

# Township of Baldwin

## 2022 Municipal Elections

The next municipal election will be held Monday, October 24, 2022.

### Information for Voters

If you are a resident, owner, or tenant of property in the municipality, a Canadian citizen and at least 18 years of age, you are eligible to vote in the upcoming municipal and school board elections. Please contact the Township office to see if you are on the voter's list.

### Voting Methods

Internet and Telephone Voting will be used in the upcoming municipal election.

## MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS FAQ'S

### What is electronic voting?

Electronic voting consists of casting a vote by electronic means as opposed to traditional voting process such as voting in person on paper and voting by mail.

Where can you cast an electronic vote from?

Electronic votes can be cast through the following channels:

On any device with an Internet connection (computer, smartphone, tablet, etc.).

From a phone, by listening to the instructions and using the touchpad.

In-person, by casting a vote through electronic voting terminals (kiosks) located in polling stations or other voting venues (libraries, etc.).

*Note that neither type of electronic voting stores your vote in the device you are voting from. Votes are sent remotely to a central counting server in all cases.*

### What are the main advantages of electronic voting?

The main advantages of electronic voting are:

Speed and accuracy when counting the votes.

Accessibility and convenience for blind and disabled voters.

Flexibility in the design and modification of the ballots.

Prevention of inadvertent errors in the voting process.

Ease of use for voters.

Support for multiple languages.

In the case of internet voting: mobility and convenience for the voters (which generally means higher rates of participation).

Is electronic voting secure?

Electronic voting can be as safe as, or safer than, traditional paper voting, since appropriate security measures are implemented.

In addition to conventional security measures, , such as firewalls or SSL communication, a superior security layer has been implemented to address specific risks that electronic voting may have, thus ensuring compliance with the essential requirements in any election, as voter privacy, vote integrity, and possibility for the voter to check the correct handling of the voting process.

### **How can I vote?**

Make sure you have your PIN, which is required to use online voting. Without it you will not be able to vote. You can vote at any time starting from October 11th at 9:00 am to October 24th at 8:00 pm.

Open an Internet browser.

Use the link you can find in the letter you received and access the Voter Portal.

Log into the voting portal with the PIN and your date of birth.

Once you are logged in, follow the steps to cast your vote.

*Note: If your connection is interrupted while voting electronically, you can access again to the voting system to end the voting process.*

### **What is my PIN?**

The PIN is the piece of information that each voter receives by letter to access the Voter Portal.

This PIN belongs only to you and must be kept private and safe.

### **I have not received my letter. How can I vote?**

Before the election, you should have received a letter with your personal voting credentials and instructions on how to vote. If you have not received any letter, contact the Township Office.

### **I lost my PIN. How can I recover it?**

If, for any reason, you lost your PIN, come to the Township Office and ask for a new PIN from the Clerk or designate.

### **After login, what if I cannot finish voting during the current session?**

In the event you are interrupted or cannot finish voting during a session, you will have to access the system again and start the voting process from the beginning. Any data you had already entered will not be saved.

### **Once a vote has been cast, can it be changed?**

No. Once a vote has been cast (e.g. you confirm your vote) it cannot be changed. This process is the same as introducing the ballot into the ballot box in a traditional paper-based election, ensuring complete voter anonymity and secrecy of the ballot. The system only considers that your PIN were used in the election to cast a vote. Therefore, this vote cannot be removed when counting the votes.

**Can anyone know what I voted for, if this person knows my PIN?**

No. The system does not track user's voting selection with the voting PIN. It only checks that the PIN have been used to cast a vote.

**I cannot print my receipt**

You may have no printer installed. Install a physical or virtual printer and try to print your receipt again.

**Does the printed receipt indicate who the voter voted for?**

The voting receipt displayed on the voting interface at the end of the voting process allows the voter to verify their vote has been included in the final count and does not show any data that allow inferring the voting selections.

**How can I verify that I am accessing the right Voter Portal (no phishing)?**

When accessing the Voter Portal, you use an HTTPS connection, which means that the server will authenticate with a digital certificate to your web browser. If everything is correct, you can access the portal to vote without an error notification, and the browser will usually display a closed padlock or similar icon to indicate so.

However, if a warning is displayed in the browser, it indicates that the site's digital certificate does not match the address where it connects to (or similar messages), you may be accessing a false site. In this case, please contact the support team to report it.

**How does the voting system ensure the privacy of the voters?**

The votes are encrypted when cast. Only the private key can decrypt the votes. This process is done using a technique of mixing, which breaks the correlation between the voter identity of voters and votes decrypted to ensure safety.

**Who creates the voter's list?**

MPAC is responsible for providing municipalities with a Preliminary List of Electors to support municipal and school board elections in Ontario.

Municipalities make additions and corrections to the Preliminary List of Electors to create their final Voters' List for municipal elections, as well as population reporting for various municipal and school board planning purposes.

MPAC base's the Preliminary List of Electors primarily on information from their property assessment database, which contains the names of property owners, and to the extent possible, the names of tenants and other occupants.

To ensure the information in our database is as up-to-date as possible, we make use of all data sources available to us. This includes regular updates from the National Register of Electors, Elections Ontario, the Ministry of Government Services for deceased persons, on-going updates of data from our property assessment system, and information collected through voterlookup.ca.

**Who/what is MPAC?**

The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) is an independent, not-for-profit corporation funded by all Ontario municipalities, and is accountable to the

Province, municipalities and property owners. Our role is to value and classify all properties in Ontario in compliance with the [Assessment Act](#) and regulations set by the Government of Ontario.

They are the largest assessment jurisdiction in North America, assessing more than 5.5 million properties in Ontario, representing \$3 trillion in property value.

The assessments provide the foundation that municipalities use to calculate the property taxes needed to pay for community services.

The assessors are trained experts in the field of valuation and apply appraisal industry standards and best practices.

The assessments and data have met international standards of accuracy and are relied upon by banks, insurance

1. Have questions regarding the municipal election? Please call the municipal office at 705-869-0225.