



INSTRUCTIONS

- Scrutineers arriving at the Moore Room or Counting Centre must present this form and acceptable personal identification to the elections officials and take an oath of secrecy.
- Candidates arrived at a location must present this form and acceptable personal identification to the election officials and take an oath of secrecy. A candidate who enters a location is considered to be a scrutineer.
- Only one scrutineer per candidate may be at each ballot box/vote tabulator in the location.

1. Candidate

Name of Candidate:
Candidate for the Office of (Check one): ☐ Mayor: ☐ Councillor: ☐ Trustee:

2. Scrutineer Appointment

Name of scrutineer appointed:
Location ☐ Moore Room ☐ Council Chambers (Counting Centre) (check one)

I, _____ a candidate in the 2026 Township of Wainfleet Municipal Elections, hereby appoint the individual noted above as a scrutineer to represent me at the indicated location and authorize the said scrutineer to attend and observe the conduct of the election at the said location in accordance with the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

Date

Signature of Candidate

CONDUCT OF SCRUTINEERS

- 1) It is no longer mandatory that scrutineers be 16 years of age or older to work at an election. Anyone who is creating a disturbance at a location will be removed by the DRO.
- 2) Before being admitted to the Moore Room or Counting Centre, a person appointed as scrutineer shall produce and show his/her Appointment to the Deputy Returning Officer for the location (and appropriate I.D. if required) and take the oral Oath of Secrecy (Form EL12 (B) - below) from the Deputy Returning Officer before being permitted to remain in the location.
- 3) The candidate or his/her scrutineer has the right to place their own seal on the ballot box immediately before the opening of the location so that ballots can be deposited in the box but cannot be withdrawn without breaking the seal; and immediately after the close of each of the vote so that ballots cannot be deposited or withdrawn without breaking the seal. The seal MUST NOT contain any writing that could be considered “election campaigning”, therefore, the name of the candidate IS NOT permitted on the seal.

HOWEVER, if a candidate or scrutineer should include their seal on a ballot box, please note that Section 55(5) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, states:

“Despite subsection 88(6) (records), the Clerk may, if he or she considers it necessary in order to interpret the statement of results, examine any of the documents and materials in a ballot box in the presence of the relevant Deputy Returning Officer.”

In other words, if the Deputy Returning Officer Statement of Election Results is NOT complete or contains an error, the ballot box will be opened in the presence of the Clerk and the Deputy Returning Officer in order to resolve the discrepancy. It is NOT a requirement that candidates and/or scrutineers be notified or present when this takes place.

- 4) The Deputy Returning Officer is responsible for the conduct of the Moore Room and Counting Centre and no candidate or scrutineer has the right to interfere in any way with the Deputy Returning Officer in the discharge of his or her duties.
- 5) During the fifteen minutes before the opening of the location, the candidate or scrutineers who are entitled to be present in the location during voting hours, are entitled to VISUALLY INSPECT the materials (including ballots and all other papers, forms and documents) and vote tabulators but not so as to delay the timely opening of the location. Scrutineers/candidates are permitted to listen to discussions between the DRO/ Clerk and the Elector but they are NOT permitted to observe how an Elector votes. Scrutineers/candidates are NOT allowed to speak to Electors, touch the ballots or interfere with the voting process. They are simply there to observe.
- 6) Only one scrutineer per candidate is allowed at any given time for each ballot box/vote tabulator in a location. The candidate and his or her scrutineer ARE NOT permitted to be present at the same time. If a candidate or scrutineer wishes to have a discussion with another scrutineer or candidate, they must leave the location and carry on their discussion outside of the location.
- 7) No campaign material or literature of any nature whatsoever shall be displayed within the location. The boundaries of the location are the boundaries of the property and includes the parking lot and all lands visible from the entrance to the location. Candidates, supporters and scrutineers are NOT permitted to wear campaign material, handout campaign material, or park a vehicle displaying campaign material in the parking lot of the location. Anyone breaking these rules will be asked to remove the campaign material immediately.
- 8) Scrutineers are reminded to provide a clipboard for their use as sitting at the table which is provided for the Deputy Returning Officer and Clerk IS NOT permitted.
- 9) Scrutineers/candidates may examine the Voters’ List (if available) periodically to determine who has voted or to count how many Electors have voted. However, this periodic examination cannot interfere with or otherwise slow down the voting process.
- 10) Scrutineers/candidates wishing to observe the tabulation of votes MUST be at the Counting Centre prior to 1:00 p.m. No person will be admitted to the Counting Centre after 8:00 p.m.

Form EL12 (B)
ORAL OATH OF SECRECY

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm):
(state name)

- That I will maintain and aid in maintaining the secrecy of the voting; and
- That I will not, nor attempt to:
 - interfere with an elector when he/she is marking his/her ballot;
 - obtain or communicate any information as to how an elector is about to vote or has voted; or
 - directly or indirectly induce an elector to show his/her marked ballot to any person.

**TO BE DECLARED TO A DEPUTY RETURNING OFFICER BY ANY SCRUTINEER OR
CANDIDATE WISHING TO REMAIN AT THE LOCATION**