Municipality of Grey Highlands | The place for all seasons

July 06, 2022

Premier Ford
Legislative Building
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

Honourable Premiere Ford,

Re: Grey Highlands Council resolution 2022-421 – Support for the Town of the Blue Mountains motion re: Voter's List Information for Candidates

Please be advised that the following resolution was passed unanimously at the July 06, 2022 meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

> 2022-421
> Dane Nielsen, Tom Allwood
> **That Council receive the correspondence from the Town of the Blue Mountains for information; and**
> **That Council direct staff to forward a letter of support to all those indicated in the resolution from the Town of the Blue Mountains and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.**
> **By a vote of 7-0, CARRIED.**
> Yea: Dane Nielsen, Paul McQueen, Aakash Desai, Paul Allen, Tom Allwood, Cathy Little, and Danielle Valiquette
> Nay: None.

The Municipal Elections Act states in s. 23(4) (emphasis added):

Copies for candidates

(4) On the written request of a certified candidate for an office, the clerk shall provide him or her with the part of the voters' list that contains the names of the electors who are entitled to vote for that office. 1996, c. 32, Sched., s. 23 (4); 2016, c. 15, s. 17 (2).

The Municipality of Grey Highlands
206 Toronto Street South, Unit One - P.O. Box 409 Markdale, Ontario N0C 1H0
519-986-2811 Toll-Free 1-888-342-4059 Fax 519-986-3643
www.greyhighlands.ca info@greyhighlands.ca

This wording limits Municipal Clerks from providing mailing addresses to candidates who may wish to send out candidate information to the electorate within their municipality and has provided confusion amongst those wishing to interpret this legislation. It is the hope that through this campaign, that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing will conduct a review of this section of the legislation to provide the clarity being sought and potentially amend the legislation to allow for the release mailing addresses of the electorate in addition to the names provided to Candidates.

I have attached the original motion from the Town of The Blue Mountains for your information.

If you require anything further, please contact this office.

Sincerely,

Raylene Martell

Raylene Martell
Director of Corporate and Legislative Services/Municipal Clerk
Municipality of Grey Highlands

Encl.

Cc: All Ontario Municipalities via email
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing via email: Steve.Clark@pc.ola.org
Canadian Civil Liberties Association via email: administration@ccla.org
Association of Municipalities of Ontario via email: resolutions@amo.on.ca

The Town of The Blue Mountains
Council Meeting

Title: Mayor Soever Notice of Motion May 10, 2022

Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Moved by: Mayor Soever

Seconded by: Councillor Hope

WHEREAS it is in the best interest of good government and the democratic process that all Ontarians have access to candidate information during the upcoming municipal elections; and,
WHEREAS the clerks of some municipalities do not supply the mailing addresses of voters on the voters list to candidates, thereby limiting the access of voters who have mailing addresses outside the municipality to candidate information, effectively disenfranchising them;
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of The Blue Mountains expresses it support for the inclusion of the mailing addresses of voters on voter's lists provided to candidates;
AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to all municipalities in Ontario to ask for their support;
AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Premier of Ontario and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;
AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Canadian Civil Liberties Association

YES: 6 **NO: 0** **CONFLICT: 0** **ABSENT: 1**

The motion is Carried

YES: 6

Mayor Soever
Deputy Mayor Bordignon
Councillor Hope
Councillor Matrosovs
Councillor Sampson
Councillor Bill Abbotts

NO: 0

CONFLICT: 0

ABSENT: 1

Councillor Uram