

VOTE
October 24

toronto.ca/elections

2022 Election Accessibility Plan

Toronto Accessibility Advisory Committee

May 5, 2022

Size of Toronto's Election

- Toronto's election is the fourth largest municipal election in North America and the largest municipal election in Canada
 - 2.8 million residents
 - 1.8 million eligible electors
 - 1 mayor (head of council)
 - 25 councillors (1 per ward)
 - 39 school board trustees (4 school boards)
- Election Day: Monday October 24, 2022
- Advanced Vote: October 7 to 14, 2022

Election Accessibility Plan



- The Municipal Elections Act requires municipal clerks to prepare a plan regarding the identification, removal, and prevention of barriers that affect voters and candidates with disabilities
- The 2022 Elections Accessibility Plan is a living document that has been developed with input from persons with disabilities, and the organizations that represent them



6 Key Areas of Plan

- 1) Consultation
- 2) Voting Options and Accommodations
- 3) Communication and Information
- 4) Voting Places
- 5) Candidate Information
- 6) Accessible Customer Service

1) Consultation

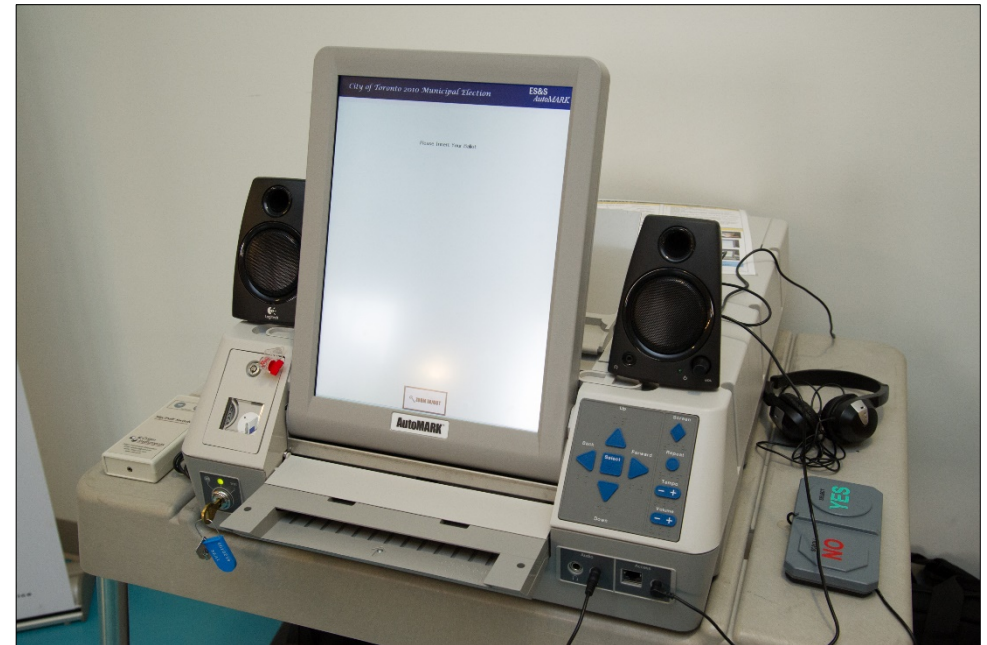
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- Accessibility Outreach Network (AON)
 - Over 60 members, including:
 - Persons with disabilities, accessibility advocates, City staff and representatives from community organizations
 - Meet quarterly to share election information
- Special consultations

2) Voting Options & Accommodations



- Proxy Voting
- Curbside Voting
- Voter Assist Terminals
- Ballot Transfer
- Personal assistance to voters
- Mail-in Voting



3) Communication & Information

- Provide election information in alternate formats and use various channels
- Leverage partnerships to disseminate election information and reach people with a range of disabilities across Toronto
- Attend community events to provide outreach to diverse communities
- Launch MyVote September 1, an online voter tool that provides important information for voters

4) Voting Places

- All voting places will be accessible
- Accessible entrances will be clearly identified
- Introduction of Location Specialist role to provide greater accessibility oversight
- Post preliminary list of voting places in advance for public input

5) Candidate Information

- Ensure accessible services and documents for candidates with disabilities
 - Provide documents in accessible format, hold events in accessible locations
- Provide candidates with resources that support accessible campaigns
 - Emphasize campaign accessibility in candidate information sessions

6) Accessible Customer Service



- Accessibility training and resources provided to election staff
- Recruitment of persons with disabilities to support training of Access Officers and Information Officers
- Dedicated accessibility e-mail and phone line
- Voter Assist Terminal instructional videos and demos

Home Visit Program Update



- In 2018, Toronto Elections piloted a home visit program enabling an elector who could not leave their home due to illness, injury and/or disability to vote from home
 - Toronto Elections served 350 electors with this program
- In planning for 2022, we explored options to provide alternative voting methods

Mail-in Voting



- New program to provide an alternative option to in person voting
- Program will run from September 1 – October 21
- Electors can apply online or by phone
- A braille option will be provided



Accessibility Plan Resources

- [Toronto Elections Accessibility Plan](#)
- [Additional Voting Options and Accommodations](#)

Website:

- [Toronto Elections](#)

Email:

- [Accessibility email](#)

Phone:

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