

The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss



**BY-LAW No.
2026 - 40**

Being a By-Law to Adopt a Use of Corporate Resources and Facilities for Election Purposes Policy for the Township of Huron- Kinloss

WHEREAS Section 8(1) and 9 of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c. 25, as amended, provide that the powers of a municipality under this or any other Act shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on the municipality to enable the municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality's ability to respond to municipal issues and has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purposes of exercising its authority under this or any other Act;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss deems it expedient to adopt a policy for the Use of Corporate Resources and Facilities for Election Purposes as per Report CLK-2026-13;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss **ENACTS** as follows;

1. That The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council hereby adopts the Use if Corporate Resources and Facilities for Election Purposes Policy which is attached as Schedule "A" and forms part of the by-law.
2. That this by-law shall come into full force and effect upon its final passage.
3. That this by-law may be cited as the "Use of Corporate Resources for Elections By-law".

READ a FIRST and SECOND TIME this 20th day of April, 2026

READ a THIRD TIME and FINALLY PASSED this 20th day of Aprilm 2026

Mayor

Clerk

By signing this by-law on April 20, 2026 Mayor Murray confirmed that they will not exercise the power to veto this by-law.



The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Policy

Section: 5.0 General

Policy: Use of Corporate Resources or Facilities for Election Purposes

By-Law: 2026-40

Date: 20 April 2026

Revision: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Coverage:

This policy applies to Members of Council, Municipal Staff and Election Candidates.

Policy Statement:

In accordance with the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 public funds are not to be used for any election – related campaign purposes, specifically the promotion of or opposition to the candidacy of a person for elected office.

This policy seeks to ensure fair treatment of all candidates running for office.

Legislative Authority:

Municipal Elections Act, 1996

Contents:

1. Definitions

"Election-related campaign purposes" refers to the occurrence of a municipal or by-election.

Candidate(s) refers to a person who had been nominated under Section 33 of the *Municipal Elections Act*.

"Members of Council" refers to the current elected Council for the Township of Huron-Kinloss.

"Municipal Corporate Resources" includes the following:

"Equipment" refers to municipally-issued equipment, including laptops/tablets, smart phones and other similar devices;

"Electronic" refers to the Township website, domain names, email accounts, social media links;

"Supplies" refers to any municipally-purchased paper, stationary and other similar supplies.

"Municipal Office" refers to the office and Council Chambers located at 21 Queen Street in Ripley.

"Municipal Property and Facilities" refers to any municipally-owned property and buildings, excluding road allowances.

"Municipal Staff" includes all paid staff including full-time permanent, Part-time and casual employees

2. Use of Municipal Resources Prohibited – Municipal Staff

- 2.1. Municipal Corporate Resources may not be used by Municipal Staff for any Election-related campaign purposes.
- 2.2. Municipal Staff may not canvas or actively work in support of a candidate or party during normal working hours unless they are on a leave of absence without pay, lieu time, float day or vacation leave.
- 2.3. Municipal Staff may not display any campaign-related material at their work space or in a Municipal Property or Facility.
- 2.4. Municipal Staff may not wear campaign-related insignia, slogan or other identifying representation during normal working hours.

3. Use of Municipal Resources Prohibited- Members of Council

- 3.1. Municipal Corporate Resources may not be used by Members of Council for any Election-related campaign purposes.
- 3.2. Campaign Related material and signage cannot be displayed or affixed in or at a Municipal Property or Facility or at the Municipal Office.
- 3.3. Council expenses pertaining to training and conferences, not previously approved within the current year's budget, will be suspended as of Nomination Day.

4. Use of Municipal Property and Facilities and Municipal Office Prohibited-Candidates

- 4.1. Campaign Related material and signage cannot be displayed or affixed in or at a Municipal Property or Facility or at the Municipal Office.
- 4.2. Members of Council or Municipal Staff or Candidates may not use the Township logo or municipal election logo for Election-related campaign purposes.
- 4.3. The above policies apply to an acclaimed member or a Member of Council not seeking re-election.

5. Exclusions/Limitations

- 5.1. Nothing in this Policy shall preclude the rental of a Municipal Property or Facility by a Member of Council or Candidate for Election-related campaign purposes or attending an organized Candidates Meeting in a Municipal Property or Facility save and except the Municipal Office.

- 5.2. Nothing in this Policy shall preclude attendance at a community event in a Municipal Property or Facility save and except the Municipal Office to hand out in person campaign related material upon approval from the event organizers e.g. (Fall Fair).
- 5.3. Nothing in this Policy shall preclude a member of Council from sharing Township social media posts on a personal or campaign social media account.
 - 5.3.1. Notwithstanding 5.3, no member of Staff, Council or Candidates may use the corporate social media assets in conducting a campaign for municipal office, which may include posting on behalf of the Corporation, commenting directly on Township posts or using Township social media assets in campaign materials.
- 5.4. Nothing in this Policy shall preclude a Member of Council from performing their job as a Councillor, nor inhibit them from representing the interests of the constituents who elected them.

6. IMPLEMENTATION

- 6.1. The Clerk/Returning Officer and/or the Chief Administrative Officer is hereby authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect to this policy.