



MEMO

VILLAGE OF POINT EDWARD



MEMO RE: Election 2022 Follow-Up

DATE: November 22, 2022

PREPARED FOR: Council

PREPARED BY: Chief Administrative Officer

RECOMMENDATION: THAT this report be received and filed.

DESCRIPTION: This is a summary report of issued related to the 2022 election and information staff feel is important for Council to be aware of.

DISCUSSION:

As Council is aware the 2022 Municipal Election was conducted using Internet and Telephone voting. The contract for conducting the election was awarded to Scytl and employed Internet and Telephone voting. There were 1,682 eligible voters on election day and 715 of those chose to cast a ballot. This represented 42.51% of eligible voters, down from 53.2% in the election of 2018. 670 of those voters chose to use the computer to vote, while 44 chose to use the phone. This means approximately 6.1% of voters chose to use the phone. This compares to 86 voters or 10.1% of all voters that chose to use the phone in 2018. I have circulated the statistical data we have available for both elections.

There were a few issues identified during the election process that staff feel Council should be aware of.

1. Resets on the Kiosk mode computers were set at 5 minutes. This meant that when one voter completed their voting the next person had to wait for five minutes before they could vote. The computer had to be left untouched for this period of time and if someone simply moved the mouse the 5-minute reset would start again. Computers not in Kiosk mode did not have this reset issue and voters could quickly vote, one after the other. Computers were taken out of Kiosk mode for periods of the day to allow for quicker turnover of voters. The reset time was reduced to one minute, the lowest allowable, but this even seemed to cause problems at times.
2. Mouse pads were sensitive and caused the cursor to move quickly. This proved difficult for some people to handle. The touch screen computers seemed very useful.
3. Setting up the telephone voting was very difficult and time consuming. This work was done by the contractor in the prior election but this time it was the



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responsibility of the Municipality. There was poor direction provided from the provider and files needed to be renamed several times in order to get the system to work.

4. We had an Advanced Poll on Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. There were two voters that attended the office that day. It is a requirement to provide an advanced poll and it is my feeling that it should be on a weekend, so as to provide those that are not able to attend during regular business hours an opportunity to get assistance if they require it. Council needs to be aware that the resources needed to allow this opportunity only provided for the two voters.