



100 John West Way  
Aurora, Ontario  
L4G 6J1  
(905) 727-3123  
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?**

As per Section 19 of the Act, the clerk may obtain the preliminary list before September 1. As per Section 23, on or before September 1, the clerk shall have the voters' list reproduced.

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



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14, 2026. Once we have received the preliminary list of electors, we will reproduce it as the Voters' List and release it on or before September 1, 2026.

**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](mailto: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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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](#)