

The Corporation of the City of Richmond Hill

By-Law 39-22

A By-Law to authorize the use of alternative voting methods, namely internet voting (also known as online voting), as an additional voting method, for municipal and school board elections and by-elections

Whereas Council at its meeting on June 9, 2021 passed By-law 74-21 authorizing the use of optical scan tabulators and paper ballots for all municipal elections and By-elections held in the City of Richmond Hill;

And Whereas clause 42(1)(b) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, S.O. 1996, c.32, as amended (the “Act”), permits Council of a local municipality to pass by-laws authorizing electors to use an alternative voting method, such as voting by mail or by telephone, that does not require electors to attend at a voting place in order to vote;

And Whereas clause 42(2)(a) of the Act provides that a by-law passed under Clause 42(1)(b) of the Act applies to a regular election if the by-law is passed on or before May 1 in the year of a regular election;

And Whereas clause 42(2)(b) of the Act provides that a by-law passed under Clause 42(1)(b) of the Act applies to a by-election if the by-law is passed more than 60 days before voting day;

And Whereas Council at its meeting on February 9, 2022, considered a “Member Motion - Councillor Chan - Online Voting for the October 2022 Election” (Agenda Item 14.3), and adopted a resolution to authorize the use of Internet Voting as an alternative voting method (in addition to Optical Scan Vote Tabulators) for municipal elections and by-elections, and directed the City Clerk to place the necessary by-laws authorizing the use of Internet Voting on a future Council agenda for enactment.

Now Therefore The Council Of The Corporation Of The City Of Richmond Hill Enacts As Follows:

1. That, pursuant to clause 42(1)(b) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, S.O. 1996, c.32, as amended (the “Act”), Council authorizes the use of internet voting, also known as online voting, as an alternative voting method for all municipal and school board elections and by-elections held in the City of Richmond Hill pursuant to the Act, provided that the use of internet voting shall be used as an additional voting method along with the use of optical scanning vote tabulators and paper ballots authorized by By-law 74-21, unless Council specifically authorizes the sole use of internet voting by resolution.

Passed this 23rd day of February, 2022.

David West
Mayor

Ryan Ban
Deputy City Clerk