



**Electors and Candidates with Disabilities  
Post-Election Report- 2022**

**TO:** Council  
**FROM:** Tammy Gorgerat, CAO/Clerk-Treasurer  
**DATE:** January 17, 2023 Regular Council  
**SUBJECT:** Enabling Accessibility Requirement-Election

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**THAT** Council accepts the CAO/Clerk-Treasurer's report as information

**BACKGROUND**

Specific legislative requirements regarding accessibility were considered in preparation of the 2022 Municipal Election as per the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended,

*Section 12.1 (1)* A clerk who is responsible for conducting an election shall have regard to the needs of electors and candidates with disabilities.

*Section 12.1 (2)* The clerk shall prepare a plan regarding the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities and shall make the plan available to the public before voting day in a regular and posted on municipal website under municipal election information tab.

**REPORT AND OBSERVATIONS**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a report as required per *Section 12.1 (3) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 as amended*, which states;

Within 90 days after voting day 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.

This report identifies efforts taken to show how the Township of Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards ensured that the election was accessible to electors and candidates with disabilities.

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There was no Advance Voting Day poll, however electors could mail their ballot to the Municipal Office, or deliver their ballot in person to the Municipal Office at 1 John Street in Killaloe, until 4:30 PM local time on October 21, 2022.

Voting Day was held on Monday October 24, 2022 with one (1) poll location;

1. 47 Mill Street, Killaloe, ON from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Both the Municipal Office, up to 4:30 pm local time on October 21, 2022, and the voting location on October 24, 2022, allowed for electors to drop off their mail in ballot, request a new ballot, receive assistance with their ballot, correct their information on the Voter's List, or add their name to the Voter's List.

**As Returning Officer I deem that the aforementioned locations provided barrier-free access for electors, candidates and election officials.**

The Municipal Accessibility Plan and Election Act requirements regarding accommodation was provided to Election Officials by Killaloe, Hagarty and Richards' Accessibility Training Officer Tyler Mask. Election Assistants and staff were aware and respectful for the requests and needs of electors and candidates with disabilities, and willing to provide assistance when required. It is important to understand that disabilities can take many forms, some are visible and some are not, and that steps were taken to respect the dignity and independence of persons with disabilities. All staff and election workers involved in conducting the municipal election were aware of our municipal accessibility policy.

For the sake of this report, the chart below identifies what actions were taken to provide an accessible voting location, and what further actions could be considered for the 2026 election.

	<b><u>ACTIONS</u></b>	<b><u>CONSIDERATIONS – 2026 ELECTION</u></b>
1.	Information regarding accessibility was available for candidates, electors and workers in electronic (website) and paper format	In 2026, the training session could include a site visit to the poll prior to the day of the Election.
2.	Posted information to the municipality's website through a dedicated election tab	Could consider a video tutorial.
3.	AMCTO literature included in candidate packages and training literature	Website could be expanded to include a link to the Provincial Accessibility Website
4.	Vote by Mail provided the privacy of voting in your home and a fully accessible location at the Municipal Office and at the poll	Look at other options for voting, e.g. Internet and Telephone Voting.
5.	Allocated Disabled Parking areas available at polls	Designate a Disabled Parking area at the poll.
6.	Type of assistance; Magnifying screen, explain process, assist with reading and understanding	Expand assistive devices if available and ensure adequate training for election officials and staff.
7.	Designated seating	Seating at voting locations for those having to wait was provided for the 2022 election, however, providing seating for the 2026 election should be considered and followed through with again.
8.	Support persons and or animals	As per our accessibility policy, these are welcomed.
9.	Small print on counting/tracking sheet	Look at a different style of tally sheet.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATION:**

No significant financial implications.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Gorgerat  
CAO/Clerk-Treasurer