



TOWN OF WASAGA BEACH

NOTICE OF THE PASSAGE OF BY-LAW NUMBER 2018-19 BEING A BY-LAW TO SUBMIT A QUESTION ON THE MUNICIPAL ELECTION BALLOT

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Town of Wasaga Beach enacted By-law 2018-19 on the 20th of February 2018, for the purpose of submitting the following one (1) question to the electors of the Town of Wasaga Beach at the 2018 Municipal Election:

“At present we use the at-large system to vote for Councillor positions, should we use a ward system instead?”

The only permitted answers to the question are “yes” or “no”.

The Staff Report regarding the Question on the Ballot was brought forward to the January 30, 2018, Council meeting. A copy of the report can be found on the Town's website in the agendas and minutes section under Council & Town Services. A copy of by-law 2018-19 can also be found in the same section of the website under the February 20, 2018 Council agenda.

Pursuant to subsection 8.2(1) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, the results of a question authorized by the proposed by-law are binding on the Town if:

- a) at least 50% of the eligible electors in the Town vote on the question; and
- b) more than 50% of the votes on the question are in favour of those results.

Pursuant to subsection 8.3(1) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, the results of a question authorized by the proposed by-law are binding on the Town:

- a) if an affirmative answer received the majority of the votes, the Town shall do everything in its power to implement the results of the question in a timely manner; and
- b) if a negative answer received the majority of the votes, the Town shall not do anything within its jurisdiction to implement the matter which was the subject of the question for a period of four years following voting day.

The anticipated cost of implementing the results of the question, if the binding result is in the affirmative would be approximately \$40,000, as a Consultant would be recommended by Staff to facilitate the Ward review. If the Ward system was chosen, the Town would be divided into a number of wards for voting purposes in the 2022 Municipal Election. Each ward would have a particular number of Councillor(s) dependent on the results of the Ward review. Eligible electors would only be able to vote for their specific Ward Councillor(s) and not Councillor(s) running in the other wards. The position of Mayor and Deputy Mayor would continue to be at large meaning all eligible electors can vote for those positions.

If a negative answer was received Council would not be able to give further consideration to the Ward system until after the 2022 Municipal Election.

Appeal Process

Pursuant to subsection 8.1 (6) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and any other person or entity may appeal to the Chief Elector Officer of the Province of Ontario on the grounds that a question is not:

- (a) clear, concise and neutral; or
- (b) capable of being answered in the affirmative or the negative, as the only permitted answers to the question are “yes” or “no”

If you intend to appeal the question, a Notice of Appeal must be filed with the Director of Legislative Services, Clerk. The last day for filing a Notice of Appeal is **March 21, 2018**, which is twenty (20) days after the publication of this Notice. A Notice of Appeal must set out the objections and the reasons in support of the objections.

Dated: March 1, 2018

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