



CANDIDATE GUIDELINES

Rental of Town Facilities

In keeping with the provisions of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, to treat all candidates consistently, the rental of a Town facility is permitted when paid for personally by a candidate's campaign, whether the candidate is a current member of Council or not. It is prohibited for current members of Council to pay for the use of Town facilities for election purposes through their Council expense account.

In July 2006, Council for the Town of Caledon adopted a Corporate Policy regarding the "Use of Corporate Resources for Election Purposes".

The Purpose section of this policy states:

"The purpose of this policy is to clarify that members of Council are required to follow the provisions of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, and that:

- No member shall use the facilities, equipment, supplies, services, staff or other resources of the municipality (including Councillor newsletters, budgets or IT equipment) for any election campaign or campaign related activities."

The Rationale and Legislative Authority section of the policy states:

"It is necessary to establish guidelines on the appropriate use of corporate resources during an election period to protect the interests of both the Members of Council and the Corporation. The Municipal Elections Act, 1996 prohibits a municipality from making a contribution to a candidate. The Act also prohibits a candidate, or someone acting on the candidate's behalf, from accepting a contribution from a person who is not entitled to make a contribution.

As a contribution may take the form of money, goods or services, any use by a Member of Council of the Corporation's resources for his or her election campaign would be viewed as a contribution by the municipality to the Member, which is a violation of the Act."

These guidelines on the appropriate use of corporate resources during an election period have been developed to protect both the interests of Council Members and the Corporation.

Contact:

Clerks Department
905.584.2272, ext. 4218
clerks@caledon.ca