

Recommendation:

That the Clerk/Planning-2021-37 report, dated November 2, 2021 regarding a proposed draft election sign and advertisement By-law be received, that Policy C4 – Election Campaign Material (Federal and Provincial Elections) be repealed, that staff bring back a new polices regarding use of corporate resources for election purposes and the rental of facilities for election purposes and finally that the draft By-law be approved at the appropriate time during the meeting.

Overview:

In preparation for the 2022 municipal election staff have been reviewing By-laws and Policies that are currently in place to ensure that they will meet the needs of the Township and are in compliance with the Municipal Elections Act, as amended, the Municipal Act, as amended, the Education Act, as amended and other pieces of legislation and regulations.

For the 2018 municipal election, a Policy was put in place to regulate signage and the rental of municipal facilities during a municipal election, please see a copy attached. Prior to that Policy C4- Election Campaign Materials (Federal and Provincial Elections) came into effect in 2017.

Through the training that staff have been attending in preparation for the 2022 municipal election, the current best practice regarding election signage is to have a By-law in place instead of multiple policies regarding election signage. In light of best practices, changes to the Municipal Elections Act, as amended and the need to provided clear direction to candidates, third-party advertisers, staff and the public, a draft proposed By-law is attached.

Further to this draft proposed By-law, staff will be bringing forward new policies regarding the use of corporate resources for election purposes and the rental of facilities for election purposes at future meetings.

Conclusion:

To ensure a fair and transparent election processes, staff have prepared a proposed draft By-law to regulate election signage and advertisements in the Township of Douro-Dummer developed on current regulations and best practices.

Financial Impact: None

Strategic Plan Applicability: To ensure and enable an effective and efficient municipal administration.

Sustainability Plan Applicability: None

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	New By-law regarding the Regulation of Election Signs .docx
Attachments:	- C4 - Election Campaign Materials - Fed and Prov.pdf - Election Campaign Materials - Municipal.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Oct 26, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Elana Arthurs