

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

REPORT TO COUNCIL: ELECTION ACCESSIBILITY 2018

November 6, 2018

The Township of Ryerson Accessibility Plan, Customer Service Policy Statement provides our mission and commitment to providing goods and services to people with disabilities.

The Municipal Election Act Section 12.1(3) states: "Within 90 days after voting 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."

The Township of Ryerson used Vote-By-Mail for the 2018 election. The Clerk participated in a partnership with other municipalities in the area called the Almaguin Clerk's Group in order to share in election policy development and advertising.

In order to be able to identify possible barriers that could affect electors and candidates with disabilities, a Public Notice was produced. The Almaguin Clerk's group shared in radio ads. The Joint advertisements were played on three local radio stations that service ratepayers from Novar to South River (103.3 FM, 105.5 FM and 100.5).

To further reach electors and candidates, the municipal website had information on accessible elections. The Candidates information package also contained information on Accessible Elections.

The Election Accessibility Plan was posted before Voting Day as required by the Municipal Elections Act 12.1 (2).

Although this information was available, not one request for assistance was received.

Ryerson Township used Vote-By-Mail for the 2018 election. The Voter's Kit instructions were in large, bold print which is easy to read. The instructions were clear and concise.

We used Vote-B- Mail, and no issues were raised regarding the physical environment. No barriers to voting were identified. Some electors chose to drop their ballots off at the municipal office. There is handicap parking space and an automatic door opener to assist with access to the building which is all at ground level.

For the 2018 Election the Township of Ryerson met our Mission in the Customer Service Policy "...To provide quality programs and services that are accessible to all persons served by the municipality."