

Township of LaVallee
Accessibility Initiatives Undertaken for 2022 Municipal Election

The Township of LaVallee provided a polling station within the Municipal Office. This facility provides easy access at ground level. A buzzer/doorbell system is available at the outside of the building beside the door for anyone requiring assistance to open the door. In the event that an elector was not able to come into the polling station, the election staff would have gone to the person in their vehicle to allow them to vote. There was also access through a rear door of the building that could have been used.

Staff were all provided with information on accessible customer service. Election staff was very supportive to the electors. Tracy Hyatt –Deputy Returning Officer and Trudy Badiuk – Poll Clerk (the election workers) have had prior training in elections.

Ballots were in large font with a contrasting background. Directive posters placed in the voting booths were also in large bold print with a contrasting background. A magnifier was available to assist anyone with visual impairments.

The voting location provided ample room for voters to maneuver with or without a wheelchair. Voting booths provided a table and chair for voters to sit down if they wanted to. Excellent lighting assisted those with visual impairments. Appropriate signage was posted to direct electors where to go and what to provide before entering the room to obtain their ballots.

Stand-up barriers were used in this election to provide security and safety for anyone concerned about COVID-19. Face masks were provided at entrance for anyone wishing to use one and hand sanitizer was provided at the door and on the table where ballots were to be returned.

The Corporation of the Township of LaVallee adopted a policy regarding Accessibility Standards. This Policy titled, Accessible Customer Service Policy was adopted on November 17, 2009. The policy establishes policies, practices and procedures to govern the provision of services to persons with disabilities. This policy permits service animals and support persons in the voting location. This policy also establishes a feedback process to identify any potential barriers.

Patti McDowall
Clerk/Treasurer
December 14, 2022