Plan to vote in the municipal election

Get to know your mayoral, district councillor and school trustee candidates and make sure you are ready to vote in this October’s municipal election by visiting CityofKingston.ca/Elections.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR VOTER INFORMATION NOTICE?
The key to a quick and easy in-person or online voting experience is to be on the Voters’ List. If you are on the list, you should have received your Voter Information Notice (VIN) in late September. It provides:
- the location of your voting place
- your unique voter identification number that will allow you to register and receive a PIN in order to access Internet voting

If you did not receive your VIN, contact the Elections Office at elections@cityofkingston.ca or 613-546-4291, ext. 1430. You can see if you are registered on the Voters List using the Voters List Look Up at CityofKingston.ca/Vote. If you are eligible to vote, you can still do so without a VIN, but it will take more time.

HOW TO VOTE

Vote in-person – bring your VIN and an acceptable form of identification* to any voting place in your district. Find the list of voting places at CityofKingston.ca/VotelnPerson.
- Saturday, Oct. 13 – Advance Voting Day – 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Monday, Oct. 22 – Voting Day – 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

OR

Vote online – register for Internet voting using the Voter Identification Number from your VIN (you must be registered by 7 p.m. on Voting Day to vote online). On Advance Voting Day (Oct. 13) and Voting Day (Oct. 22) voters can ride for FREE on Kingston Transit by showing their VIN when boarding the bus.

KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES!
See who is running for municipal election in your district at CityofKingston.ca/CandidateList.

*Find a list of acceptable forms of identification at CityofKingston.ca/Vote.

Connecting neighbourhoods with art: Ella and Nelly are offering their input at the kick-off event for The Hub Project at the Princess St. Promenade on Sept. 29. Great neighbourhoods meet at The Hub at Princess and Division streets – and this area is also the gateway to the downtown. The Hub Project will decide how the City enlivens and beautifies this area with street improvements and art. Have ideas to offer? Submit them at GetInvolved.CityofKingston.ca/Hub.
How satisfied are you with waste collection and waste diversion services? The City wants to know how you feel about its waste and diversion services and programs. “This annual customer satisfaction survey helps us identify improvements to encourage residents to divert even more waste from landfill,” says Heather Roberts, director of solid waste services. Service and program improvements helped the City reach its 2018 goal of diverting 60 per cent of household waste three years ahead of schedule.

NEW GOAL: DIVERT 65 PER CENT
Complete the waste customer satisfaction survey Nov. 5 to 23 at GetInvolved.CityofKingston.ca. Your input will focus efforts to improve service and reach the new goal to divert 65 per cent of household waste from landfill. Survey participants can enter to win an iPad! Last year more than 1,300 participated in the survey and results showed:

- 92.8 per cent were satisfied with their level of service
- 91 per cent found staff knowledgeable, courteous and helpful
- 89.7 per cent were satisfied with collection services
- 89.5 per cent were satisfied with garbage limits
- 80.4 per cent were satisfied with the green bin program
- 30 per cent participated in Giveaway Days

The next Giveaway Day is Saturday, Oct. 20. Put items you no longer want at the curb for someone who might like them.

Be reminded what to put out when! Sign-up to receive collection reminders by text, email or phone at CityofKingston.ca/Collection.

2018 BRUSH & LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE:

Your brush or leaves must be on the curb by 8 a.m. on the Monday of your week, as they may be picked up any time during the week. Sometimes you'll see us collecting ahead of schedule. Don’t worry: we’ll be back on your week. Please note: Brush will not be picked up on a leaf collection week, and leaves will not be collected on a brush collection week.

CityofKingston.ca/Collection

BRUSH:
- Section A: October 1-5
- Section B: October 9-13 (Thanksgiving)
- Section C: October 15-19
- Section D: October 22-26
- Section E: October 29- November 2

LEAVES
- Section A: November 5-9
- Section B: November 12-16
- Section C: November 19-23
- Section D: November 26-30
- Section E: December 3-7
It’s National Fire Prevention Week. Statistics show fires kill an average of eight people a week in Canada – and 73 per cent of fire fatalities occur in residential fires.

“This year, our theme is ‘Look. Listen. Learn.’ It’s all about being aware that fire can happen anywhere. This is a great week for you and your household to focus on fire hazards and risks. Look for where fires can start, listen as you test your smoke alarm and learn two ways out of every room,” says Ted Posadowski, chief fire prevention officer for Kingston Fire & Rescue.

Make sure everyone in your household thinks about and practises fire prevention. Follow the tips below:

- Smoke and carbon monoxide alarms save lives! By law, you must install them outside sleeping areas. Also:
  - Change smoke alarm batteries once a year.
  - Replace smoke alarms after 10 years or as directed by the manufacturer.
- Develop and practise a home fire escape plan:
  - Know two ways out of every room.
  - Make sure exits are unobstructed and easy to use.
  - Know where to go. Plan a meeting place outside and call 9-1-1 from this place.
  - Get out and stay out. Never enter a burning building.
- Cooking is the number one cause of residential fires. Prevent kitchen fires:
  - Never leave cooking unattended.
  - Never cook under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
  - If a pot catches fire, slide a lid over the pot and turn off the stove. Do not put water on it or move it to the sink.
  - Keep combustible items clear of the stove (cloths, paper towels, wooden utensils etc.)
  - Roll up your sleeves to prevent clothing from catching fire.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended. Don’t allow children or teens to have them in their rooms.
- Give space heaters space. Keep them three feet away from anything that can burn.
- Prevent electricity-related fires:
  - Do not overload a circuit with ‘octopus outlets.’
  - Check electrical cords for damage.
  - Do not run electrical cords under rugs.

Find these and other fire prevention tips at CityofKingston.ca/FirePrevention.

Kingston’s having a referendum on Ranked Ballot Voting

Kingston voters will notice this referendum question on their 2018 municipal election ballot:

“Are you in favour of using Ranked Ballot Voting to elect the Mayor and district councillors in the City of Kingston? Yes. No.”

Electors’ answers to this question may determine how Kingston elects its Mayor and district councillors starting in 2022. “Moving to a Ranked Ballot Voting system would require significant investment by the City’s taxpayers that could increase overall election costs by an additional $225,000 or more based on preliminary estimates,” says John Bolognone, city clerk and returning officer.

Ranked Ballot Voting would represent a significant change for candidates, election administrators and the electorate from the existing electoral system called First Past the Post.

What is First Past the Post? Under this current electoral system, electors get one vote for Mayor and one vote for a councillor in their electoral district. The ballots are counted once (notwithstanding any recounts) and the candidate with the most votes is declared the winner.

What is Ranked Ballot Voting? With Ranked Ballot Voting the winning candidate must receive 50 per cent of the total votes plus one (a simple majority). In a ranked ballot election:

- There may be multiple rounds of ballot counting before a winner can be declared.
- Electors rank the candidates for Mayor and district councillor in order of preference – first choice, second choice and third choice – instead of voting for just one candidate.
- The first choice votes would be counted for all of the candidates. If one of the candidates receives 50 per cent of the total votes plus one, he or she is declared the winner and there is no further ballot counting. However, if none of the candidates receives 50 per cent of the total votes plus one, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated and his/her ballots are redistributed to the remaining candidates based on the next choice on each of the eliminated candidate’s ballots. That process continues until one candidate achieves the required 50 per cent plus one of the total votes.

Find out more about how Ranked Ballot Voting works at CityofKingston/RankedVoting.
Third Crossing Bridge: Connecting Kingston over the Cataraqui River

The funding is confirmed and construction on the Third Crossing bridge is expected to start in summer 2019. The new project team is looking forward to connecting with residents and hearing ideas about integrating the new bridge into the Kingston community later in 2018 and into 2019. Join our Third Crossing e-newsletter to receive updates about the project and engagement opportunities on our website.

Did you know the Third Crossing bridge is the first bridge project to use an Integrated Project Delivery model in Canada?

Find out more and subscribe to the e-newsletter at: ThirdCrossing.CityofKingston.ca

City Matters looks at Kingston’s hot topics

Have you seen City Matters – the City’s new e-newsletter on Kingston’s hot topics? Launched this summer, this new e-newsletter:

- Outlines the City’s actions as they relate to Kingston’s hot topics
- Explains the City’s role in addressing the issues facing our community

More than 1,700 of Kingston’s most interested residents are already receiving City Matters in their email. You can find the latest issue at CityofKingston.ca/Publications. It features articles on:

- alternatives to the Wellington Street Extension;
- the City’s role in two tall apartment buildings proposed downtown;
- Your Stories, Our Histories – a public engagement opportunity to reflect on Kingston’s deep and diverse histories; and
- voting in the upcoming municipal election.

Consider subscribing to City Matters to stay up-to-date on what the City’s working on and learn more about how the City works.

Find it at CityofKingston.ca/Publications.

Information on all City council and committee meetings can be found on the date listed at CityofKingston.ca/Calendar.