

2022 Municipal Election

SUMMARY REPORT

City of Hamilton
Office of the City Clerk



Hamilton



HAMILTON
VOTES **2022**

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Table of Contents

Highlights of the 2022 Municipal Election.....	3
Municipal Election Overview	4
The Administration of the 2022 Municipal Election	7
Accessibility	7
Transparency.....	8
COVID-19 Considerations	9
Candidates and Third Parties.....	10
Outreach, Engagement and Communications	13
Recruitment and Training.....	20
Voters' List.....	22
Voting Places.....	23
Voting Technology	26
Advance Vote.....	28
Vote by Mail	31
Election day	32
Elections Budget Allocation	35
Submission of Financial Statements	36
Election Compliance Audit Committee.....	37
Future Elections.....	38

Highlights of the 2022 Municipal Election

- A total of 150 candidates were certified to run for the 38 open races, including Mayor, Councillor, or School Board Trustee. 2 races were acclaimed in the 2022 Municipal Election; Conseil Scolaire Viamonde and Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board Trustee Ward 1,2&15.
- 62.5 hours of voting opportunities were made available to electors during advance polls, special advance voting opportunities, and on Election day
- Four days of advance voting were held in each ward. The number of eligible electors voting at advance voting dates increased from 2018. In 2022, 30,893 ballots were cast over the four days of advance voting. This was an 81.17% increase from the 2018 municipal election advance voting numbers, which saw 17,052 ballots cast over 5 days of advance voting.
- Two days of Legacy Special Advance voting were held in designated buildings across the City of Hamilton. 835 voters cast a ballot in the Special Advance Vote.
- A new Ballot on Demand program was piloted in the City's Post-Secondary Institutions, in the City's Shelter network, and at the Hamilton Regional Indian Centre. Approximately 325 voters cast a ballot at a Ballot on Demand location.
- Vote by Mail was introduced in 2022, with 3186 kits requested, and 2397 kits, or 75.23% returned.
- Overall Voter turnout for 2022 was 35.38%, which represented 143,375 ballots cast out of 405,288 eligible electors. While there was a decrease in the overall voter turnout percentage from the 2018 Municipal Election, the actual number of voters was higher than in 2018 (138,549) and was the highest total number of voters to cast a ballot in a City of Hamilton municipal election since 2000 (148,898).
- 76.15% of all ballots were cast on Election day, as compared to 22.14% in Advance Polls and 1.71% via Vote by Mail.

Municipal Election Overview

The Municipal Election occurs every four years on the fourth Monday in October. In each Municipal Election, electors cast ballots to fill the seats for Mayor, Council and School Board Trustees. In the City of Hamilton, specifically, through the Municipal Election the following seats were elected:

- 1 Mayor
- 15 Councillors
- 11 English Public School Board Trustees
- 9 English Catholic School Board Trustees
- 1 French Public School Board Trustee
- 1 French Catholic School Board Trustee

The rules and regulations for Municipal Elections are outlined under the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, (the Municipal Elections Act) as amended, and its regulations. Under the Municipal Elections Act, the City Clerk is responsible for ensuring that elections are planned and delivered in a manner that reflects the principles of the Municipal Elections Act. While not established as part of the Municipal Elections Act, these principles are generally recognized as:

- the secrecy and confidentiality of the voting process is paramount;
- the election shall be fair and non-biased;
- the election shall be accessible to the voters;
- the integrity of the voting process shall be maintained throughout the election;
- there is to be certainty that the results of the election reflect the votes cast;
- voters and candidates shall be treated fairly and consistently; and
- the proper majority vote governs by ensuring that valid votes are counted, and invalid votes are rejected so far as reasonably possible.

In addition to ensuring the principles of the Municipal Elections Act are achieved, the City Clerk strives to deliver progressive and innovative elections that improve processes, enhance convenience, and encourage greater participation and engagement.

Planning and Delivering the Municipal Election

As a part of planning and delivering the Municipal Election in the City of Hamilton, the City Clerk and the Elections Team undertake the following duties:

- Develop and execute an election project plan
- Create operational procedures and policies that are aligned with the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.
- Identify, plan for, and mitigate risk

- Establish security plans and approaches
- Recommend and administer voting methods
- Assess and secure polling locations
- Secure equipment and supplies
- Hire and train poll staff
- Develop and implement communication and outreach plan
- Create resources and supports for Voters, Candidates, and Third-Party Advertisers
- Validate voters' list and assists electors in updating information
- Order, verify, distribute, receive, and secure ballots
- Certify candidate nominations
- Receive candidate financial statements
- Establish the Election Compliance Audit Committee, including terms of reference and associated procedures
- Meet with Municipal counterparts to discuss election administration
- Identify and meet with community stakeholders to gain insight to remove voting barriers

Role of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in Municipal Elections

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is the Provincial Ministry responsible for establishing the rules for Municipal Elections, and providing guidance, advice, and interpretation assistance to Municipalities, candidates and third-party advertisers. Their specific responsibilities during Municipal Elections include:

- Establishing and administering the Municipal Elections Act, 1996
- Developing guides for Voters, Candidates, and Third-Party Advertisers
- Providing direction and clarification to Candidates and Third-Party Advertisers on requirements under the Municipal Election Act, including rules around campaigning, finances, and contraventions

2022 Municipal Election Objectives

For the 2022 Municipal Election, the City Clerk and the Elections Team identified additional objectives for the administration of the election. These included:

- **Enhancing Accessibility**, including understanding the barriers to participating in voting and strategizing to ensure that measures were in place to provide accessibility
- **Modernizing the Election Process, building modern processes, leveraging technology to improve the voter experience and provide timely information to voters and candidates.**
- **Increasing Opportunity to Vote**, including increasing ways to vote and enhancing convenience for electors
- **Addressing Public Health Concerns**, ensuring that COVID-19 measures were considered so that the health of electors and election officials was safeguarded
- **Strengthening Communication**, by building greater awareness, being proactive in communications, and providing information to candidates and the public in a way that was easily accessible
- **Transparency** of processes through the creation of documentation to support the administration of the election and to assure compliance with Legislation

New Programs and Initiatives for 2022

For the 2022 Municipal Election, the Clerk introduced a number of new initiatives designed to improve electoral access and enhance voter convenience, including:

- Introduction of enhanced technology, including e-poll books, electronic strike off, electronic Voters' Lists, and virtual assistant.
- Vote by Mail was introduced as a new method of voting to complement traditional paper ballots.
- Engagement and Outreach Strategy was launched to bring election information, including information on the Voters' List, directly to the community in convenient locations
- Recruitment strategy updated to include Adopt a Poll for internal City of Hamilton Staff and introduction of new recruitment approaches for external staff

The Administration of the 2022 Municipal Election

Accessibility

Highlights:

- 15 Accessible Voting Tabulators employed on Advance Poll and Voting Day
- Darts Front of the Line Service provided, with 43 trips made to polls on Election day
- Introduction of AODA Customer Service Training for Election Workers
- Curbside voting at polls
- Vote by Mail for voters who were unable to attend a poll location

The City Clerk is responsible for conducting municipal elections and establishing policies and procedures to ensure all eligible voters have the opportunity to fully participate in the 2022 Municipal Election.

The Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended sets out the following requirements:

12.1(1) A clerk who is responsible for conducting an election shall have regard to the needs of electors and candidates with disabilities

12.1(2) The clerk shall prepare a plan regarding the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities and shall make the plan available to the public before Voting Day in a regular election.

12.1(3) Within 90 days after voting day in a regular election, the clerk shall prepare a report about the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities and shall make the report available to the public.

41(3) The clerk shall make such changes to some or all of the ballots as they consider necessary or desirable to allow electors with visual impairments to vote without the assistance referred to in paragraph 4 of subsection 52 (1).

45(2) In establishing the locations of voting places, the clerk shall ensure that each voting place is accessible to electors with disabilities.

The City Clerk released the Election Accessibility Plan in September 2022 which was developed in adherence to the requirements of the Municipal Elections Act and related acts and policies, and additionally was developed to address the following goals for the Municipal Election:

- a) to ensure that electoral services are accessible to all eligible voters and candidates;

- b) to engage with equity deserving groups and citizen advisory committees to help identify additional barriers to voting, methods of voting and provide feedback on the AODA poll location checklist
- c) to identify and remove barriers for persons with disabilities; and
- d) to create a positive and inclusive voting experience for all electors.

Further to the overarching goals, the plan identified five key areas of focus to consider throughout the election planning process, including:

1. Elections Communication and Information
2. Voting Places
3. Voting Methods
4. Recruitment, Selection and Training of Election workers
5. Assistance for Candidates

The City Clerk's Accessibility Plan and Follow up report on Accessibility at the 2022 Municipal Election are available on the City of Hamilton Website at the following location:

<https://www.hamilton.ca/city-council/municipal-election/election-resources/elections-accessibility-plan>

Transparency

As a key component of the 2022 Municipal Election, the Elections Team strove to enhance transparency in election processes and to ensure that electors, candidates, third-party advertisers and the community had access to key documents and resources.

To achieve this goal, the Elections Team implemented the following:

- Updated the Municipal Election pages on the City of Hamilton's website to provide more information and resources for Voters, Candidates and Third-Party Advertisers
- Inclusion of procedures, policies and reports on the Municipal Election pages of the City of Hamilton's website
- The issuance of media releases during key election periods
- Advertisements on radio and television to promote and raise awareness of the Municipal election
- The inclusion of poll results on the City's Open Data Site

- The development of a Frequently Asked Questions document for candidates that included all questions and answers asked by and provided to candidates
- Public access to view tabulation of ballots from advance polls, ballot on demand polls, institutions, Vote by Mail, and legacy special advance polls

COVID-19 Considerations

A major consideration in the planning of the 2022 Municipal Election was COVID-19. At the onset of planning, COVID-19 restrictions were in place and there was much uncertainty about the public health situation that would be in place for the election. As a result, staff consulted with Municipalities that had conducted elections during the pandemic and planned for potential shut-downs through implementing COVID-19 protocols, engaging with City of Hamilton Public Health professionals and the Health, Safety and Wellness Team, and by securing supplies and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for poll locations.

COVID-19 Considerations for the 2022 Municipal Election included:

- Introducing Vote by Mail as an alternative voting method
- Securing locations large enough to employ social distancing where required
- Hiring staff in accordance with the City's Vaccine Verification Policy
- Ordering PPE for poll locations, including masks, sanitizer, face shields, and disinfectant wipes
- Ordering additional pens and markers to ensure adequate supply due to increased sanitizing
- Training staff on COVID-19 protocols
- Hiring additional staff to clean poll locations throughout the day
- Implementing a Vote by Mail approach for Institutions (long term care homes) to ensure electors could vote in the event of a lockdown at their institution
- Ordering additional Vote by Mail packages to be utilized in the event of COVID-19 breakouts
- Requiring appointments for those attending City Hall for election related matters to ensure proper physical distancing could be achieved

There were no significant issues experienced as a result of COVID-19 at the polls during the advance poll dates or on Election day. On Election day, however, there were 26 active

outbreaks reported in the City of Hamilton which included 9 COVID-19 outbreaks in Long Term Care Homes and 6 in Retirement Homes. The implementation of the Vote by Mail program for long-term care homes in advance of Election day ensured that eligible electors at these locations were able to cast a ballot despite covid-19 outbreaks.

Candidates and Third Parties

Highlights:

- 159 Candidate Nominations Processed
- 9 Withdrawals
- 150 Certified Candidates, including:
 - 9 Mayoral Candidates
 - 82 Council Candidates
 - 59 School Board Trustee Candidates
 - 3 Registered Third-Party Advertisers

Nomination Period for Candidates

The nomination period for Candidates in the 2022 Municipal Election opened on May 2, 2022 (first business day in May) and closed on August 19, 2022 at 2pm, in accordance with the Municipal Elections Act.

Certified Candidates

A total of 159 nominations were filed by candidates at the Office of the City Clerk. Of these 159 nominations, 9 candidates withdrew their nomination by the end of the nomination period.

The City Clerk certified 150 candidates on August 22, 2022, which was slightly down from the number of candidates in the 2018 Municipal Election (158 Candidates in 2018).

The total number of certified candidates from 2022 and 2018 are summarized below by office.

Certified Candidates in 2022 vs. 2018

Office	# of Certified Candidates 2022	# of Certified Candidates 2018
Mayor	9	15
Councillor Ward 1	3	13
Councillor Ward 2	5	8
Councillor Ward 3	5	13
Councillor Ward 4	11	2
Councillor Ward 5	11	3
Councillor Ward 6	5	3
Councillor Ward 7	2	11
Councillor Ward 8	5	6
Councillor Ward 9	4	5
Councillor Ward 10	3	4
Councillor Ward 11	4	2
Councillor Ward 12	10	5
Councillor Ward 13	2	7
Councillor Ward 14	7	5
Councillor Ward 15	5	2
School Board Trustee English Public	35	33
School Board Trustee English Separate	21	18
School Board Trustee French Public	1	2
School Board Trustee French Separate	2	1
TOTAL	150	158

Candidate Information

Two voluntary candidate information sessions were held in 2022 to provide Candidates with information on running for the election, including information on election processes, sign by-law information, and financial information. These sessions were held virtually and included presentations from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing in addition to City Staff from the Office of the City Clerk and By-law Services. Resources and videos from these sessions were made available to candidates and the public on the City of Hamilton's website.

Information to Candidates was provided primarily through email communications, the city's website and the Candidate Portal. The Candidate Portal provided Candidates with access to policies and procedures, guides, frequently asked questions, documents, maps and access to download the Voters' List.

Throughout the nomination period, the City Clerk provided the opportunity for Candidates to meet to discuss election processes, provide information, and answer questions. From May to August, 88 Candidates met with the City Clerk.

Candidate Compliance with the Use of City Resources During an Election Policy

As a part of the Use of City Resources During an Election Policy, the City Clerk monitors compliance of candidates and issues letters where there is an instance of non-compliance. During the 2022 campaign period, the City Clerk issued 3 letters to candidates regarding non-compliance.

The Use of City Resources During an Election policy is available at the following location:

<https://www.hamilton.ca/sites/default/files/2022-07/municipal-election-useofcityresources-policy-2018.pdf>

Third-Party Advertising

The registration period for Third Party Advertisers ran from May 1, 2022 to October 21, 2022. For the 2022 municipal election, the City of Hamilton registered three third party advertisers (3 corporations, 0 individuals, and 0 trade unions).

Outreach, Engagement and Communications

Highlights

- A public survey on the City's Engage Hamilton platform launched in November 2021 aimed at understanding the voter experience, enhancing accessibility, and addressing barriers to voting; 441 community members participated in the survey.
- Elections Ambassadors conducted 83 visits at 54 locations across all 15 wards, for a total of 460 hours of engagement with the community from the months of July to September 2022.
- 18 Elections Presentations were made in 2022 to groups that included the following:
 - Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities
 - Seniors Advisory Committee
 - Status of Women Committee
 - Committee Against Racism
 - Immigrant and Refugee Advisory Committee
 - Indigenous Advisory Committee
 - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Advisory Committee
 - Hamilton Aboriginal Advisory Committee
 - Hamilton Regional Indian Centre
 - Immigrant Working Centre
 - McMaster University
 - Mohawk College
 - Redeemer University
 - Hamilton Public Library
- 7 videos were developed for YouTube/social media reels/Hamilton.ca to highlight election FAQs, the voting process, accessible voting equipment, polling locations, etc and included the following:
 - Video: What you need to know about the municipal election - <https://youtu.be/P2PfGgYW4Ms>
 - Video: Accessible voting in the 2022 Municipal Election – <https://youtu.be/Hw23DywXbN0>
 - Video: Vote by Mail in Hamilton's Municipal Election - <https://youtu.be/c8FbdJI3mY8>
 - Video: What to expect at a polling station - <https://youtu.be/pHGKW34h19Y>

- Number of Views YouTube: 2,515
- Number of Views Reels: 38,207
- Over 200 creative assets created for the 2022 Municipal Election
- Voice Assistant usage: 1,296 Alexa interactions and 785 Google assistant interactions

For the 2022 Municipal Election, the Election Team was committed to ensuring that all community members, electors, candidates, and third-party advertisers were informed about the Municipal Election and election processes.

Outreach, engagement and communications plans focused on understanding and addressing challenges posed by the Voters' List in advance of Election day, building awareness of the election and election processes, and engaging with residents who may face barriers to participate in the electoral process. In the lead up to the election, communications and engagement tactics were employed within the community to convey information such as the nomination period, key electoral dates, how to get on the Voters' List, where and when to vote, and how to access accessible voting options. Further, staff engaged with the community through survey and meetings with community organizations and boards, and additionally established an Election Ambassador Youth program that brought election information to the community at key events and locations, including City Facilities, Educational Institutions, Golf Courses, Hamilton Public Library Locations, Museums, Farmers' Markets, Outdoor Pools, Parks, Recreation Centres, and Senior Centres.

Outreach and Engagement

A key component of the 2022 Municipal Election was the Engagement and Outreach strategy. This public outreach program engaged directly with residents of the City of Hamilton, and specific groups such as new Canadians, Indigenous persons, youth, educators, tenants, persons without housing, persons with disabilities and seniors.

Engagement and Outreach was conducted to understand barriers to voting, familiarize residents with election processes, and provide information on voting. This involved:

- November 2021 - the Elections Team launched an Engage Hamilton Survey on the Voter Experience to gain information and feedback on experiences and barriers in previous elections, and to gather information on possible poll locations within the community. 441 members of the community participated in the survey, and feedback received was incorporated into election planning.
- Meetings with Community groups and Council Advisory Committees to gain feedback on past experiences and to provide information on the election. In 2021 and 2022, the Elections team engaged with a number of community organizations and residents to

share information and seek feedback and input on the election, including information on accessibility. This included engagement with the following groups:

- Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities
- Seniors Advisory Committee
- Status of Women Committee
- Committee Against Racism
- Immigrant and Refugee Advisory Committee
- Indigenous Advisory Committee
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Advisory Committee
- Hamilton Aboriginal Advisory Committee
- Hamilton Regional Indian Centre
- Immigrant Working Centre
- McMaster University
- Mohawk College
- Redeemer University
- Hamilton Public Library

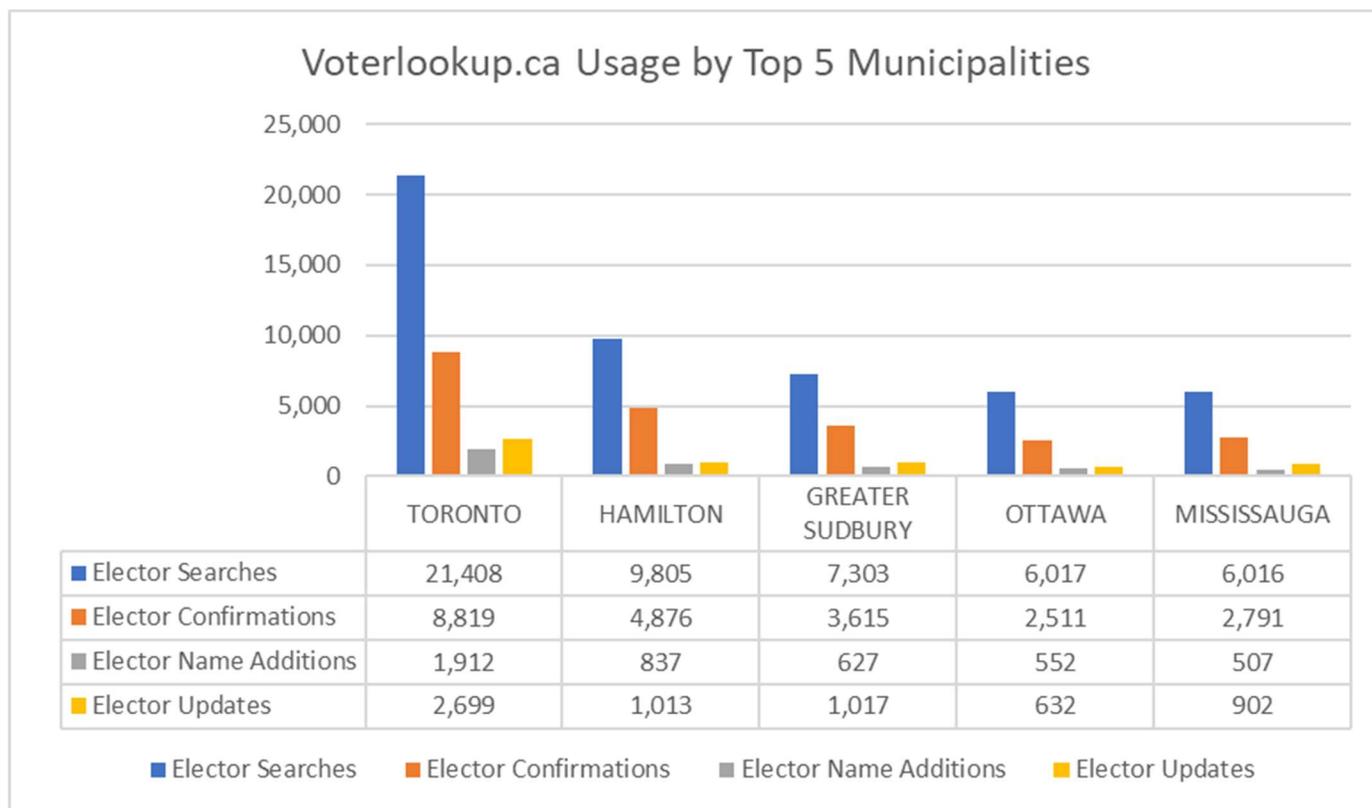
Engagement with these groups and organizations led to the development and implementation of new election processes and approaches. Using an equity, diversity and inclusion lens, the Election Team:

- piloted a Ballot on Demand project to provide ballots for electors to vote in a location that they were comfortable with, regardless of where they lived in the community,
- implemented this Ballot on Demand process at the Hamilton Regional Indian Centre and City Shelter locations;
- developed resources in multiple languages; and
- created videos providing information on polling stations and how to vote.

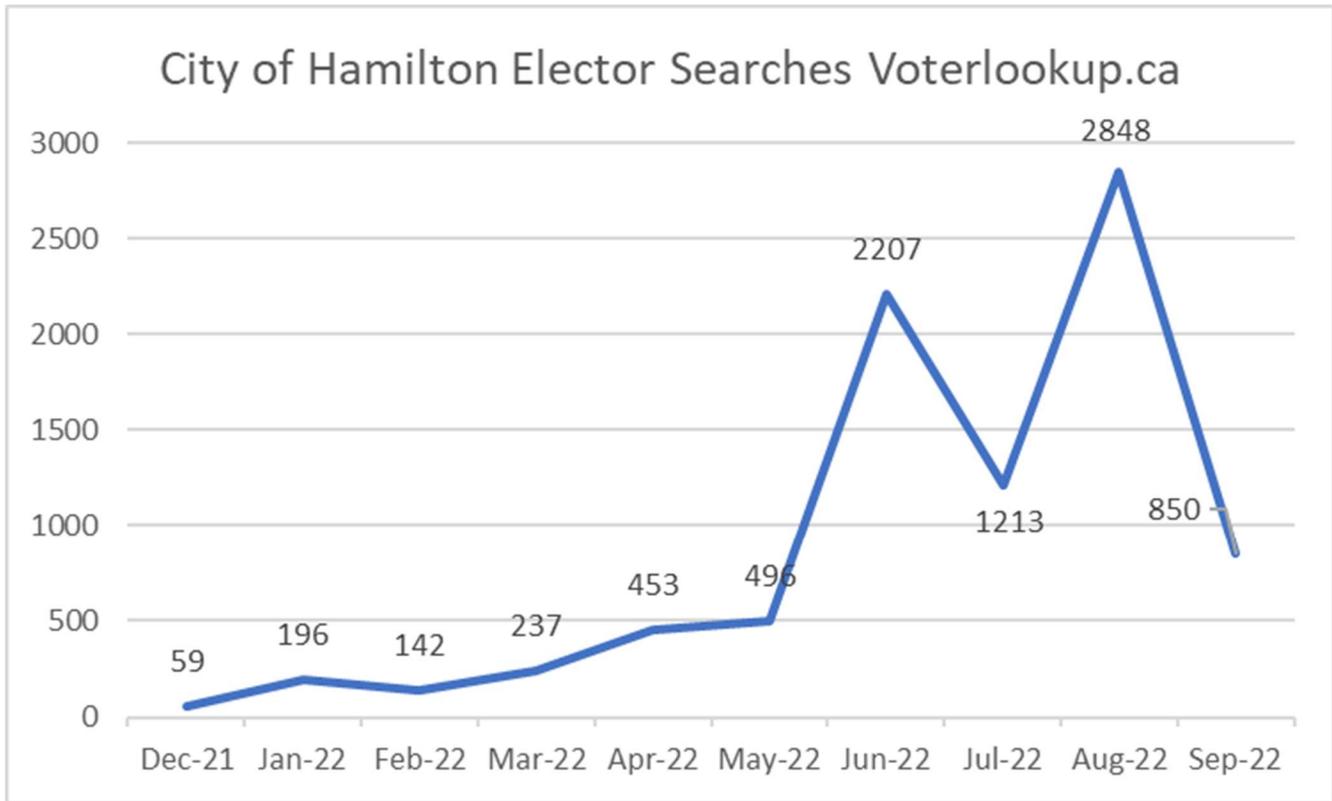
Throughout July and August of 2022, the City dispatched a team of Youth Elections Ambassadors to go out into the community and provide residents with information on the election, to provide information on and assist with the Voters' List, and to answer any elections-related questions. The Ambassadors, conducted 83 visits at 54 different locations across all 15 wards of the City, including recreation centres, farmers markets, parks, and special events. An overview of all locations visited is found in Appendix A to this report.

As a key focus of their engagement within the community, the Elections Ambassadors were tasked with communicating information on the Voters' List. Ambassadors provided information

on the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation’s online Voter Lookup tool (voterlookup.ca) to assist electors in reviewing existing information and making changes and updates. Ambassadors assisted electors in updating their information on site where requested through secure tablets or provided information to electors to enable them to update their information independently. The efforts of the Ambassadors in addition to communications releases from the City resulted in high usage of the voterlookup.ca tool. From the release of the voterlookup.ca tool in December 2021 to the close of access in September 2022, the site saw 9805 searches from City of Hamilton residents which represented the second highest usage of any municipality in Ontario after the City of Toronto. Additionally, the number of searches and updates on the tool increased during the summer months when Ambassadors were engaging with the community.



Source: Municipal Property Assessment Corporation



Source: Municipal Property Assessment Corporation

The Elections Team additionally collaborated with the Hamilton Public Library to share information and to encourage engagement in democratic processes. This partnership resulted in sharing of election resources and information through computer terminals, digital screens, and flyers and bookmarks. Additionally, during October the Hamilton Public Library engaged youth by suggesting elections-related books, hosting a mock election for children, and collaborating with the Elections Team on a City-wide essay contest for secondary school students to encourage learning and participation in democratic processes.

Communications

The branding for the 2022 Municipal Election was developed to be eye catching, inclusive, and memorable for voters. All elections communications were branded to ensure consistency and standardization.

2022 Municipal Election Branding:



The communications campaign expanded on the approach used in 2018 by increasing the frequency of communications and enhancing tactics to reach broader audiences. Election information was delivered to the community through a variety of vehicles, including the hamilton.ca website, local print media, radio, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, local tv, advertising such as in bus shelters and digital billboards, and through information sharing with our community partners.

News releases were used in addition to the fulsome advertising campaign, with information shared with the public through news releases regarding key election dates, voting information, and highlighting the ways/tools available to make the voter experience more accessible.

New tactics were employed for the 2022 Municipal Election, including the development of Instagram Reels and tactics to enhance engagement virally, such as the “I Voted” stickers for those who voted at polls.

Over 200 creative assets were created for the 2022 Municipal Election, as found in Appendix B to this report. Information on the communications plan and tactics is available in Appendix C of this report.

Communications Technology

To enable communication, outreach and engagement, the elections page of the hamilton.ca website was redesigned to make the page more intuitive to users and to ensure that information was easy to access. A key component of this was the creation of a main elections landing page, with updated notifications and key information that was changed to match current dates and milestones.

In addition to the redesign of the webpage, the City introduced a virtual assistant and voice agent to the tools available for electors to use in seeking information about the election. A virtual agent feature was added to the Municipal Election page on the City's website, which allowed residents to type or use voice command to ask questions. Electors received election related information or links through this agent to information directly without having to search the site.

A Voice Assistant was additionally introduced at the beginning of October 2022 that enabled community members using Smart Home devices such as Google Alexa or Apple Siri to use these devices to receive information on the Municipal Election. The introduction of this technology provided an accessible alternative to receiving election information, as users could verbally request and receive information on the election or be directed to resources.

Recruitment and Training

Highlights

- 2419 positions available in 2022 Municipal Election Polls
- 1621 temporary employees recruited, including:
 - 750 internal City of Hamilton Staff
 - 871 external staff members

A large number of temporary employees are required to staff polling stations for advance voting days and Election day. Recruiting individuals to fill positions is a significant task that occurs over months leading to the Election.

For the 2022 municipal election, the Elections team identified 2419 positions to be filled. This included the following positions required at the polls:

- Managing Deputy Returning Officers
- Deputy Returning Officers
- Revisions Officers
- Tabulating Deputy Returning Officers
- Accessible Voting Specialists
- Elections Assistants
- Greeters/Screeners
- Greeter Cleaners

The required staffing numbers also included Ward Captains, Ward Patrollers, technology team members, and additional reserve staff who could be deployed on voting days in the event of shortages.

1621 individuals were recruited and trained to assume their responsibilities on the City Clerk's behalf to assist in the administration of the election. These staff members filled the 2419 positions available, with many elections staff working on multiple voting days. Staff included City of Hamilton employees who were encouraged to participate by staffing polls and included members of the public who applied for positions directly with the Elections Team.

To recruit staff, the following approaches were used:

- City of Hamilton's website
- Social media posts
- Newspaper Advertisements
- Direct engagement with community groups and institutions, including colleges and universities and the Hamilton Public Library

- Adopt a Poll

Training

A blended training approach was utilized for the 2022 Municipal Election, which included online modules, printed materials, in-person sessions, and sessions conducted virtually. This blended approach was initiated to provide options for staff to learn in a manner that suited their learning style, and additionally was employed as a mitigation approach to avoid spread of COVID-19 infection that had the potential to impact staffing on voting days.

All employees were provided with printed materials and instructions for their specific role, and additionally were provided with placemats at the polls identifying key tasks for their role.

Employees had access to a worker portal, where information was housed including modules and video recordings of sessions held. In addition, training on AODA requirements and Diversity and Inclusion were delivered through the worker portal.

New for 2022 – Adopt a Poll

The Elections Team implemented a new staffing strategy for the 2022 Municipal Election, which sought to encourage City of Hamilton Staff to participate in the election to a greater extent than in previous years. The Adopt a Poll Program encouraged City divisions to pull together a team and to staff a voting location. This approach was beneficial as it helped to ensure that staffing numbers were met, it created poll teams where staff was familiar with working together and ultimately reduced costs as training requirements were minimized. As a result of this program, 750 City of Hamilton employees participated as poll staff in the 2022 Municipal election as compared to 350 in 2018.

Voters' List

Highlights

- 405,288 Electors on the Voters' List as of October 24, 2022
- 402,799 Voter Information Cards Mailed
- 67,802 Voters' List Amendments Completed

An accurate Voters' List is vital to delivering an election. The Voters' List includes information on eligible electors, including name, address and school support, and is used to assist with election planning and to ensure accuracy at the polls.

Each election, voter information cards are mailed out to electors eligible to vote in the Municipal election to advise them of their polling locations on Election day and in advance polls. Institutional voters are not included in the mail out, as onsite voting is held during the election for institutional voters.

Voters' List data is provided to the City from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC), which is reviewed by Elections Staff, corrected of obvious errors, and becomes the Voters' List. The City Clerk takes ownership of the Voters' List from September 1, 2022 to October 24, 2022. Changes to the Voters' List prior to September 1 are made through MPAC, and after September 1 to October 24 are made with the City Clerk or their designate at a Municipal Services Centre or at a poll location. The list is amended and updated consistently throughout this period, as electors add or remove themselves from the list and as staff cleanse the list of duplications. After the election, final updates are made and provided back to MPAC.

Despite efforts to cleanse the list, there remains challenges with the information in the Voters' List data that is received from MPAC. During the 2022 Municipal Election, this resulted in 67802 amendments made to the list as a result of data cleansing and applications to amend the Voters' List by residents.

Following the 2022 election, ownership of the Voters' List will be moving to Elections Ontario from MPAC. The consolidation of ownership at the Provincial level and the greater number of data source inputs into the Voters' List expected with this shift should result in a more accurate Voters' List for future elections.

Managing the Voters' List on Voting Days

For the 2022 Municipal Election, an electronic Voters' List was introduced to be used at voting locations. Poll staff would use a laptop (e-poll book) to look up voter information manually or by using a unique identifier on a voter card. Once identification was verified, voters would be struck off the list electronically. Similarly, revisions to the Voters' List could be made through the process of completing provincial forms with information that was then inputted by staff electronically at voting locations. Each poll had a paper copy of the Voters' List on-site in addition to the electronic versions.

Voting Places

Highlights:

292 Poll Locations used in the 2022 Municipal Election, including:

60 Advance Polls (1 per ward on 4 advance voting days)

18 Special Advance Legacy Polls

7 Ballot on Demand Polls

50 Institutions (utilizing a modified Vote by Mail option)

157 Regular Election day Polls

Over 200 in-person Facility Inspections Conducted

A Voting Location Assessment was developed for 2022 that considered 70 different factors in assessing voting locations for suitability.

Under the Municipal Elections Act, the City Clerk is required to establish the number and location of voting places that are both convenient and accessible to electors. Election staff undertook in-depth site inspections of well over 200 facilities to secure voting places which considered a variety of factors including distance from residence to voting place, access to transit and arterial roads, number of dwelling units in apartment buildings, and accessibility.

The voting location assessment used in determining poll locations was reviewed and updated for 2022. As a part of this review, staff consulted with the City of Hamilton's Advisory Committee for Persons with Disabilities, Talent Diversity & Inclusion section, and Facilities team. Staff additionally consulted with Elections Canada, Elections Ontario, and various community groups to understand requirements and to assist in developing robust criteria.

As a result of consultation and best-practice research, the update to the assessment resulted in polls that met the following criteria:

- AODA requirements are met or exceeded
- Voting Places are accessible to voters with disabilities by ensuring level access, accessible parking spaces, barrier-free pathways, etc. at all polling locations
- Voting Places are as near to transit areas/bus routes as possible, and distance stats are included in the location assessments
- Voting Places have pick-up and drop-off areas for DARTS or others with mobility issues
- Voting Place access routes and entrances are clearly identified
- Voting Place owners and managers are aware of accessibility requirements
- Polls are within the correct wards and subdivisions as best as possible
- The number of Voters per polling subdivision is approximately 1000
- New development and population increases are accounted for

- Polls are large enough to address Public Health guidelines surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic should distancing be required

All voting locations for the 2022 Municipal Election were assessed and selected by the end of March 2022 and contracts with each were finalized by June 2022.

The following is a summary chart of poll types in each ward, the total number of registered electors, and the average number of electors per poll.

2022 Poll Summary

Ward	Regular Polls	Advance Polls	Institutions	Special Advance	Ballot on Demand	Total Polls	Registered Electors	Average # of Electors per Poll
1	11	4	3	2	1	21	24705	1176
2	10	4	4	4	2	24	22876	953
3	11	4	6	3	1	25	28513	1141
4	11	4	1	-	1	17	27761	1633
5	12	4	3	-	-	19	30684	1615
6	11	4	-	3	-	18	27616	1534
7	13	4	4	2	-	23	34515	1501
8	9	4	3	-	1	17	24154	1421
9	8	4	2	-	-	14	24185	1728
10	11	4	4	2	-	21	29635	1411
11	8	4	-	1	-	13	19438	1495
12	13	4	3	-	1	21	33465	1594
13	13	4	6	1	-	24	29041	1210
14	9	4	8	-	-	21	24917	1187
15	7	4	3	-	-	14	23783	1699
Total	157	60	50	18	7	292	405288	1388

Breakdown of Poll Type

The Elections Team leveraged a number of different poll types to support voting. To support accessibility and to ensure that poll locations could meet possible COVID-19 distancing requirements, more schools and recreation centres were utilized in 2022 than had been used in 2018. The breakdown of poll types used in 2022 versus 2018 is as follows:

Poll Type	2018	2022	% Increase/Decrease
Schools	89	97	9% Increase
Churches	25	14	44% Decrease
Community/Recreation Centres	41	47	15% Increase
Apartment Buildings/Condominiums	22	17	23% Decrease
Retirement/Nursing Homes	48	50	4% Increase
Others (Private Schools, Legion Halls, etc.)	18	21	17% Increase
Total Polls	243	246	1% Increase Overall

Use of Schools

Under section 45(4)(5)(6) of the Municipal Elections Act, the City Clerk may request the use of space of a school board, municipality, provincially-funded building, condominium with more than 100 dwelling units, or residence with more that 100 dwelling units, for a polling station at no charge to the municipality.

The majority of polling locations used on Election day were elementary and secondary schools, as these locations are convenient, well-situated within communities, typically meet AODA requirements, and have adequate parking. Concerns arounds student safety were addressed by the City Clerk and the Elections Team by successfully working with the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board and the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board to establish a PA day on October 24, 2022. Locations used for the 2022 Municipal Election will be reviewed and updated in advance of each future election to ensure continued compliance with legislative requirements and to ensure that voting locations remain convenient and accessible for voters. The Election Team will additionally work with the School Boards to secure a PA day for the 2026 Municipal Election.

Voting Technology

Highlights

- 403,000 Paper Ballots Produced
- 28,000 Vote by Mail Packages Produced
- 212 Tabulators Prepared, Tested and Deployed (210 Tabulators, 2 High Speed Optical Scan Tabulators)
- 18 Accessible Voting Tabulators Prepared, Tested and Deployed
- 688 E-poll Books Prepared, Tested, and Deployed
- 181 Modems Prepared, Tested and Deployed
- 5 Ballot on Demand Printers Prepared, Tested and Deployed

The technology to support the 2022 Municipal Election included 212 optical scan tabulators, 18 accessible voting tabulators, 688 e-poll books, 181 modems, and 5 ballot on demand printers to support the Ballot on Demand Pilot project.

All advance poll and Election day poll locations were equipped with a vote tabulator that optically scans the paper ballot marked by a voter and records the votes onto a memory card.

New technology for the 2022 Municipal Election included: e-poll books, which are laptop devices that house software containing an electronic Voters' List; modems used to provide Wi-Fi to enable the laptops (e-poll books); 2 high speed optical scan tabulators to process Vote by Mail ballots; and 5 ballot on demand printers to generate appropriate ballots for electors based on residency.

The City relied on modems with SIM Cards to provide connection to the e-poll books rather than rely on Wi-Fi at poll locations, which ensured security of connection.

Accessible Voting Equipment

An accessible vote tabulator was available at all voting places during the four days of advance voting and at one voting place per ward on Election day. Accessible voting equipment enables electors to mark their ballot privately and independently. An elector can navigate the ballot while adjusting features such as font size customization, contrast level, or the pace and volume of audio. The accessible vote tabulator provides the option for electors to use tools such as a touchscreen, sip and puff tube, audio-tactile device, and paddles. Once marked, the ballot is then scanned and counted by the accessible vote tabulator.

Equipment Testing

Equipment testing for the election technology was conducted by a team of the City's Information Technology Staff throughout August and September 2022. 212 tabulators and 18 accessible vote tabulators were extensively prepared and tested prior to deployment during advance vote and Election day. This included logic and accuracy testing using ballot proofs to ensure that tabulators were configured appropriately and that votes were counted as intended.

688 e-poll books were set up with election administration software and tested by the IT team. This team additionally prepared and tested modems and ballot on demand printers to be ready for deployment.

Vendor Support

Elections Ontario, Dominion Voting Technology, and Datafix were utilized as vendors for the 2022 Municipal Election.

The City was able to leverage the Province's voting technology leasing program to secure tabulator and e-poll book equipment at reduced pricing for the election. The Province's program leverages Dominion Voting Technology to provide training, support and implementation for the tabulator equipment, including Election day support and support in results transmission and report generation.

Datafix's election administration software was utilized for the election, which provided staff with Voters' List management, electronic strike off, dashboard capabilities, a candidate portal and a worker portal. Datafix additionally provided the technology to support the Vote by Mail process through their administration software.

Ballot Production

403,000 paper ballots were created for the 2022 Municipal Election. Ballots were created for each race in all 15 wards, including English Public, English Separate, French Public, French Separate, and Non-Resident, which resulted in 57 ballot faces due to the acclaimed races.

28,000 Vote by Mail packages were printed. This included the ballots mailed directly to voters, the ballots used at Long Term Care institutions, and the reserve ballots retained as contingency.

Advance Vote

Highlights:

- 4 days of Advance Voting offered in 15 Wards
- 7 Ballot on Demand opportunities
- 17 Special Advance Vote Locations
- 64.5 total hours of Advance Voting offered to Electors

The City offered four advance poll days, with one polling station open for voting hours in each of the City's 15 wards.

Advance Poll Dates:

- Friday, October 7, 2022 10:00am – 8:00pm
- Saturday, October 8, 2022 10:00am – 5:00pm
- Friday, October 14, 2022 10:00am – 8:00pm
- Saturday, October 15, 2022 10:00am – 5:00pm

Advance Poll Locations:

- Ward 1: Dalewood Recreation Centre
- Ward 2: Bennetto Community Centre
- Ward 3: Bernie Morelli Recreation Centre
- Ward 4: Sir Winston Churchill Recreation Centre
- Ward 5: Stoney Creek Recreation Centre
- Ward 6: Huntington Park Recreation Centre
- Ward 7: Sackville Hill Seniors Centre
- Ward 8: Westmount Recreation Centre
- Ward 9: Valley Park Recreation Centre
- Ward 10: Saltfleet Community Centre
- Ward 11: Glanbrook Arena
- Ward 12: Ancaster Rotary Centre
- Ward 13: Oct 7 & 8 – Dundas Lions Memorial Community Centre
Oct 14 & 15 – Beverly Arena
- Ward 14: Chedoke Twin Pad Arena
- Ward 15: Harry Howell Arena

The advance voting day opportunities were well-attended, with 30,893 ballots cast over the four days of advance voting. This was an 81.17% increase from the 2018 municipal election advance voting numbers, which saw 17,052 ballots cast over 5 days of advance voting.

2022 Advance Poll Turnout

	Friday October 7 10:00am to 8:00pm	Saturday October 8 10:00am to 5:00pm	Friday October 14 10:00am to 8:00pm	Saturday October 15 10:00am to 5:00pm	Total Advance Votes
Ward 1	326	273	721	540	1860
Ward 2	280	231	478	383	1372
Ward 3	432	337	654	565	1988
Ward 4	373	271	689	475	1807
Ward 5	494	352	900	597	2343
Ward 6	460	322	887	540	2209
Ward 7	555	414	980	616	2565
Ward 8	299	278	714	514	1805
Ward 9	339	247	543	428	1557
Ward 10	634	423	1164	661	2882
Ward 11	296	211	616	414	1537
Ward 12	470	424	1155	861	2910
Ward 13	930	791	448	321	2490
Ward 14	361	292	701	449	1803
Ward 15	332	233	655	545	1765
Total	6581	5099	11305	7909	30893

In addition to Advance Poll locations, the City of Hamilton offered additional advance voting opportunities for Electors. This included Ballot on Demand polls and Special Advance Polls.

New Technology

The use of an electronic Voters' List with real-time updating on e-poll books was deployed at all locations which allowed staff to monitor voting efficiency and turnout. Used in conjunction with a new system dashboard, staff were able to monitor and address voting place issues in a timely manner by dispatching additional voting place staff to high volume polls.

Ballot on Demand Polls

A Ballot on Demand Pilot project was introduced for the 2022 Municipal Election. A Ballot on Demand system enables a ballot from any of the City's Wards to be printed for an elector on site once eligibility and identity is verified. This technology allows electors to attend a designated Ballot on Demand Poll and receive their Ballot, regardless of where they live in the City.

Ballot on Demand was introduced to provide convenience to electors and more importantly to ensure that electors within equity-deserving groups in the community had the opportunity to vote in a location where they felt comfortable.

The Ballot on Demand Pilot was employed at the following locations:

- McMaster University
- Mohawk College
- Redeemer University
- Hamilton Regional Indian Centre
- Carol-Anne's Place
- Willow's Place
- Wesley Day Centre

325 electors utilized a Ballot on Demand poll in the 2022 Municipal Election. Despite the lower turnout, post-election feedback from these locations indicated a high degree of satisfaction with the program, and participating groups indicated a desire to engage with the City in this program for future elections.

Legacy Special Advance Polls

The City has traditionally held special Advance Polls at sites across the city that fall short of meeting the criteria for an Institutional Poll in the Municipal Elections Act. These locations include buildings that are predominantly seniors' residences in addition to City Housing locations. The City is not obligated under legislation to provide polls at these locations however a decision was made by the Clerk to maintain these polls for the 2022 Municipal Election and evaluate effectiveness going forward.

For the 2022 Municipal Election, there were 18 Legacy Special Advance Polls scheduled to be held on October 11 and 12, 2022 at locations throughout the city. Of the 18, 1 poll was cancelled due to COVID-19 outbreak at the location.

835 electors cast a ballot during a Legacy Special Advance Poll opportunity, accounting for approximately 20% of eligible voters in these locations.

Vote by Mail

Highlights:

- 3186 Vote by Mail Packages Requested
- 2397 Vote by Mail Packages Received

Vote by Mail was introduced as an alternative voting method for the 2022 Municipal Election, as a means to provide greater accessibility to electors and as a method that could be utilized in response to a COVID-19 public health emergency. The Vote by Mail process allowed eligible electors to request a ballot by mail from the City of Hamilton, which they would complete at home and return in a postage paid envelope to the City prior to Election day to be tabulated.

The Vote by Mail package included:

- A voting instruction sheet;
- A Ballot;
- An inner Ballot secrecy envelope;
- A voter declaration form; and
- An outer return envelope with prepaid postage.

Electors who were on the Voters' List could request a Vote by Mail package online or by phone between September 1, 2022 and September 23, 2022. Vote by Mail packages were to be mailed the week of September 26, 2022.

To be counted, Vote by Mail Packages had to be received by the City prior to 8pm on Monday October 22, 2022. Packages could be mailed back to the City using the prepaid envelope or could be dropped off at a Vote by Mail Mailbox located within each of the City's Municipal Service Centres and at City Hall.

In total, 3176 Vote by Mail packages were requested by electors between September 1, 2022 and September 23, 2022. 2397 Vote by Mail packages were received by the City by 8pm on Monday October 22, 2022, accounting for 75.23% of all packages distributed through the Vote by Mail program.

Vote by Mail Delays

In 2022, there was a delay experienced in the Vote by Mail approval process and a federal holiday that impacted the mailing date of the packages. Packages that were to be mailed by the end of the week of September 26, 2022 were mailed out on October 3, 2022. While this delay should have seen packages delivered to residents in advance of the October 13, 2022 mailing

deadline based on established Canada Post delivery timelines, the Elections Team received feedback that packages were received much later than anticipated. Changes in mail out deadlines and registration dates will be modified for future elections to provide more time for voters to receive and return packages.

Election day

Highlights:

- 157 poll locations on Election day
- 109,179 ballots cast on Election day
- 71 Proxy Appointments
- Emergency Declaration under Section 53 invoked, resulting in some polls open until 9:20pm and a delay in results transmission
- Technology issues experienced, resulting in delays for voters and requiring switch to manual process.

For Election day, each of the City's 15 wards are broken down into polling subdivisions based on previous voter turnout and population data. A poll is selected for each subdivision, and residents of that subdivision are directed to cast their ballot at that poll location (or in an advance poll in their ward). For the 2022 Municipal Election, this analysis resulted in the creation of 157 poll subdivisions and 157 polling locations on Election day.

As required by the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, polls must open on Election day at 10:00am and close at 8:00pm, with the exception of Institutional polls. Results from all polls, including advance polls, are tabulated after 8:00pm on October 24, 2023.

At Election day polls, results are tabulated onsite at the close of polls. Printed results are posted at each voting place for candidates and scrutineers to view. When tabulators are returned to Ward Centres, dedicated IT staff transmit results data from memory cards securely using the City's network to be compiled into the overall results.

Advance polls and institutional polls are tabulated at City Hall following the close of polls. Results are uploaded through the City's network, and printed results are posted for candidates and scrutineers to view.

The transmission of results from ward centres allows the unofficial results to be reported on election night quickly and accurately. Results are posted on the City of Hamilton's website as they become available and are streamed on monitors at City Hall for public viewing.

Following election night, the City Clerk reviews the tabulator results and certifies the results of the election. The City Clerk certified results on October 26, 2022. Results can be found at: <https://www.hamilton.ca/city-council/municipal-election/election-results-archives/2022-election-results>

Election day Voting

An average of 76.15% of all ballots cast in the 2022 Municipal Election were cast on Election day.

Ballots Cast on Election Day 2022

Ward	Total Votes Cast	Ballots Cast on Election day	% of Votes Cast on Election day
1	9115	7027	77.09%
2	7623	5924	77.71%
3	8788	6527	74.27%
4	9321	7358	78.94%
5	9978	7502	75.19%
6	10177	7581	74.49%
7	12135	9258	76.29%
8	8721	6745	77.34%
9	7152	5424	75.84%
10	10788	7711	71.48%
11	7580	5733	75.63%
12	13012	9930	76.31%
13	12397	9672	78.02%
14	9430	7464	79.15%
15	7158	5323	74.36%
Total	143375	109179	76.15%

Institutional Polls

For the 2022 Municipal Election, Vote by Mail Packages were provided to electors directly at institutions where possible prior to Election day, to ensure that all electors in our institutions had an opportunity to vote, and to avoid potential challenges posed by COVID-19 lockdowns in institutions that would prevent staff from attending on site on Election day.

The majority of the City's 50 institutions received Vote by Mail packages for their electors. For these institutions, Vote by Mail packages were completed by residents, sealed, and deposited in a secured ballot box held in the office of the institution. Elections staff retrieved the packages in advance of Election day, and were onsite again on Election day to provide packages for electors who did not have a chance to vote, who changed their minds and wished to vote, or for those who were new to the institution and wished to vote.

A small group of institutions requested a traditional poll, and as such, staff were on-site on Election day to support a traditional poll for residents at the five locations.

In total, 1370 electors in the City's institutions cast a ballot in the 2022 Municipal Election.

Election day Emergency Declaration

An emergency declaration, under section 53 of the Municipal Elections Act, was declared by the City Clerk on October 24, 2022 as 12 polls were not opened at 10:00am in accordance with the Act. As a result of this emergency declaration, polls that opened late were required to stay open for the amount of time that they were delayed in opening. Under the Municipal Elections Act, results can not be released until the close of polls. As the last poll to open did not open until 11:20 a.m, the results could not be tallied and released until 9:20 p.m. While this delay was regrettable, all polls were open for the same number of hours to ensure fairness for all voters.

Election day Technology Issues

The City was a part of Election day issues experienced by users of Datafix Software across the province as their servers failed. Throughout the day, slowdowns were experienced at polls due to syncing delays in the system. Staff were advised to move to manual processes and paper Voters' Lists at polls where the systems were delayed. The Election day technology issues were limited to the election administration software. This included the electronic Voters' List, access to the dashboard and access to the candidate portal. Since this was a province-wide issue, staff will be working with other municipalities and the vendor to discuss future changes to improve system availability and rigor.

Elections Budget Allocation

The budget allocated to the 2022 Municipal Election was \$2.8 million dollars, which was funded from operational budget and the Elections Reserve.

The budget breakdown for the 2022 Municipal Election is as follows:

2022 Election Budget Breakdown	
Item	Cost
Human Resources (temporary core staff, poll staff, support staff, summer ambassador students, training costs)	\$1,272,705.55
Voting Technology (tabulators, e-poll books, software, support)	\$640,837.31
Vote by Mail Program (printing, administration, mailing)	\$64,222.43
Poll Location Costs and Supplies (ballots, PPE, poll rentals, pens, markers, secrecy folders)	\$198,998.81
Communications (notifications, advertisements, videos, promotional material)	\$72,622.84
Voter Cards (paper, printing, mailing)	\$419,512.21
Miscellaneous (security, facilities, mileage, parking, rentals)	\$42,043.26
Election 2022 Total Costs	\$2,710,942.41

Submission of Financial Statements

Following each Municipal Election, Candidates and Third-Party Advertisers are required to submit financial statements from their campaign, identifying contributions that were received and expenditures that were made. All candidates who submitted nomination papers for the 2022 Municipal Election are required to submit a financial statement, regardless of whether they withdrew their nomination or spent money on their campaign. Candidates and third-parties who receive or spend in excess of \$10,000 are additionally required to include an auditor's report.

The deadline for submission of financial statements was March 31, 2023 at 2pm, with a thirty-day grace period ending on May 2, 2023. Candidates who requested an extension to their campaign must submit a supplementary financial statement by September 29, 2023.

The City Clerk is required under the Municipal Elections Act to review financial statements and to make public the following information:

- As per Section 88.23 (3)(c) of the Act in the case of a default of a candidate described in Section 88.23(1) of the Act, the clerk shall, make available to the public the name of the candidate and a description of the nature of the default.
- As per Section 88.23 (4) of Act the Clerk shall make available to the public a report setting out all candidates in an election and indicating whether each candidate complied with Section 88.25 of the Act.
- As per Section 88.27 (2) of the Act the Clerk in the case of a default of a registered third party described in Section 88.27(1) of the Act, the clerk shall, make available to the public the name of the registered third party and a description of the nature of the default.
- As per Section 88.29 (11) of the Act the Clerk shall make available to the public on a website or in another electronic format a list of all registered third parties for the election along with an indication of whether each has filed a financial statement and auditor's report under Section 88.29(1).

A public report was completed and posted in accordance with section 88.23 (5) of the Municipal Elections Act, and is available on the City's website at the following location:

<https://www.hamilton.ca/sites/default/files/2023-05/municipal-election-financials-clerks-report-2022.pdf>

The City Clerk is additionally required to review the contributions reported on the financial statements submitted by candidates to determine whether any contributors appear to have exceeded any of the contribution limits detailed in section 88.9 of the Act. The Clerk is required to prepare separate reports for each contributor to a candidate for office on a council who appears to have contravened any of the contribution limits identified in the Act and forward this report to the Election Compliance Audit Committee for review.

Election Compliance Audit Committee

Each municipality and school board must appoint a compliance audit committee. The City of Hamilton's Election Compliance Audit Committee members were appointed in September 2022 to serve a four-year term ending in 2026.

The Election Compliance Audit Committee is tasked the following responsibilities:

- Receiving and considering applications for a compliance audit by an elector and, within 30 days of receiving the application from the City Clerk, determining whether the compliance audit should be granted or rejected; *88.33(7), 88.35(4) Municipal Elections Act*
- Prepare brief written reasons for the decision to either grant or reject the compliance audit and provide same to the Candidate or Registered Third Party, the Clerk of the municipality and the applicant; *88.33(8), 88.35(4) Municipal Elections Act*
- Appointing an auditor, if a compliance audit is granted; *88.33(10), 88.35(4) Municipal Elections Act*
- Receiving and considering the Auditor's report, and if the auditor's report concludes that the Candidate or Registered Third Party appears to have contravened a provision of the Municipal Elections Act relating to election campaign finances, within 30 days of receipt of the auditor's Report from the City Clerk, deciding whether to commence a legal proceeding against the Candidate or Registered Third Party; *88.33(17), 88.35(4) Municipal Elections Act* and,
- Prepare brief written reasons for the decision whether or not to commence legal proceedings and provide same to the Candidate or Registered Third Party, the Clerk of the municipality and the applicant. *88.33(18), 88.35(4) Municipal Elections Act.*

As of June 2023, the Election Compliance Audit Committee had reviewed one application for compliance audit and nine over-contributor reports. The decisions of the Election Compliance Audit Committee are available at the following location: <https://www.hamilton.ca/city-council/municipal-election/election-resources/election-compliance-audit-process>

Future Elections

Following the 2022 Municipal Election, the City Clerk and the Elections Team conducted a lessons learned exercise, and identified areas to enhance for future elections. This included:

- Restructured core and poll staffing approach
- Expanded engagement with the community
- Increased communications
- Greater focus on accessibility, including training with involvement from individuals with lived experience
- Restructured poll layout and flow
- Enhanced risk mitigation and contingency planning
- Greater alignment with the Province with regard to provincial elections approaches

Staff have begun the work of planning for the 2026 Municipal Election and will be returning to Council for decisions on voting methods, policy and by-laws.

Election Day is
October 24

#HamiltonVotes2022



2022 Student Ambassador Engagement Schedule

Engagement Date	Type	Location	Engagement Hours
July 5, 2022	Recreation Centre	Bennetto Community Centre	6.5
July 5, 2022	Recreation Centre	Norman Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre	5
July 6, 2022	Recreation Centre	Westmount Recreation Centre	7.5
July 6, 2022	Recreation Centre	Ancaster Rotary Centre	8
July 7, 2022	Park	Bayfront Park	4.5
July 8, 2022	Parks	McQuestan Park	6.5
July 8, 2022	Recreation Centre	Valley Park Community Centre	7
July 9, 2022	City Facility	Gage Park Tropical Greenhouse	6.5
July 9, 2022	HPL	Gage Park Bookmobile	1
July 9, 2022	Park	Gage Park	6
July 12, 2022	Recreation Centre	Bernie Morelli Recreation Centre	8
July 12, 2022	Senior Centre	Sackville Hill Seniors Recreation Centre	8
July 13, 2022	Recreation Centre	Dominic Agostino Riverdale Community Centre	8
July 13, 2022	Recreation Centre	Huntington Park Recreation Centre	6
July 14, 2022	Recreation Centre	Dundas Community Pool	4.5
July 14, 2022	Recreation Centre	Dundas Lions Memorial Community Centre	6.5
July 15, 2022	HPL	Central Library	6.5
July 15, 2022	Recreation Centre	Sir Allan MacNab Recreation Centre	6
July 16, 2022	City Facility	Hamilton Farmers' Market	8
July 16, 2022	Community	Ottawa St. Farmers Market	6.5
July 19, 2022	HPL	Carlisle Branch	6
July 19, 2022	HPL	Waterdown Branch	6
July 20, 2022	Park	Dundas Driving Park	6
July 20, 2022	Senior Centre	Flamborough Seniors Centre	7
July 21, 2022	Recreation Centre	Bennetto Community Centre	6.5
July 21, 2022	Recreation Centre	Norman Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre	5



Hamilton



HAMILTON
VOTES 2022

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Election Day is October 24

#HamiltonVotes2022



Engagement Date	Type	Location	Engagement Hours
July 22, 2022	HPL	Freelton Branch	6
July 22, 2022	Community	Sobeys Flamborough	8
July 23, 2022	Museum	Dundurn National Historic Site	4
July 23, 2022	Park	Bayfront Park	3.5
July 25, 2022	Recreation Centre	Ryerson Recreation Centre	3
July 25, 2022	Outdoor pool	Victoria Park Outdoor Pool	4
July 25, 2022	HPL	Tim Horton's Field Bookmobile	1.5
July 25, 2022	Recreation Centre	Stoney Creek Recreation Centre	5.5
July 26, 2022	HPL	Binbrook Branch	5
July 26, 2022	HPL	Mount Hope Branch	5
July 27, 2022	City Facility	Hamilton City Hall	5
July 27, 2022	HPL	Lynden Branch	5
July 28, 2022	City Facility	Hamilton Farmers' Market	7
July 28, 2022	HPL	Turner Park Branch	7
July 29, 2022	HPL	Stoney Creek Branch	5
July 29, 2022	Community	YMCA Flamborough	6
August 2, 2022	HPL	Carlisle Branch	5
August 2, 2022	HPL	Waterdown Branch	5
August 3, 2022	Community	Gore Park Promenade	5
August 3, 2022	Recreation Centre	Dominic Agostino Riverdale Community Centre	6
August 4, 2022	Community	Rockton Farmers' Market	3
August 4, 2022	Community	YMCA Flamborough	5
August 5, 2022	HPL	Dundas Branch	7
August 5, 2022	Community	Sobeys Flamborough	7
August 6, 2022	City Facility	Gage Park Tropical Greenhouse	6
August 6, 2022	HPL	Gage Park Bookmobile	1
August 6, 2022	Park	Gage Park	6
August 8, 2022	Recreation Centre	Sir Wilfrid Laurier Recreation Centre	5
August 8, 2022	Recreation Centre	Stoney Creek Recreation Centre	5
August 9, 2022	Recreation Centre	Bernie Morelli Recreation Centre	6
August 9, 2022	Senior Centre	Sackville Hill Seniors Recreation Centre	6
August 10, 2022	Recreation Centre	Westmount Recreation Centre	7
August 10, 2022	Recreation Centre	Ancaster Rotary Centre	7



Hamilton



HAMILTON
VOTES 2022

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Election Day is October 24

#HamiltonVotes2022



Engagement Date	Type	Location	Engagement Hours
August 11, 2022	Recreation Centre	Dundas Community Pool	4
August 11, 2022	Recreation Centre	Dundas Lions Memorial Community Centre	5.5
August 12, 2022	HPL	Valley Park Branch	6
August 13, 2022	Museum	Dundurn National Historic Site	5
August 16, 2022	HPL	Carlisle Branch	5
August 16, 2022	HPL	Waterdown Branch	5
August 17, 2022	Recreation Centre	Dominic Agostino Riverdale Community Centre	6.5
August 17, 2022	Recreation Centre	Huntington Park Recreation Centre	5
August 18, 2022	Recreation Centre	Bennetto Community Centre	5.5
August 18, 2022	Recreation Centre	Norman Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre	5
August 20, 2022	Community	The Centre on Barton	4
August 20, 2022	Community	Waterdown Farmers' Market	5
August 23, 2022	HPL	Locke Branch	4
August 23, 2022	HPL	Greensville Branch	5
August 24, 2022	HPL	Stoney Creek Branch	5
August 24, 2022	Senior Centre	Flamborough Seniors Centre	5
August 25, 2022	Community	Eastgate Square	7
August 26, 2022	Community	Eastgate Square	7
August 27, 2022	Park	Beasley Park	5
August 30, 2022	Community	Hamilton GO Centre	6
August 31, 2022	Golf Course	King's Forest Golf Course	7
October 3, 2022	Education	Redeemer University	4
October 4, 2022	Education	McMaster University	4
October 5, 2022	Education	Mohawk College	4

Total Number of Engagement Hours.....460



Hamilton



HAMILTON
VOTES 2022

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

200+ CREATIVE ASSETS



Work the Election

Opportunities for City Staff



VOTE

Election Day is
October 24

There
are many
ways you
can vote



Election Day is October 24

hamilton.ca/elections

#HamiltonVotes2022



hamilton.ca/elections



Are you on the Voters List?

lookup.ca



JOIN
the
**Election Compliance
Audit Committee**

Election Day is
October 24
#HamiltonVotes2022



Election Day is
October 24
#HamiltonVotes2022



Vote by Mail
What you need to know
about the Municipal Election
Voter Information

Welcome
to #HamiltonVotes2022!
We are happy to see you.



Election Day is
October 24, 2022
is Election Day!



hamilton.ca/elections



Curbside Collection Box with Snorkel

Curbside Collection Box

The City of Hamilton is committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for civic engagement by providing equitable treatment to all residents irrespective of ability, race, religion, ethnic and cultural origins, and sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions.

LET US KNOW HOW WE DID.
Send us any suggestions to elections@hamilton.ca
or speak with the on-site Manager.

Election Day is
October 24

#HamiltonVotes2022



2022 Communication Tactics

A summary of communication tactics used in the 2022 Municipal Election can be found in the below chart:

Communication Method	Details
Website	Dedicated URL hamilton.ca/elections
Engage Hamilton platform	Community engagement and survey in advance of election
Social media	City of Hamilton's corporate channels: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn Dedicated hashtag across all materials #HamiltonVotes2022
Posters	Printed materials on display in all Municipal Service Centre locations, Recreation centres, arenas and senior centres, and Hamilton Public Library branches
Video	Videos developed for use on YouTube and Instagram/social media reels
Digital message boards	City Hall, Gage Park, Hamilton Farmer's Market, City-owned TV screens, Hamilton Public Library TV screens
Mail	Branded insert included in 2022 final tax bills mailed out via Canada Post to all tax payers



Hamilton



HAMILTON
VOTES 2022

MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Election Day is October 24

#HamiltonVotes2022



Communication Method	Details
Radio	Ads on local radio stations including Corus Radio, Bell Radio, KX 94.7
Print	Ads in local print media, including the Hamilton Spectator and Hamilton Community News Chain
TV	Ads and content on local stations including CHCH and Cable 14
Digital ads	Ads on online platforms including Google, Bell Digital, Corus Digital, Hamilton Spectator online, McMaster Silhouette online
Billboards	Ads on digital billboards operated by Outfront media including along LINC
Transit shelters	Full sized promotional posters at transit shelters in every ward and near all post-secondary schools
Google ad words and Geotargeted ads	Established to target users through key buzz words such as elections.
Community partnerships	Leveraged relationships with groups and their networks to reach target audiences, including HamOnt Youth, Post-secondary partners (Mohawk, McMaster and Redeemer), Hamilton Regional Indian Centre and Hamilton Public Library



Hamilton



HAMILTON
VOTES 2022

MUNICIPAL ELECTION



Hamilton



HAMILTON
VOTES **2022**

MUNICIPAL ELECTION