



## **Candidate Information**

### **FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **How will I be notified of updated or new information related to the 2022 municipal elections?**

All updates to election information shall be posted on the Election page of the West Grey website at: [www.westgrey.com/elections](http://www.westgrey.com/elections). Candidates are encouraged to subscribe to this page to stay informed and receive all updates.

#### **What offices are to be elected?**

The offices to be elected are:

- Mayor (1 at large)
- Deputy Mayor (1 at large)
- Councillor (5 at large)
- School Board Trustee
  - English Public (1)
  - English Separate (1)
  - French Public (1)
  - French Separate (1)

#### **Who is eligible to be a council candidate?**

A person who is qualified to be a voter in the Municipality of West Grey 2022 municipal election is also eligible to be a candidate for office – which means the day you submit your nomination form, you must be qualified to hold that office.

Candidates for the offices of mayor and councillor must meet the same criteria as eligible voters or electors. A candidate for school board trustee must reside within the board area and be a supporter of that board.

In order to run for office in the Municipality of West Grey, the individual must be:

- A Canadian citizen
- At least 18 years of age
- A resident of the Municipality of West Grey, or
- An owner or tenant of land in the Municipality of West Grey, or the spouse of the owner or tenant
- Not legally prohibited from voting
- Not disqualified by any legislation from holding office

In order to be considered for declaration as a legally qualified municipal candidate, you must file a nomination form for the Municipality of West Grey 2022 municipal election. The deadline for filing nomination forms is Friday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

## **Who is not eligible to be a council candidate?**

Candidates must not be the following:

- A judge of any court
- A member of Provincial Legislature, the Federal House of Commons or Senate who has not resigned from their office by the close of nominations
- A candidate who failed to file the necessary financial statement in the last municipal election or by-election

## **When will nomination papers be made available?**

The 2022 municipal election nomination forms will be available Monday, May 2, 2022 at 9 a.m. Hard copies can be picked up at the Municipal Administration Building located at 402813 Grey Road 4, Durham, ON.

## **When can interested candidates file their nomination paperwork?**

Individuals can file their nomination paperwork beginning Monday, May 2, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. and up until Friday, August 19, 2022 by 2 p.m., by appointment.

To schedule an appointment, please contact Genevieve Scharback, Clerk, at 519-369-2200 ext. 229 or by email, [election@westgrey.com](mailto:election@westgrey.com).

## **Is it possible to file your nomination online?**

Unfortunately, candidates must file their nomination papers in-person or by an agent at the municipal office, by appointment.

## **What do I need to file my nomination paperwork?**

The nomination must be completed in full and filed in person by the candidate or an agent of the candidate and include:

- a) Identification - See O.Reg 304/13 Voter Identification;
- b) Nomination paper - Form 1;
- c) Endorsement signatures from 25 people who are eligible to vote in the municipality- Endorsement Signatures- Form 2; and
- d) Application filing fee (\$200 to run for Mayor and \$100 to run for all other positions).

## **How do I get my nomination fee back?**

Your nomination fee will be refunded if you file your campaign financial statement by the deadline of March 31, 2023 at 2 p.m. If you withdraw your nomination, you are still required to file a campaign financial statement and your nomination fee will be refunded if you file your financial statement by the deadline.

## **Do I have to open a separate bank account as a candidate?**

You must open a bank account exclusively for your campaign if you accept any contributions of money (including contributions from yourself or your spouse) or incur any expenses. You cannot use your personal bank account for campaign finances,

even if you are planning a very small campaign. All contributions—including contributions you make to yourself—must be deposited into the campaign bank account. All expenses must be paid for from the campaign account.

### **Who can contribute to my campaign?**

Contributions can only be made to candidates who are nominated. It is illegal to make a contribution to a candidate who is not nominated.

The following may make contributions:

- An individual who is normally a resident in Ontario; and
- The candidate and his or her spouse.

### **How much am I allowed to spend on my campaign?**

There are limits on the amount a candidate may spend during the campaign period. The limit on campaign expenses is based on a formula related to the number of electors entitled to vote for the office:

**Mayoral Candidates:** \$7,500 + 85 cents per Elector

**Councillor and School Board Candidates:** \$5,000 + 85 cents per Elector  
(entitled to vote for that office)

### **What are my financial obligations during and after my campaign?**

As a candidate:

- You must file a nomination form before you collect or spend any funds;
- You should open a separate bank account immediately upon filing your nomination paper. All contributions and expenses must go through this account, except your filing fee;
- You must issue receipts for every contribution and obtain receipts for every expense;
- You are responsible for ensuring that records are kept and obtained for the term of office for the following:
  - receipts issued for contributions, the value of every contribution, whether a contribution was in the form of money, goods or services, and the contributor's name and address;
  - every expense including the receipts obtained for each expense;
  - any claim for payment of expenses that the candidate disputes or refuses to pay;
  - the gross income from a fund-raising function and gross amount of money received at a fund-raising function by donations of \$10 or less; and
  - any loan and its terms.
- You are required to be familiar with the following contribution guidelines:
  - Provide proper direction to the persons who are authorized to incur expenses and accept or solicit contributions of behalf of your candidacy;

- Any contribution of money in contravention of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, is to be returned to the contributor as soon as possible after becoming aware of the contravention;
- Any such contribution not returned is to be paid to the Clerk;
- Any anonymous contribution is to be paid to the Clerk;
- Your campaign period runs from the day you file your nomination form until January 3, 2023; and
- You must file a financial statement prior to March 31, 2023 at 2 p.m.

**What is the contribution limit from other people (other than yourself or your spouse)?**

There is a \$1,200 limit that applies to contributions from other individuals.

**Who cannot make contributions?**

The following cannot contribute to a candidate's campaign:

- A federal political party, a federal constituency association or a candidate at a federal election endorsed by a party;
- A provincial political party, constituency association, registered candidate or leadership contestant, registered under the Elections Finances Act;
- A corporation that carries on business in Ontario;
- A trade union that holds bargaining rights for employees in Ontario; and
- The Crown in Right of Canada or Ontario, a municipality or local Board.

**When can I campaign?**

Candidates may start campaigning after the nomination papers are filed. Candidates may campaign up until the end of voting day.

**Do I have to resign from my position on a municipal advisory committee or board if I become a candidate?**

There is no requirement to resign from an advisory committee or board.

**Can I use the municipal logo on my campaign material?**

Use of any corporate logo, crest or image by candidates on signs, brochures, websites or any other election related material is **strictly prohibited**.

**When may I receive a copy of the Voter's List?**

The voter's list shall be available by September 1, 2022. The voter list request form is included in the nomination package.

**Can I withdraw my nomination?**

Yes, the deadline to withdraw a nomination form is Friday, August 19, 2022 at 2 p.m.

### **When is the Council Inauguration Ceremony?**

The Council Inauguration Ceremony is on November 29, 2022 at the Municipal Office. Invitations will be sent out following the election.

**Stay informed and receive all updates to election information by  
subscribing to West Grey's election webpage:**

[www.westgrey.com/elections](http://www.westgrey.com/elections)

Interested candidates are encouraged to make an appointment to file nomination paperwork. To schedule an appointment, please contact Genevieve Scharback, Clerk, at 519-369-2200 ext. 229 or by email, [election@westgrey.com](mailto:election@westgrey.com).

The Municipality of West Grey, 402813 Grey Road 4, Durham, Ontario