



Candidates' Information Guide

**2026 Municipal Election
October 26, 2026**

**Dan Kirby, City Clerk
Returning Officer
City of Orillia
50 Andrew St. S.
Orillia, ON L3V 7T5
705-418-3203
elections@orillia.ca**

Revised: May 6, 2026

Table of Contents

Part A: Introduction.....	4
Clerk’s Introduction Letter	4
Important Dates	6
Offices to be Elected.....	8
Annual Remuneration	8
Part B: Becoming a Candidate	9
When can I file my nomination paperwork?	9
What are the qualifications and disqualifications of a Candidate?	9
Nomination Form and Filing Fee.....	10
Clerk’s Review and Rejection of Nominations	11
How a Candidate’s Name Appears on the Ballot.....	11
How can a Candidate change Office	12
Withdrawal of Nomination.....	12
Refund of Filing Fee	12
Part C: General Campaign Information	13
Election Signage.....	13
Campaign Advertisements.....	14
Accessibility	14
Prohibition of Campaigning at Voting Locations	14
Maintaining Secrecy of Voting	15
Right of Entry for Candidates.....	15
Municipal Resource Policy.....	15
Scrutineers	16
Vote-Counting Equipment.....	17
Change of Address	17
Election Night	17
Voters’ List.....	17
Qualifications of Electors	18
Voting Proxies	18
Identification Required for Electors	19
Advance Voting Days and Election Day	19
Setting up a Campaign Account	20

Campaign Contributions and Expenses.....	20
Preliminary Maximum Campaign Expenses	20
Financial Statements	21
Joint Compliance Audit Committee.....	22

Part A: Introduction

Clerk's Introduction Letter

April 27, 2026

Dear Candidate:

Congratulations on your decision to run for office in the 2026 Municipal Election! The world of municipal politics is an exciting, challenging and worthwhile experience that requires an elected official to dedicate a considerable commitment of time and energy. We wish you well in your campaign efforts!

Note that nominations must be filed with the Council Services Division by **appointment only**. Candidates wishing to book an appointment can do so by visiting the City's election webpage at [Orillia.ca/elections](https://orillia.ca/elections). Individual appointments will take place at the Orillia City Centre (50 Andrew Street South) during regular office hours, Monday to Friday between 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM from May 1, 2026 to August 20, 2026 and on August 21, 2026 (Nomination Day) between 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. A nomination must be filed in person or by an agent during the allocated appointment time.

While Council Services staff regularly respond to general inquiries, this assistance is provided as a courtesy only. Candidates are solely responsible for ensuring compliance with all statutory requirements under the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. The following resources may also be of assistance:

- [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's elections webpage](#)
- Candidates Information Session – July 15, 2026 – West Orillia Sports Complex
 - o More information and sign up details will be available on the City's election webpage – [Orillia.ca/elections](https://orillia.ca/elections)

Candidates or their agents **must** bring the following items:

- A filing fee (Mayor - \$200; Councillor/Trustee - \$100) payable by cash, certified cheque, money order, or debit.
- A Completed Nomination Paper – Provincial Form 1
- A Completed Endorsement of Nomination with at least 25 eligible signatures – Provincial Form 2 (Council nominations only)
- Proof of the candidate's identity and residency satisfactory to the election official.
 - o Government-issued photo ID displaying a qualifying address satisfies this requirement. If the ID does not display a qualifying address, other proof is required (such as a copy of a lease or a tax or utility bill).

The Clerk has approved the following optional forms:

- Candidate Freedom of Information Release Form – OR02-A
- Candidates' Request and Declaration – Copy of Voters' List – Form EL14-A
- Candidates' Voters' List Acknowledgment – Form EL14-B
- Candidate Authorization for Electronic Communications – Form OR03-A
- Candidate Appointment of Agent, Acknowledgement and Release – Form OR04-A
- Candidate Appointment of Scrutineer – Form EL12-A
- Candidate Withdrawal of Nomination – Form EL19

The above-noted forms can be found inside this package and online at the [Government of Ontario Central Forms Repository](#) (under the listing for the Ministry of Municipal Affairs) and on the [City of Orillia's election page](#).

Best wishes for a successful campaign!

Dan Kirby
City Clerk

Important Dates

DATES	ACTIVITY
Friday, May 1, 2026	Nomination Period Opens
Wednesday, July 15, 2026	Candidate Information Session – 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM West Orillia Sports Complex – Orillia Room
Friday, August 21, 2026	Nomination Day – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM Last Day to file Nominations
Monday, August 24, 2026	Certification of Nominations by City Clerk List of Certified Candidates posted by 4:00 PM
Tuesday, September 1, 2026	Copies of Voters' List made available to certified candidates Revision period opens for electors
Wednesday, September 30, 2026	Certificate of Maximum Campaign Spending Limits and Notice of Penalties issued to Candidates and Third Party Advertisers
Saturday, October 10, 2026	Advance Voting Day Orillia Recreation Centre – 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Wednesday, October 14, 2026	Advance Voting Day Orillia Recreation Centre – 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Friday, October 16, 2026	Advance Voting Day Orillia Recreation Centre – 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Tuesday, October 20, 2026	Advance Voting Day West Orillia Sports Complex – 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM

DATES	ACTIVITY
Thursday, October 22, 2026	Advance Voting Day West Orillia Sports Complex – 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM
Monday, October 26, 2026	Election Day – 10 AM to 8 PM Ward 1 – Gill Street Community Complex Ward 2 – Orillia Recreation Centre Ward 3 – West Orillia Sports Complex Ward 4 – County of Simcoe’s Orillia Hub (250 West St. N.)
Sunday, November 15, 2026	2026-2030 Term of Council Begins
Monday, November 23, 2026	Inaugural Meeting of Council
Thursday, December 31, 2026	Campaign Period Ends
Tuesday, March 30, 2027	Deadline to file Financial Statements – 2:00 PM

Offices to be Elected

- **Mayor** – One (1) to be elected at large.
- **Councillors** – Eight (8) to be elected, Two (2) elected per ward.
- **School Board Trustees** – One (1) to be elected for each board:
 - English Public
 - English Separate/Catholic
 - French Public
 - French Separate/Catholic

Annual Remuneration

Mayor and Members of Council's remuneration is reviewed on an annual basis and increased December 1st of each year pursuant to [Chapter 493 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code – Remuneration – Expenses](#). Effective December 1, 2025 remuneration is as follows:

- **Mayor** - \$92,996
- **Councillor** - \$43,355

Part B: Becoming a Candidate

When can I file my nomination paperwork?

Individuals may file their nomination paperwork during the nomination period beginning Friday, May 1, 2026 during regular business hours (Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM). The deadline to file your nomination paperwork is Friday, August 21, 2026 at 2:00 PM.

Nominations are accepted at the Council Services' office at the City of Orillia's City Centre (50 Andrew St. S.). To submit your nomination paperwork, please make an appointment with the Council Services Division online at [Orillia.ca/elections](https://orillia.ca/elections).

An individual running for election cannot raise or spend any money until they have filed their nomination paperwork complete with 25 endorsements and the payment of the applicable filing fee (Mayor - \$200, Councillor/Trustee - \$100).

What are the qualifications and disqualifications of a Candidate?

To run for an office on Council or School Board, a candidate must be an eligible elector for the City of Orillia's 2026 Municipal and School Board Elections.

Candidates for the offices of Mayor and Councillor must be:

- A Canadian Citizen;
- At least 18 years of age;
- A resident of the City of Orillia; or own or lease property (or be the spouse of the owner or lessee) in the City of Orillia;
- Not legally prohibited from voting; and
- Not disqualified by any legislation from holding municipal office.

Candidates for School Board Trustee must be:

- A Canadian Citizen;
- At least 18 years of age;
- A resident in the area of jurisdiction of the board;
- Eligible to be an elector for the School Board;
- Not legally prohibited from voting; and
- Not disqualified by any legislation from holding municipal office.

The following persons are disqualified from being elected or appointed as a member of Council:

- A City of Orillia employee, except on a leave of absence;
 - The employee must be on a leave of absence before filing their nomination paperwork and must provide the City Clerk with documentation showing the leave of absence and its effective date.

- A judge of any court;
- A non-employee serving as Clerk, Treasurer, Integrity Commissioner, Auditor General, Ombudsman or investigator as referred to in the Municipal Act, 2001; and
- A non-employee holding any other administrative position with the City.

The following persons are disqualified from being elected or appointed as a School Board Trustee:

- An employee of any School Board, including supply teachers, except during a leave of absence;
 - The same leave of absence documentation requirements apply as above.
- A Clerk, Treasurer, Deputy Clerk or Deputy Treasurer of any municipality within the School Board's area of jurisdiction, except those on an unpaid leave of absence.

In addition to the above, the following persons cannot run or be appointed as either a member of Council or School Board Trustee:

- A member of the Provincial Legislature, the Federal House of Commons or the Senate who has not resigned from office by the close of the nomination period (Friday, August 21, 2026 at 2:00 PM);
 - Proof of resignation must be provided by the close of the nomination period or the City Clerk will not certify the nomination.
- A candidate in the 2022 Municipal and School Board Elections who has failed to file the required financial statements is ineligible to be elected or appointed to any office until the 2030 Municipal and School Board Elections.

Nomination Form and Filing Fee

A person may only be nominated for office by filing and completing the required nomination paperwork with the Council Services Division, in person or through an appointed agent. Nominations submitted by fax or email will not be accepted.

Nomination paperwork must be filed during the following dates and times:

- Friday, May 1, 2026 to Thursday, August 20, 2026 – Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
- Friday, August 21, 2026 (Nomination Day) – 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

When filing, candidates must provide:

- The prescribed nomination form (Provincial Form 1), completed in its entirety;
- For Council nominations, original endorsement signatures from at least 25 eligible electors (Provincial Form 2);
- The prescribed filing fee - \$200 for Mayor or \$100 for Councillor/School Board Trustee, payable by cash, certified cheque, money order or debit;
- One (1) piece of government-issued ID (photo ID is preferred but not required)

- If your government-issued ID does not display your qualifying address, please also bring proof of your qualifying address (e.g. Lease, City of Orillia Tax or Water Bill)
- A signed Freedom of Information Release Form (Form OR02-A), should they wish to authorize the posting of the candidate's name, qualifying address and contact information on the City's election webpage.

Nominations filed for School Board do not require the endorsement of 25 persons. In situations where a person is seeking nomination for a School Board and resides more than 100 kilometres from the office of the City Clerk responsible for accepting nominations, the Clerk is required to delegate the authority to accept the nomination to another Clerk in a municipality within the 100 kilometres.

If any documents are incomplete, the nomination will not be accepted. Ensure that you have completed all prescribed forms before attending a nomination filing appointment. Appointments can be made online at [Orillia.ca/elections](https://orillia.ca/elections).

Clerk's Review and Rejection of Nominations

The City Clerk will examine all nominations by 4:00 PM on Monday, August 24, 2026 and shall certify any nominations that meet all requirements as per the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. The Clerk may reject a nomination for any of the following reasons:

- The candidate refused or failed to provide proof of qualification or suitable identification;
- The candidate does not meet the qualifications required to hold office under the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 or any other legislation;
- The nomination form is incomplete, or the filing fee has not been paid;
- The required 25 endorsement signatures have not been submitted (Council nominations only);
- The candidate failed to file a required financial statement from the previous election (2022 Municipal and School Board Elections).

The City Clerk's decision to certify or reject a nomination is final. It is the candidate's responsibility to ensure that they are qualified and that all documents are properly filed before 2:00 PM on Friday, August 21, 2026. Once certified, the candidate's name will appear on the ballot unless removed by a court order.

How a Candidate's Name Appears on the Ballot

The name on the prescribed nomination form (Provincial Form 1) will appear on the ballot. First names may be shortened (e.g. Michael to Mike), however, nicknames are not permitted. No reference to a candidate's occupation, degree, title, honour or decoration shall appear on the ballot.

How can a Candidate change Office

If a candidate wishes to run for a different office after filing, submitting a new nomination paper is considered a withdrawal of the first. If both nominations are for the same office type (e.g. Ward 1 Councillor to Ward 2 Councillor), the filing fee is carried over to the latest filing.

Withdrawal of Nomination

A candidate may withdraw their nomination by completing a written withdrawal form (Form EL19) and filing it with the Clerk's Office before 2:00 PM on Friday, August 21, 2026, along with proper identification. A financial statement covering the period from the filing of the nomination to the date of withdrawal is still required. Failure to submit the financial statement will result in disqualification from the next Municipal and School Board Elections.

Refund of Filing Fee

Candidates are entitled to a refund of their filing fee provided that their financial statements are filed on or before 2:00 PM on the filing deadline (Tuesday, March 30, 2027).

Part C: General Campaign Information

Election Signage

Public election signs are permitted within the City of Orillia pursuant to [Chapter 832 of the City of Orillia Municipal Code – Signs](#). It is the responsibility of candidates to ensure all campaign signage complies with the rules and regulations as outlined in Chapter 832.

Public election signs are exempt from a sign permit provided they:

- Do not exceed 2.9 metres (9.5 ft.) in width and 2.3 metres (7.5 ft.) in height;
- Are temporary (not permanently affixed to the ground and building);
- Are not erected more than 60 days prior to Election Day; and
- Are removed within 48 hours following the Election Day.

Signs must not be erected within 3 metres (9.84 ft.) of the edge of a roadway and must not be placed on public property other than a municipal road allowance. Signs on a road allowance must not overhang the roadway or sidewalk, be adjacent to public parks or be erected without prior consent of the adjacent property owner.

Public election signs are also prohibited:

- In a required parking space;
- On a utility pole, tree, garbage can, planter or telephone booth;
- On a rooftop;
- In a sight triangle (unless the face has a minimum clearance of 2.4 metres);
- Where they obstruct the vision of drivers or pedestrians, or interfere with traffic signals;
- On a vehicle or trailer parked primarily for the purpose of displaying the sign;
- If flashing, moving or creating noise;
- If they use words such as “Stop,” “Yield,” or “Danger” in a manner that could confuse traffic; and
- If they constitute a public safety hazard.

There is no limit on the number of election signs permitted on private property.

The City may remove and dispose of any sign erected in contravention of these rules without notice. Retrieval of a removed sign requires payment of a \$100 care and storage fee or the actual cost of removal, whichever is greater. Signs not retrieved within 30 days may be destroyed. Contraventions are an offence under the Provincial Offences Act.

If you have any questions with respect to Chapter 832, please contact the By-law Enforcement Division at 705-325-2313.

Campaign Advertisements

[Section 88.3, Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

Any advertisement in any medium that promotes or supports a candidate's election is considered an election campaign advertisement. All such advertisements must identify the candidate.

Before placing an advertisement, a candidate shall provide in writing the following information to the broadcaster or publisher:

- The name of the candidate; and
- The name, business address and telephone number of the individual dealing with the broadcaster or publisher on the candidate's behalf.

Broadcasters and publishers are required to maintain records of all election campaign advertisements, including a copy of the ad and the charge for its placement, for four years, and must make these records available for public inspection during normal business hours.

Accessibility

[Section 12.1, Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

A Clerk who is responsible for conducting an election is required to prepare an accessibility plan regarding the identification, removal and prevention of barriers affecting electors and candidates with differing abilities. This plan will be made available at Orillia.ca/elections prior to Advance Voting Days and Election Day.

Candidates are encouraged to make their campaign activities, meetings, offices and literature as accessible as possible. Relevant resources include:

- [Ontario's Accessibility Laws and Standards](#)
- [Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001](#)
- [Elections Ontario's Multi-year Accessibility Plan 2022-2026](#)

Prohibition of Campaigning at Voting Locations

[Section 48, Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

No campaign material, literature or advertising of any nature may be displayed at or within a voting location. This prohibition applies to the entire building and property used as a voting location, on both Advance Voting Days and Election Day.

If a school is used as a voting location, no candidate, agent or representative may canvass in the school or display advertising materials without written approval of the Director of Education. All visitors to schools must report to the office.

Maintaining Secrecy of Voting

[Section 49, Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

All persons present at a voting location or at the counting of votes must help maintain the secrecy of voting. The following is prohibited:

- Taking a photograph or video of a marked ballot; or
- Showing a marked ballot to any person so as to reveal how they voted (except when assisting a voter).

Right of Entry for Candidates

[Section 28, Residential Tenancies Act, 2006](#)

[Section 118, Condominium Act, 1998](#)

[Section 171.24, Co-operative Corporations Act, 1990](#)

Candidates have the right to reasonable access for the purpose of canvassing or distributing election material in the following types of residences:

- Rental properties
- Condominiums
- Co-operative housing

If access is denied, candidates should contact the landlord, Board of Directors or co-operative representative respectively. Note that this right of entry does not permit canvassing in a building during voting hours if it is being used as a voting location. The City Clerk is not responsible for securing access to any buildings.

Municipal Resource Policy

[Section 88.18, Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

The Municipal Elections Act, 1996, prohibits the municipality from making any contributions in the form of money, goods or services to a candidate. [The City of Orillia Policy 1.11.9.4. – Municipal Resource Policy](#) establishes the rules for the use of municipal resources during the election campaign period.

No candidate shall:

- Use City facilities, equipment, supplies, services, or technology (including laptops, email, internet, fax, or photocopiers) for election-related purposes;
- Use a constituency office or any municipally provided facility for election-related purposes;
- Use municipally funded mobile phones or expense allowances for election-related purposes;
- Display campaign signs or materials at any City-owned or operated facility, City-operated event, or on City-operated buses;
- Use the City's logo, crest, or slogan on any campaign materials;
- Use the City's email system, websites, social media accounts, or domain names to distribute election-related material;

- Use City photographs or videos for election-related purposes;
- Use distribution lists, contact lists, or ratepayer information acquired through municipal resources or a Council role for election-related purposes;
- Use the services of any City employee for election-related purposes during compensated hours; and
- Use business cards, letterhead, or any material imprinted with the municipal logo for election-related purposes.

From Nomination Day through to Election Day, current members of Council must also discontinue all forms of advertising in municipal publications, general distribution of newsletters and the ordering of stationery including business cards.

If a breach is confirmed, the candidate will be required to personally reimburse the municipality for all associated costs. All complaints must be submitted in writing to the Clerk.

It is the responsibility of all candidates to ensure they have reviewed and complied with all provisions of the Municipal Resource Policy.

Scrutineers

[Sections 47, 48 and 49, Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

Each candidate may appoint one scrutineer per voting location, in writing, using the prescribed form (Form EL12-A). Upon arrival, scrutineers must present their appointment form to the Ward Captain and will be issued an identification badge, which must be returned before leaving. All scrutineers must take an Oath of Secrecy.

Scrutineers and candidates may, 15 minutes before the voting location opens:

- Inspect all equipment and election documents; and
- Place their own seal on the ballot box.

Scrutineers and candidates are prohibited from:

- Attempting to obtain or communicate information about how an elector intends to vote or has voted;
- Attempting to influence or persuade an elector;
- Displaying campaign material in a voting location;
- Interfering with an elector marking their ballot; and
- Compromising the secrecy of voting.

Any candidate, scrutineer or agent who creates a disturbance or interferes with the proper conduct of the voting location may be expelled. Scrutineers are requested to turn off their cellular phones while in the voting location.

Vote-Counting Equipment

[Section 42, Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

The City of Orillia will use ImageCast Precinct Tabulators to read and tabulate ballots. Voters mark their selections on a paper ballot, which is then inserted into the tabulator. The tabulator scans the ballot, records how it was counted, stores results and prints cumulative totals after the polls close. Detailed tabulator procedures will be provided on the City's election website prior to Advance Voting Days and Election Day.

An Accessible Ballot Marking Device is anticipated to be available at voting locations on Advance Voting Days and Election Day, allowing electors with differing abilities to mark, review and cast their ballot privately and independently. Availability at each location is subject to testing and will be confirmed as testing progresses.

For voting assistance, please contact the Council Services Division at 705-325-1311 or by email at elections@orillia.ca in advance.

Change of Address

The Council Services Division will be sending documentation to candidates throughout the nomination period and after the election, well into 2027. If your residence or mailing address changes at any point before all required forms have been filed, notify the Council Services Division at 705-325-1311 or by email at elections@orillia.ca.

Election Night

[Section 55\(3\) and \(4\), Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

Results displayed on Election Night are unofficial and for information purposes only. The Clerk will declare and post official results as soon as possible after Election Day.

Voters' List

[Section 19 to 25, Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

The Preliminary List of Electors is prepared by Elections Ontario and contains the names, addresses and school support of all qualified electors. Upon written request, candidates will be provided with an electronic copy of the Voters' List relevant to the office for which they have been nominated. The list may only be used for purposes of the 2026 Municipal and School Board Elections.

Candidates who have an agent pick up their copy must ensure they have completed the "Appointment of Agent by Candidate" Form. The Voters' List will be available on or before September 1, 2026.

Electors may revise their information on the Voters' List between September 1, 2026, and October 26, 2026, by:

- Visiting the Council Services Division at the Orillia City Centre, 50 Andrew St. S., during regular business hours (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM); or
- Completing a revision form at any Advance Vote Location or on Election Day.

Any revisions prior to September 1, 2026, may be completed on the [Elections Ontario Voter Registration Portal](#).

On September 30, 2026, certified candidates or their appointed agents will receive an electronic copy of the Interim List of Changes to the Voters' List. The Clerk's decision on all changes to the Voters' List is final.

Qualifications of Electors

[Section 17, Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

To vote in a municipal election, a person must, on Election Day:

- Be a Canadian Citizen;
- Be at least 18 years of age;
- Reside in the City of Orillia, or own or lease property there (or be the spouse of the owner or lessee); and
- Not be otherwise prohibited from voting.

To vote in a School Board election, the above qualifications apply, with the addition that the elector must not have already voted in the School Board election elsewhere within the board's area of jurisdiction. Non-resident owners or tenants of commercially or industrially assessed lands are ineligible to vote for School Board offices.

Eligibility to vote for a specific school board is determined by Catholic faith, French-language rights and/or school support designation, as applicable.

The following persons are prohibited from voting:

- A person serving a sentence of imprisonment in a penal or correctional institution;
- A corporation;
- A person acting in a representative capacity (e.g., executor or trustee), except as a voting proxy; or
- A person convicted of a corrupt practice under the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, until the next regular election has taken place.

Voting Proxies

[Section 44, Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

A qualified elector may appoint another eligible elector as their voting proxy using the prescribed form (Provincial Form 3), available from the Council Services Division. Proxy appointments may only be submitted after the certification of nominations (Monday, August 24, 2026 after 4:00 PM) and up to Election Day (Monday, October 26, 2026).

A proxy may vote for only one non-relative, but may act as proxy for any number of the following relatives: spouses, siblings, parents, children, grandparents and grandchildren.

Identification Required for Electors

[Section 12 \(3\), Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

Electors are asked to bring their identification showing their name and qualifying address. If an elector does not have identification, they must complete a prescribed form (Provincial Form 9) and take a statutory declaration. Electors who refuse to provide identification or take the declaration will not receive a ballot.

Acceptable forms of identification are listed on the [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Website](#).

Advance Voting Days and Election Day

Advance Voting Days, hours and locations are scheduled as follows:

Dates	Hours	Location
Saturday, October 10, 2026	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Orillia Recreation Centre – 255 West Street South
Wednesday, October 14, 2026	1:00 PM to 7:00 PM	Orillia Recreation Centre – 255 West Street South
Friday, October 16, 2026	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Orillia Recreation Centre – 255 West Street South
Tuesday, October 20, 2026	1:00 PM to 7:00 PM	West Orillia Sports Complex – 100 University Avenue
Thursday, October 22, 2026	10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	West Orillia Sports Complex – 100 University Avenue

Election Day is Monday, October 26, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM at the following locations:

Ward	Hours	Location
Ward 1	10:00 AM to 8:00 PM	Gill Street Community Complex – 433 Gill Street
Ward 2	10:00 AM to 8:00 PM	Orillia Recreation Centre – 255 West Street South
Ward 3	10:00 AM to 8:00 PM	West Orillia Sports Complex – 100 University Avenue
Ward 4	10:00 AM to 8:00 PM	County of Simcoe’s Orillia Hub - 250 West St. N.

Setting up a Campaign Account

[Section 88.22, Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#)

A candidate in the 2026 Municipal and School Board Elections who raises or spends campaign funds is required, under the [Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#), to open a campaign account. By convention, the account name typically includes the candidate’s name and an explicit reference to the word “campaign,” such as “Campaign for First Name Last Name” or “First Name Last Name’s Campaign.”

The Act does not contain any prohibition against a municipal candidate being a signing officer on the campaign account nor does it require the candidate to have a Chief Financial Officer.

Campaign Contributions and Expenses

Information regarding election finances is available as part of the [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing’s 2026 Candidates’ Guide](#), as well as within the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. Candidates are strongly encouraged to contact the Ministry with any questions regarding election finances, such as:

- Financial responsibilities of candidates;
- Campaign contributions/fundraising;
- Campaign Expenses; or
- Financial Reporting.

Preliminary Maximum Campaign Expenses

The below table provides the Preliminary Maximum Campaign Expenses for the office you are seeking to run for. The amounts shown are based on the number of electors determined from the voters’ list used for the previous regular election, as it existed on

September 15 in the year of that election and are calculated as per the formulas provided for in sections 5 and 6 of Ontario Regulation 101/97.

In accordance with section 88.20 (11) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, the higher of the amounts set out in the Preliminary Certificate of Maximum Campaign Expenses and the Final Certificate of Maximum Campaign Expenses will represent the maximum campaign expenditure you are permitted to incur.

Office:	Preliminary Maximum Campaign Expenses (base amount plus \$0.85 per elector)	Preliminary Maximum Contribution Limits – By Candidate/Spouse (base amount	Preliminary Maximum Expense Limit for Parties/Events after Election Day (10% of the 2026 Maximum Spending Limit)
	<i>Section 88.20 (6), (7) and (15), Municipal Elections Act, 1996</i>	<i>Section 88.9.1. (1) and (7), Municipal Elections Act, 1996</i>	<i>Section 88.20 (9), (10) and (13), Municipal Elections Act, 1996</i>
	<i>Section 5, O.Reg. 101/97</i>		<i>Section 6, O.Reg. 101/97</i>
Mayor	\$29,961.25	\$12,785.00	\$2,966.13
Councillor Ward 1	\$10,580.25	\$6,313.00	\$1,058.03
Councillor Ward 2	\$11,239.00	\$6,468.00	\$1,123.90
Councillor Ward 3	\$10,530.10	\$6,301.20	\$1,053.01
Councillor Ward 4	\$10,111.90	\$6,202.80	\$1,011.19
Trustee, English-Public	\$44,037.95	\$14,185.40	\$4,403.80
Trustee, English-Separate	\$10,944.05	\$6,398.60	\$1,094.41
Membre, French-Public	Please contact the City of Barrie Clerk's Department		
Membre, French-Separate			

Financial Statements

All candidates must file a financial statement covering all campaign contributions and expenses, regardless of whether money was raised or spent. The filing deadline is 2:00 PM on Tuesday, March 30, 2027, at the Office of the City Clerk.

A late filing option is available: Candidates who miss the deadline may file up to 30 days later and pay a \$500 late filing fee to avoid further penalties.

Campaign surpluses must be paid to the Clerk. Candidates are not permitted to exceed their maximum expense limit.

The Clerk will review all financial statements to determine whether any contributor has exceeded the applicable contribution limits.

For more information on campaign finances please reference the [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing's 2026 Candidates' Guide](#), as well as within the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. Candidates are strongly encouraged to contact the Ministry with any questions regarding financial statements.

Joint Compliance Audit Committee

Any elector who believes on reasonable grounds that a candidate has contravened the campaign finance provisions of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 may apply in writing to the Clerk for a compliance audit of that candidate's finances. The Joint Compliance Audit Committee will review the application and provide a decision within 30 days.

For the 2026-2030 term, the City of Orillia will participate in a Joint Compliance Audit Committee with area municipalities, facilitated by the County of Simcoe.