections within the Town.

Please note that the Town's Schedule C intersections are separate from York Region's permitted intersections. Election signs placed at regional intersections are subject to York Region's requirements and regulations. Candidates may only place signs at regional intersections that fall within the boundaries of the ward they are seeking to represent, and a permit from York Region is required before any signs can be installed. Please visit York Regions website for more information.

44. Who is responsible for enforcing compliance with election sign regulations and where we can direct complaints regarding height restrictions?

Enforcement of election signs falls under the purview of the Bylaw Services Division. At this time, enforcement is complaint driven only due to the volume of candidate concerns.

Should you wish to submit a complaint, please email bdepartment@aurora.ca and provide the details of the signs in question as well as your name and contact information. Once this is completed, a file will be generated and assigned to an officer for investigation and appropriate follow-up.

45. For Ward 6, the campaign spending amount increased from \$9100 to over \$11,000? What is the party amount? What is the individual contribution amount?

Your final expense limit is \$11,132.75 and it's based on the elector count in 2026. The expense limit went up because your elector count went up. Your spending limits for parties after voting day is \$1,113.27. You and your spouse have a contribution limit of \$6,433.00 to your campaign.

The \$1,200 contribution from individuals has not changed. That is the amount someone can donate to your campaign.

46. How do you maintain voters' list privacy?

The Town protects voters' personal information in accordance with the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. Access to the voters' list is restricted to authorized election officials and eligible recipients prescribed by legislation. Any individual who receives the list must use it solely for election purposes, follow strict privacy requirements, and dispose of it in accordance with the Act once it is no longer required.



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47. If a person has multiple properties, could they vote multiple times?

Regardless of how many properties they own or notices they received, they can only vote once under law.

48. When were the Voter Information Letter mailed out?

Voter Information Letters were mailed out on October 2.