

2026 Municipal Election

Bulletin Number 1

Use of Corporate Resources for Election Purposes Policy

Note: 2026 Municipal Election Bulletins will be issued periodically by the Elections Office to provide important information for Electors, Candidates and Third Party Advertisers. For the latest information regarding the 2026 Municipal Election, please check the City's Elections website (www.cityofkingston.ca/elections).

Overview: Maintaining a Neutral Playing Field

Under the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, municipalities are prohibited from making campaign contributions. Because corporate resources, including staff, technology and funding, have value, their use for campaign purposes is considered an illegal contribution. The following Do's and Don'ts are taken from the City of Kingston [Use of Corporate Resources for Election Purposes Policy](#).

✔ THE DO'S: Fulfilling Your Role as Councillor

- **Do Continue Your Duties:** You remain an elected representative until the end of the term (November 14, 2026). You may still attend meetings, serve on boards, and assist constituents with City business.
- **Do Use Neutral Channels:** Use your City-issued email and phone strictly for, official City business.
- **Do Rent Public Space:** You may rent City facilities (e.g., community centres, parks) for campaign events, provided you pay the rental fee and follow standard booking procedures.
- **Do Link to Public Records:** You may link to existing public City documents (by-laws, agendas, reports) on your campaign site, provided they are not modified or reproduced in campaign materials.
- **Do Seek Clarification:** When in doubt, contact the City Clerk for guidance before taking an action that may overlap with campaign activity.

✘ THE DON'TS: Campaigning Prohibitions

- **Don't Leverage City Staff:** You cannot ask City staff to compile new or custom data (i.e. a list of projects completed in your district during your term, or your voting record of a business matter) to support your campaign.
- **Don't Use City Technology:** Never use City-issued laptops, phones, printers, or email accounts for campaign coordination or creating campaign materials.

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- **Don't Use Corporate Branding:** Do not include the City logo, coat of arms, or official slogans on campaign signs, websites, or literature.
- **Don't Use City Media:** You are prohibited from using official Council portraits or City-owned photos and videos in your campaign materials.
- **Don't Campaign at City Events:** While you can attend City-hosted festivals or ceremonies as an incumbent, you must not wear campaign buttons, hand out flyers, or use speaking opportunities to solicit votes.
- **Don't Use Constituent Lists:** Databases and contact lists compiled through your role as a Councillor are corporate resources and cannot be used for campaign outreach.

Further Information

If you require further information regarding the content of this Bulletin please contact:

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Issue Date: May 26, 2026