

The Corporation of the Township of Guelph/Eramosa

By-law Number 69/2013

A By-law to authorize Vote By Mail for the 2014 Municipal Election and the entering into of agreement with DataFix to provide Vote By Mail services.

WHEREAS Section 42 of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* provides that a municipal council may pass a by-law authorizing an alternative voting method;

AND WHEREAS Council deems it appropriate and in the public interest to conduct the 2014 Municipal Election using a Vote By Mail method and to enter into agreements with DataFix provide election services;

NOW THEREFORE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF GUELPH/ERAMOSA HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The voting method of "Vote By Mail" is hereby authorized for the Municipal Election to be held in 2014.
2. A Vote By Mail Kit will be provided to every person who qualifies to be an elector. The Kit will either be mailed or directly provided to each qualified elector.
3. The Vote By Mail Kit shall consist of:
 - A voting instruction/declaration form
 - A ballot
 - A ballot secrecy envelope
 - An election return envelope
 - Such other necessary material as the Clerk deems appropriate.
4. A Ballot Return Stations shall be established by the Clerk or designate. A "Ballot Return Station" means a voting place under the supervision of a Deputy Returning Officer where electors, who prefer to deliver or have delivered their completed ballots, may deposit their ballots directly into the care of the Clerk or designate, rather than forwarding their ballots by mail.
6. Every elector has the responsibility of completing the ballots in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, and the procedures authorized by this By-law and returning the completed ballots to the Clerk or designate by mail or by deposit at a Ballot Return Station on or before 8:00 p.m. on Voting Day – Monday, October 27, 2014.
7. No proxy voting provisions or advance voting provisions other than Ballot Return Stations are applicable at Municipal Elections conducted in accordance with this by-law.
8. The Clerk shall prepare procedures and rules for the Vote By Mail Municipal Election and provide these procedures and rules to each candidate no later than June 2, 2014.
9. Any person, corporation or trade union guilty of corrupt practices or contravening the provisions of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* or the procedures and rules as established in paragraph 8 of this by-law may be prosecuted pursuant to the provisions of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*.

10. The Head of Council and Clerk are herewith authorized to sign the necessary agreements with DataFix to provide Vote By Mail services.
11. This By-law shall take effect on the date of final passing thereof.

READ a three times and finally passed
this **2nd** day of **December, 2013**.

Chris White, Mayor

Meaghen Reid, Clerk