

The Corporation of the City of Burlington

City of Burlington By-law XX-2025

A by-law to Authorize the Use of Optical Scan Vote
Tabulators and Internet Voting as an Alternative Voting
method for the 2026 Municipal Election and any By-
Elections that may occur during the 2026-2030 Term of
Council
File: 165-01 (LLS-13-25)

Whereas the 2026 municipal election will be held on October 26, 2026, together with an advanced voting period as determined by the City Clerk in accordance with section 43 of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*; and

Whereas section 42(1)(a) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, provides that a municipality may pass a by-law to authorize the use of vote-counting equipment, such as optical scan vote tabulators for the purposes of casting ballots and counting votes at municipal elections; and

Whereas section 42(1)(b) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, provides that a municipality may pass a by-law to authorize the use of alternative voting methods, such as internet voting, that does not require electors to attend at a voting place in order to vote; and

Whereas section 42 (5) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, provides when a by-law authorizing the use of an alternative voting method is in effect, sections 43 and 44 apply only if the by-law so specifies; and

Whereas in preparation for any by-elections that may occur during the 2026-2030 term of council, it is prudent to include those approvals in this by-law;

Now therefore the Council of the Corporation of the City of Burlington hereby enacts as follows:

1. That optical scan vote tabulators be authorized to count the ballots cast in the 2026 municipal election, and any by-elections that may occur during the 2026-2030 term of council, for advanced voting and on voting day.
2. That internet voting be authorized as an alternative voting method to cast ballots in the 2026 municipal election, and any by-elections that may occur during the 2026-2030 term of council, for advance voting only.
3. That in accordance with section 43(2) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, the City Clerk shall determine the dates, times, and locations at which the advance vote is held.
4. That proxy voting be authorized at a physical voting place only and shall not apply to internet voting authorized under section 2, and that the City Clerk shall establish criteria for voting proxies in accordance with section 44 of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*.

5. That this By-law shall come into force and take effect on the date it is passed.

Enacted and passed this 18th day of February, 2025

Mayor Meed Ward _____

City Clerk Samantha Yew _____