



**TOWNSHIP OF NORTH STORMONT  
INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES  
2026 ELECTIONS**

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. Important dates

Nomination	From May 1, 2026, during normal office hours.
Last day form nominations	August 21, 2026, between <b>9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.</b>
Last day to withdraw nominations	August 21, 2026, <b>at 2:00 p.m.</b>
Certification or rejection of nominations	No later than August 24, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.
Voter list	September 1, 2026
Revision period for voter list	From September 1 to October 26, 2026

### 2. Municipal Offices for the Township of North Stormont

**Term of Office shall be: December 1, 2026 – November 15, 2030.**

Mayor	One (1) to be elected at large
Deputy Mayor	One (1) to be elected at large
Councillors	Three (3) to be elected at large

**NOTE:** A candidate, if nominated, must remain qualified throughout the election and, if elected, throughout the term of office.

Nominations for all offices shall close at 2:00 p.m. on August 21, 2026. Nominations will only be certified when the Clerk is satisfied that the person is qualified to be nominated and that the nomination complies with the Municipal Elections Act (MEA).

Candidates for municipal office must, upon nomination, be a qualified municipal elector and fulfill all of the following requirements:

- a resident of the municipality, a non-resident owner or tenant of land in the municipality or the spouse of such non-resident owner or tenant;
- a Canadian citizen;
- not legally prohibited from voting;
- is at least 18 years old; and
- not disqualified by any legislation from holding municipal office.

School board offices for which persons may be nominated shall be filed with the designated Clerk's Office, to be determined, for:

- Upper Canada District School Board (English Public)
- Catholic District School Board of Eastern Ontario (English Separate)
- Conseil scolaire de district catholique de l'Est ontarien (French Separate)
- Conseil des école publiques de l'Est de l'Ontario (French Public)

The following people are disqualified from being elected as a member of Council, or from holding office as a member of Council:

- An employee of the Municipality unless he or she takes an unpaid leave of absence beginning the day they are nominated and resign if elected to the office
- A judge of any court
- A member of the Provincial Legislature, the Federal House of Commons or Senate who has not resigned from their office by the close of nominations. Proof of resignation must be provided by the close of nominations or the Clerk will not certify the nominations.
- A candidate who failed to file the necessary financial statement(s) in the last Municipal Election or By-election.

### 3. **Nomination Information**

To run for office, candidates must file a prescribed nomination paper. **Candidates cannot raise or spend any money on their campaign until this nomination paper is filed.**

Nomination papers must be filed by the candidate, in person, or by an agent acting on the candidate's behalf, at the Township office, during regular office hours. The nomination paper may not be faxed, mailed or emailed, as an original signature is required. If an agent of the candidate is filing the nomination paper, the form must be fully completed by the candidate prior to filing.

The candidate or the agent filing the nomination paper will be required to present proof of identity.

Nomination papers can be submitted until August 21, 2026, at 2:00 pm.

Things needed for filling:

- a completed copy of the nomination paper (Form 1)
- a declaration of qualification from each of the people endorsing the nomination (only applicable to candidates running for council) (Form 2)
- a declaration of qualification signed by the candidate
- filing fee
- proof of identity

### 4. **Endorsement of Nominations for Mayor, Deputy Mayor, or Councillor**

The nomination papers of a candidate running for the office of Mayor, Deputy Mayor, or Councillor must be submitted with a declaration of qualification from each of the eligible electors endorsing their nomination.

At least 25 people must endorse a candidate's nomination for the Office of Mayor, Deputy Mayor, or Councillor. Those endorsing a nomination must be eligible to vote as of the day he or she signs the prescribed declaration of qualifications form.

### 5. **Filing Fees**

Candidates must pay a filing fee when they submit their nomination papers. These fees must be paid at the time of filing – by cash, certified cheque, money order or debit.

The filing fee for a candidate running for Mayor is \$200.00.

The filing fee for candidate running for Deputy Mayor, Councillor, or school board Trustee is \$100.00.

Nomination filing fees are refundable if the candidate's financial statement and auditor's report are filed on or before March 30, 2027 at 2:00 p.m.

### 6. **Withdrawal of nomination**

A candidate who wishes to withdraw his or her nomination must notify the Clerk in writing on the Withdrawal of Nomination form before 2:00 p.m. on August 21, 2026. The candidate will still be required to submit a financial statement (due no later than March 30, 2027, at 2:00 p.m.) covering all financial transaction up to the time of the withdrawal.

**7. Certification or rejection of nomination forms**

The Clerk will verify the nomination forms shall be examined by the Clerk prior to 4:00 p.m. on Monday following nomination day, August 24, 2026. If satisfied that a candidate is qualified to be nominated and that the nomination form complies with the *Municipal Election Act*, 1996, he/she will certify the declaration by signing it.

If not satisfied that the candidate is qualified to be nominated or that the nomination form does not comply with the *Municipal Election Act*, 1996, he/she shall deny the nomination and notify the person concerned and all other candidates for that office.

**8. Information**

The Clerk or his/her assistant is not responsible for interpreting any laws and regulations for candidates. It is the responsibility of each candidate to obtain any advice from a qualified professional to ensure that he or she meets the conditions and requirements of all applicable laws and regulations.

**9. Voters' List**

The voters' list is a list of eligible electors in the Township of North Stormont.

During an election cycle, Elections Ontario (EO) is responsible for preparing the preliminary list of electors for each Municipality and School Board in Ontario. It is Elections Ontario's database of both property owners and tenants that is used to prepare this preliminary list, which aids in the preparation of the final voters' list for Voting Day. Once Municipalities have the preliminary list of electors, the revision period begins, and electors may add their name or make changes directly at the Voter Help Centre.

The Voters List will be available to candidates on September 1, 2026 on request. Candidates are only provided access to a copy of the part of the Voters' List that contains the name of electors who are entitled to vote.

If you are interested in checking your information with Elections Ontario we encourage you to use the link on the Municipal website or visit [www.elections.on.ca](http://www.elections.on.ca)

**10. Voter Help Centre**

The Voter Help Centre shall be established at the Township Office, unless otherwise specified, and shall be open to the public on the following dates and times, and at such additional dates and times as determined by the Clerk:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Place/Time</b>
October 12, 2026	TBD 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
October 13, 2026	TBD 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
October 14, 2026	TBD 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
October 19 – October 23, 2026	9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
October 24, 2026	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
October 25, 2026	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
October 26, 2026	10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

## FINANCING OF ELECTIONS

### 1. Contributions and expenses

The *Municipal Election Act*, 1996 imposes limits on expenses that may be incurred by candidates and the contributions they receive. The document prepared by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing "2026 Candidates" Guide for Ontario Municipal and School Board Elections has information on the matter. Each candidate is responsible for obtaining legal advice from a lawyer or a qualified professional.

### 2. Campaign spending limit

If you are running for municipal council, there is now a limit on the total amount that you and your spouse may collectively contribute to your own campaign. The contribution limit is calculated based on the number of electors who are eligible to vote for the office that you are running for. The formula to calculate the limit is:

- for head of council: \$7,500 plus \$0.20 per eligible elector
- for councillor or trustee: \$5,000.00 plus \$0.20 per eligible elector

The final spending limit will be provided to each candidate on or before September 30, 2026.

**Note:** For the purposes of section, for a regular election the number of electors is the greater of the following:

1. The number determined from the voters' list from the previous regular election, as it existed on September 20 in the year of the previous election, adjusted for changes made and approved as of that day and any changes based on updated information from the permanent register of electors that the clerk may obtain on or before that day.
2. The number determined from the voters' list for the current election, as it exists on September 20 in the year of the current election, adjusted for changes made and approved as of that day and any changes based on updated information from the permanent register of electors that the clerk may obtain on or before that day.

### 3. Financial Statement

Each candidate must file a financial statement and must use Form 4. Your completed financial statement must be submitted to the Clerk by 2:00 p.m. on the last Friday in March (March 30, 2027).

### 4. Campaign bank account

You must open a bank account exclusively for your campaign if you accept any contributions of money or incur any expenses.

Contributions are defined as

- Money
- Goods
- Discounts
- Services

If someone offers you a discount on a good or service, the difference between the market value and what you paid is considered a contribution.

Keep all your receipts and document everything.

#### **4. Campaign bank account (Cont'd)**

Corporations, businesses, clubs, associations, and non-Ontario residents are not permitted to make contributions to candidates.

Corporations, businesses, clubs, associations, and non-Ontario residents are not permitted to make contributions to candidates.

When you register as a candidate, the Clerk will provide you with information about what your campaign spending limits are.

The maximum you can receive from a single contributor is \$1,200, which includes, money, goods, and services.

Cash donations are permitted only for contribution of \$25 or less. Higher amounts must be done via cheque, e-transfer or any other traceable method.

You must keep the names and addresses of everyone who contributes more than \$100 to your campaign.

Unused contributions can be used to repay contributions made by yourself or your spouse only.

All other surplus contributions must be turned over to the clerk after the election.

10% of the general spending limit can be used for an expressions of appreciation for your volunteers.

If you filed a nomination form, you must file a financial statement, even if you do not accept any contributions.

You may need an auditor to review your financial statements if:

- Your campaign expenses exceed \$10,000
- Your total contributions received exceeds \$10,000
- If both your expenses and contributions exceed \$10,000
- If your campaign is in a deficit, you can request to have your campaign period extended and continue fundraising until December 31, 2026.

#### **5. Compliance Audit Committee**

The role of a Compliance Audit Committee (CAC) is to review and consider compliance audit applications received by an elector who believes that a candidate or registered third party has contravened a provision of the Municipal Elections Act (MEA) relating to election campaign finances.

The CAC is also responsible for reviewing reports submitted by the Clerk with respect to any contributor who appears to have contravened any of the contribution limits to a candidate's election campaign or to a registered third party.

The powers and functions of the Compliance Audit Committee are in accordance with the Municipal Elections Act and are in place to ensure that the provisions pertaining to campaign finances have not been contravened and to follow the necessary steps to ensure compliance.

**5. Compliance Audit Committee (Continued)**

The Committee shall have the authority to:

- grant or reject a compliance audit application;
- appoint an auditor to conduct the audit where the application is granted;
- consider the auditor's or Clerk's report within 30 days of receiving it; and,
- decide whether to commence legal proceedings against the candidate, a contributor or registered third party for any apparent contravention.

For more information on all election matters, please contact the Clerk's Department at Township of North Stormont's Office: Phone: 613-984-2821