



2026 ELECTION ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

This plan is for use in the 2026 Municipal Election in conjunction with the Township of Plummer Additional Accessibility Policy.

1. OBJECTIVES

This plan is intended to highlight measures that the Municipality will be implementing to ensure equal opportunity for all electors and candidates. These objectives include:

- That the Voter Revision Centre and Help Centre is accessible (Township Office)
- That persons with disabilities can independently vote
- That persons with disabilities have full and equal access to all election information
- That persons with disabilities can fully participate in the Municipal Election as an elector and/or candidate
- That electors with disabilities are accommodated by Election Staff to the best of their abilities

2. LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

The *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, S.O. 1996, Chapter 32, as amended states:

Electors and candidates with disabilities

12.1 (1) A clerk who is responsible for conducting an election shall have regard to the needs of electors and candidates with disabilities.

Plan re barriers

(2) The clerk shall prepare a plan regarding the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities and shall make the plan available to the public before voting day in a regular election.

Report

(3) Within 90 days after voting day in a regular election, the clerk shall prepare a report about the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities and shall make the report available to the public.

Accessibility

45(2) In establishing the locations of voting places, the clerk shall ensure that each voting place is accessible to electors with disabilities.

Attendance on electors with disabilities

(9) To allow an elector with a disability to vote, a deputy returning officer shall attend on the elector anywhere within the area designated as the voting place.

3. REVISION CENTER AND HELP CENTRE

The Revision Centre and Help Centre (located at the Township Office) will be accessible to electors with disabilities and shall have accessible parking, automatic doors, and accessible washrooms.

4. VOTING

In-person voting will be held at 109 Station Road, Bruce Mines. Traditional paper ballots will be used. The Township will provide magnifiers at ballot stations to increase font size for individuals who are visually impaired.

Mail-in voting will be an alternative voting method. A Mail-In Ballot Kit will be mailed to voters who register to receive one. This allows voters to participate in the election without having to leave their homes.

5. VOTING ASSISTANCE

An Election Official may permit an elector who needs assistance in voting to have such assistance as the Election Official considers necessary, and in accordance with the Accessibility Policy.

Election Official

A voter who requires such assistance to vote may ask the Election Official for assistance and assist and/or vote as directed by the voter.

Friend of Elector

In lieu of the Election Official assisting a voter, the voter may request that a support person accompany them to vote.

Interpreter

Where the Election Official does not understand the language of a voter, an interpreter, provided by the voter, shall translate for the voter.

Curbside Voting

Electors have the option of requesting that the ballot be brought to their vehicle.

6. ELECTION MATERIALS

The Municipality will be offering paper ballots to electors. There will be magnifying sheets to help individuals with visual impairments.

Staff can provide election support and will accommodate electors to the best of their abilities. It is recommended that electors submit their request for accommodation by **4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13**, so staff has ample time to ensure that the proper accommodations are available on the day of the election. Requests can be made by email or phone – see Section 10: Feedback for more information.

7. TRAINING

The Municipality shall ensure that training is provided on the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, the accessibility standards referred to within the Integrated Accessibility Standards (Ontario Regulation 191/11), the Human Rights Code as it pertains to persons with disabilities and on Municipal policies and procedures related to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and its Regulation to all Election Officials.

8. NOTICE OF TEMPORARY SERVICE DISRUPTION

If there is a temporary disruption in the delivery of election information or services, the Township shall provide public notice on the Municipal website, at the physical site of the disruption, social media, and when possible, in the local media. The notice shall include the reason for the disruption, anticipated duration and a description of alternative methods of delivering the information or service.

9. REPORTING

Pursuant to Section 12.1 (3) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as amended, within 90 days after Voting Day, the Clerk shall submit a report to Council about the identification, removal and prevention of barriers that affect electors and candidates with disabilities and shall make the report available to the public.

The report will be made available to the public via the Municipal website and at the Municipal Office.

10. FEEDBACK

Feedback is welcome to identify areas where changes need to be considered and ways in which the Municipality can improve the delivery of an accessible municipal election.

The Township will provide feedback forms that can be submitted on Election Day, October 26, 2026. The Customer Feedback Form is attached as Appendix "A"

Feedback on this plan & requests for accommodation can be submitted to the following:

Liisa Cotnam, Clerk
38 Railway Crescent
Bruce Mines, ON P0R 1C0 Phone:
705-785-3479
E-mail: lcotnam@plummertownship.ca

11. RESOURCES

Accessibility Policy and Procedure Manual
Municipal Elections Act, 1996, as amended

APPENDIX 'A'
**Feedback Form – Election Day
Election 2026**

Thank you for visiting the Township of Plummer Additional. We value our customers and strive to meet everyone's needs.

Please tell us the date and time of your visit:

Did you have any issues relating to accessibility during your voting process? _____ YES _____ NO

Is there any feedback you could provide to improve the voting process in the future?

Would you like to see any other voting methods (Telephone voting, mail-in voting) offered in future elections?

Contact information (Optional)*:

** Information collected is subject to the Municipal Freedom of Information & Privacy Act.*