



MEDIA RELEASE

Vote By Mail This October

WELLINGTON COUNTY, Ontario, September 15, 2014: This October, thousands of voters in Wellington County municipalities will be able to experience the ease of casting their ballot for the Municipal and School Board Elections from the comfort of their home. The Township of Guelph/Eramosa, the Town of Erin, and the Township of Centre Wellington will all be using Vote By Mail to elect their next municipal councils and school board trustees.

In a Vote By Mail election, each eligible voter in the municipality receives their own Voting Kit by mail weeks before Election Day. The voter completes their Voting Kit at his or her leisure, and can return it by putting it in the mail or by dropping it off in person at a designated Ballot Return Station.

Vote By Mail provides numerous benefits to the voter:

- **Convenience:** Ballots can be cast anytime, anywhere for weeks before Election Day (Monday, October 27).
- **Accessibility:** For voters who have mobility or transportation issues, there is no need to travel to a physical poll to cast a ballot.
- **Decrease Distance:** There is no need to be in the municipality on Election Day to cast your ballot, making it easier to voters who live far away to cast their ballots.

“Our goal with Vote By Mail was to find an alternative way to engage voters,” explained Guelph/Eramosa Clerk Meaghen Reid. “Our hope is that it helps voters cast a ballot who might not have been able to vote otherwise and that voter turnout will improve.”

“We have used Vote By Mail for the past three elections. Our voters are familiar with Vote by Mail and it has been successful in our community,” reports Centre Wellington Clerk Kerri O’Kane.

Vote By Mail has a long history in both Wellington County and across the province. It has been used by Wellington municipalities for the past three municipal elections and provincially for over a decade. The system has continuously been improved and clarified to provide a more accessible and secure experience for voters. At least 64 municipalities will be using Vote By Mail as part of their election this October.

For more information on Vote By Mail, please contact your local municipality.

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