



Ontario Catholic School
Trustees' Association

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TO: School Board Election Clerks

FROM: Patrick J. Daly, President

SUBJECT: Upcoming 2018 Municipal and School Board Elections Materials

We are pleased to inform you that once again, the Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC), on behalf of the 4 school board/trustee associations and CODE, will be coordinating a series of resources to support trustee candidates and communities in the upcoming Municipal and School Board Elections on Monday, October 22, 2018. This initiative will be undertaken with support from the Ministry of Education.

The resources will include updated versions of the following:

- Making a Difference for Kids: Running for Election as a School Board Trustee
- Your Guide to Hosting a School Board Trustee All Candidates Meeting
- Public Awareness Videos and Public Education Resources
- Centralized School Board Elections Website
- Good Governance Guide.

(more information on each resource can be found in the attached PDF)

Please Note: Recent legislative amendments (Bill 181, Municipal Elections Modernization Act and Bill 68, Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act) have resulted in changes to the election calendar. These include:

- Start of Nominations/Campaign Beginning is May 1, 2018 (moved from January 1).
- Nomination Day/Close of Nominations is July 27, 2018 (moved from end of September).
- Election Day is October 22, 2018.
- Term Start Date remains December 1, 2018.

The Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC), on behalf of Ontario's four school board/trustee associations is developing a series of resources to support trustee candidates and communities in the upcoming Municipal and School Board Elections happening Monday, October 22, 2018. This initiative will be undertaken with support from the Ministry of Education. The resources will include updated versions of the following;

Making a Difference for Kids: Running for Election as a School Board Trustee

This guidebook provides a user friendly overview of Ontario's education system, school boards and the role of trustees. Its purpose is to provide the public with information relevant to the October 2018 Municipal & School Board Elections and to encourage candidates to run for trustee. Potential trustee candidates will find the guide useful as it offers details on the responsibilities of trustees, required commitment, qualifications and key steps and stages in the nomination process.

Release Date: April, 2018

Your Guide to Hosting a School Board Trustee All Candidates Meeting

This resource will be a guide for trustees, school boards and communities to encourage the organization of all candidates meetings in advance of the October 2018 Municipal & School Board Elections. All candidates meetings are an ideal way for voters to discover where their local trustee candidates stand on the issues that matter to the electorate. The guide will provide readers with a clear framework for organizing a successful event.

Release Date: April, 2018

Public Awareness Videos and Public Education Resources

OESC will release a series of public awareness videos to promote the role of school board trustee, encourage candidate recruitment and highlighted the importance of voting in Municipal and School Board Elections. The videos will be accompanied with posters, website banners and buttons, newspaper ads and audio files to encourage greater interest in the upcoming election.

Release Date: May, 2018

Centralized School Board Elections Website

The hub for school board election information, election resources and trustee candidate information www.elections.ontarioschooltrustees.org will be revitalized for 2018. The site will feature profiles of trustee candidates running in all four school systems across the province.

Release Date: May, 2018

Good Governance Guide

This post-election resource will be made available to all school board trustees and school boards after the October election. The Guide offers a substantive introduction to the work of effectively governing a school board. It is the go-to handbook for newly elected and experienced trustees on all aspects of their role as school board governors and elected officials.

Release Date: December, 2018

In the coming months we will be sharing more information about the election and the revised resources. Some will be made available in print form and we suggest where possible, that copies be distributed among your board and school offices, including advisory committees, parent councils and other community groups. Electronic copies will be provided in a downloadable, accessible format. We ask that you post these on your school website and share electronically with your stakeholders. For electronic resources, we ask you to have a dedicated space on your website for municipal election information and perhaps a link from your homepage.

For January-February 2018, you may want to consider adding the following text to your board's website:

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION RE
2018 MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS**

Election Day is October 22, 2018.
Recent legislative amendments have resulted in changes to the election calendar.
The first day for nomination papers to be filed is May 1, 2018.

We are once again working closely with AMCTO (the clerks' association). Municipal clerks will be receiving the same resources with the request to distribute at their municipal offices and post on their website. We will also be sharing school board and clerk contact information with both groups.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Stephen Andrews at sandrews@ocsta.on.ca.

Attachment