

**Municipality of Central Huron**  
**2026 Municipal Election**

**Voter Information Package**



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Municipal Clerk's Office

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## Disclaimer

The information in this package is general in nature and voters should refer to the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* for specific provisions and additional information. A copy of the Act can be obtained from Publications Ontario (telephone 1-800-668-9938), or online at [www.e-laws.gov.on.ca](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca).

## Introduction

This guide provides information to voters for the 2026 municipal council and school board elections. This guide is available electronically on the Municipality of Central Huron website: [www.centralhuron.ca](http://www.centralhuron.ca)

Every four years, voters across Ontario elect municipal council members and school board trustees. The Province of Ontario sets out common rules that all voters and candidates must follow. However, municipalities are responsible for conducting elections for their council and for conducting the election of school board trustees to Ontario's school boards. This guide contains information about the rules that are the same for all municipal elections, such as who is eligible to vote.

Every municipality has a municipal clerk who is in charge of conducting the election. Please contact the Municipality of Central Huron if you have questions about the election, such as:

- how or where to vote
- whether or not you are eligible to vote in the municipality

## Important Voter Election Dates

January 1 – August 12, 2026

Voters can check, update or add their information to the voters list for municipal elections through Elections Ontario.

June 1, 2026

Last day for electors to update their school support for the 2026 municipal election through MPAC.

August 12, 2026

Last day for electors to check, update or add their information to the voters list for municipal elections through Elections Ontario.

August 13 – October 26, 2026

Electors who wish to check, update or add their information to the voters list for municipal elections will need to contact the Municipality of Central Huron municipal office.

September 30, 2026	Voter Information Letters are sent to eligible electors.
October 13, 2026	First day to vote – Electors can vote through phone/internet voting beginning at 9:00 a.m.  Voter Revision Centre opens at 9:00 a.m. at the Municipality of Central Huron.
October 13 – 23, 2026	Voter Assistance Centre is available at the Municipality Central Huron Office from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on weekdays.
October 26, 2026	Voting Day – Voting open until 8:00 p.m.  Voting Assistance Centre open until 8:00p.m.  The Unofficial list of results will be posted on the Municipality of Central Huron website as soon as possible after 8:00 p.m.
October 27, 2026	Clerk to declare Official Results as soon as possible After Voting Day.
November 16, 2026	Inaugural Meeting of Council will be held at 5:00 p.m.

## Provincial Voters' Guide for Municipal Elections

The Municipality of Central Huron Clerk's Office has prepared this information package for those seeking to vote in the 2026 Municipal and School Board elections. Election day will occur on October 26, 2026, and voting will be open until 8:00 p.m.

The Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has published the [2026 Voters' Guide](#). This guide provides additional details to voting in municipal elections and it is recommended that electors review this document for information. The Guide covers the following areas:

- Eligibility to vote
- How to vote in your municipality
- Voters' List and identification
- Supporting a candidate's campaign
- Contributions to candidates and third-party advertisers
- Enforcement and penalties
- By-elections

- Acceptable documents for voter identification

## Offices to be Elected

### Municipality of Central Huron Council

- Mayor – one (1) to be elected
- Deputy Mayor – one (1) to be elected
- Councillor – West Ward – three (3) to be elected
- Councillor – East Ward – three (3) to be elected

East Ward = former Town of Clinton and Township of Hullett

West Ward = former Township of Goderich

### Avon Maitland District School Board

- Trustee – one (1) to be elected

Representing English Public electors in the municipalities of Huron East and Central Huron.

### Huron Perth Catholic District School Board

- Trustee – one (1) to be elected

Representing English Separate electors in the municipalities of Ashfield- Colborne- Wawanosh, North Huron, Howick, Central Huron, Morris-Turnberry, and Goderich.

### French School Board Representatives

Conseil Scolaire Viamonde

- Trustee – one (1) to be elected

Representing French Public electors in the Waterloo Region and Counties of Wellington, Middlesex, Perth and Huron.

Conseil Scolaire Catholique Providence

- Trustee – one (1) to be elected

Representing French Catholic electors in the Counties of Lambton, Huron and Bruce.

# Am I Eligible to Vote?

## Municipal Council Election

You are eligible to vote in the election for municipal council if you meet all of the following requirements:

- you are a Canadian citizen
- you are aged 18 or older
- you reside in the municipality or are the owner or tenant of land there, or the spouse of such owner or tenant;
- you are not prohibited from voting under subsection 17(3) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 or otherwise, by law.

For clarity, the following are prohibited from voting under subsection 17(3) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996:

- i. a person who is serving a sentence of imprisonment in a penal or correctional institution.
- ii. a corporation.
- iii. a person acting as executor or trustee or in any other representative capacity, except as a voting proxy in accordance with section 44 of the Act.
- iv. a person who was convicted of the corrupt practice described in subsection 90 (3), if voting day in the current election is less than five years after voting day in the election in respect of which he or she was convicted.

There are three ways that you can qualify to vote in a municipality:

1. As a **resident elector** if you live in the municipality. You may own, rent, live in shared accommodation where you do not pay rent or live in the municipality but do not have a fixed address. Being a resident elector is the most common type of eligibility.
2. As a **non-resident** elector if you own or rent property in a municipality, but it's not the one where you live. While you can be a resident elector in only one municipality (with the exception of students), you can be a non-resident elector in any other municipality (or municipalities) where you own or rent property.
3. As the **spouse of a non-resident elector** if your spouse owns or rents property in the municipality or municipalities other than the one where you live.

Neither you nor your spouse qualify as a non-resident elector if you do not personally own or rent the property in the municipality. For example, if the property is owned by your business or your cottage is owned by a trust, you would not qualify as a non-resident elector.

Trailer owners in campgrounds are tenants of the campground, therefore, they are potential eligible electors. Under a timeshare contract, to be eligible, the person must be entitled to use the land on Voting day or for a period of six weeks or more during the calendar year in which the election is held.

If you are not certain whether you qualify as a non-resident elector, you should check with the municipal clerk. Under the [Municipal Elections Act, 1996](#), municipal clerks are responsible for conducting elections, and must be satisfied that a person is eligible to vote before adding their name to the voters' list. Municipal clerks may seek legal advice if they are not certain of a person's eligibility to vote. To contact the municipal clerk for the Municipality of Central Huron, please contact 519-482-3997 or [vote@centralhuron.com](mailto:vote@centralhuron.com)

## Students

There is a special rule for students who may be living away from home while they attend school. If you are a student and consider your "home" to be the place where you live when you are not attending school (that is, you plan on returning there), then you are eligible to vote in both your "home" municipality and in the municipality where you live while attending school.

## Voting in More Than One Municipality

If you qualify to vote in more than one municipality, you can vote in all of those municipal elections. For example, if you qualify as a resident elector in one municipality, and a non-resident elector in three other municipalities, you can vote in all four of those municipal elections.

## Wards

The Municipality of Central Huron is divided into two wards – the West Ward and the East Ward. As such, you must vote in the ward where you live. If you are also the owner or tenant of a property in another ward or your spouse owns or rents a property in another ward, you are not permitted to vote in that ward instead.

If you are a non-resident elector and you own or rent properties in more than one ward in the municipality, you must choose one ward to vote in. Make sure that you are on the voters' list for that qualifying address.

## School Board Elections

School board elections are held at the same time as municipal elections. You are permitted to vote in the same school board election only once.

You are eligible to vote in the election for a school board if you meet all of the following requirements:

- you are a Canadian citizen
- you are aged 18 or older
- you reside in the local municipality or is the owner or tenant of land there, or the spouse of such owner or tenant;
- you are not prohibited from voting under subsection 17(3) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996 or otherwise, by law.

For clarity, the following are prohibited from voting under subsection 17(3) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996:

- i. a person who is serving a sentence of imprisonment in a penal or correctional institution.
- ii. a corporation.
- iii. a person acting as executor or trustee or in any other representative capacity, except as a voting proxy in accordance with section 44.
- iv. a person who was convicted of the corrupt practice described in subsection 90 (3), if voting day in the current election is less than five years after voting day in the election in respect of which he or she was convicted.

School boards can cover large geographic areas that may include several municipalities. School boards are responsible for establishing the geographic areas within the board that one or more trustee positions will be elected to represent.

If you are a resident elector in a municipality, you are eligible to vote for the school trustee(s) that represents the geographic area of the board where you live.

### Voting in More Than One School Board Election

You may be eligible to vote in other school board elections in addition to the one where you live.

For example, if you (or your spouse) own or rent residential property in a municipality or an unorganized area different than where you live, you are eligible to vote for a school

trustee in this municipality or unorganized area if the trustee sits on a different school board.

Your property must be residential in order for you to qualify to vote. If you (or your spouse) own or rent commercial property in a municipality or unorganized area different than where you live, you are not eligible to vote for school trustee.

## Choosing a School Board

There are four different kinds of school boards in Ontario:

1. English-language public school board
2. English-language separate school board
3. French-language public school board
4. French-language separate school board

No matter which school your children go to, you are automatically eligible to vote for the English-language public school board unless you take steps to change your school support and become a supporter of a different kind of board.

The Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) keeps the provincial record of school support. To learn more about school support or how to change your school support, please visit [MPAC's website](#).

Electors have until June 1, 2026 to change their school support for the 2026 election.

You can also contact the school board in which you wish to vote to get information about changing your school support.

If you want to vote for an **English-language separate school board**, you must meet both of the following requirements:

1. you must be a Roman Catholic
2. you or your spouse must be an English-language separate school board supporter.

If you want to vote for a **French-language public school board**, you must meet both of the following requirements:

1. you must be a French-language rights holder
2. you or your spouse must be a French-language public school board supporter.

If you want to vote for a **French-language separate school board**, you must meet all of the following requirements:

1. you must be a Roman Catholic

2. you must be a French-language rights holder
3. you or your spouse must be a French-language separate school board supporter.

A French-language rights holder is defined in the Education Act, and refers to the rights of citizens whose first language is French, or who received their primary school instruction in French, to have their children receive educational instruction in French. More information about [French-language education](#) is available from the Ministry of Education.

**Note:** You cannot change your school support when you go to vote on voting day.

## Acceptable Documents for Voter Identification

You must present one of the following documents showing your name and address:

- Ontario driver's licence
- Ontario Health Card (photo card)
- Ontario Photo Card
- Ontario motor vehicle permit (vehicle portion)
- cancelled personalized cheque
- mortgage statement, lease or rental agreement relating to property in Ontario
- insurance policy or insurance statement
- loan agreement or other financial agreement with a financial institution
- document issued or certified by a court in Ontario
- any other document from the government of Canada, Ontario or a municipality in Ontario or from an agency or such a government
- any document from a Band Council in Ontario established under the *Indian Act* (Canada)
- income tax assessment notice
- child tax benefit statement
- statement of employment insurance benefits paid T4E
- statement of old age security T4A (OAS)
- statement of Canada Pension Plan benefits T4A(P)
- Canada Pension Plan statement of contributions
- statement of direct deposit for Ontario Works
- statement of direct deposit for Ontario Disability Support Program
- Workplace Safety and Insurance Board statement of benefits T5007
- property tax assessment
- credit card statement, bank account statement, or RRSP, RRIF, RHOSP or T5 statement

- CNIB Card or a card from another registered charitable organization that provide services to persons with disabilities
- hospital card or record
- document showing campus residence, issued by the office or officials responsible for student residence at a post-secondary institution
- document showing residence at a long-term care home under the *Fixing Long-Term Care Act, 2021*, issued by the Administrator for the home
- utility bill for hydro, water, gas, telephone or cable TV or a bill from a public utilities commission
- cheque stub, T4 statement or pay receipt issued by an employer
- transcript or report card from a post-secondary school

## How to Vote

### When is Voting Day?

Voting Day province wide is Monday, October 26, 2026. Due to the nature of the election process for the Municipality of Central Huron, electors will be able to vote 24 hours a day, 7 days a week beginning on October 13, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. until October 26, 2026 at 8:00 p.m.

### Internet/Telephone Voting

On March 3, 2025 the Council of the Municipality of Central Huron adopted By-law 17-2025 authorizing the use of an alternative voting method, that being the Telephone/Internet Voting method for the 2026 Municipal Election. This same platform was used in the 2014, 2018, 2022 Municipal Elections and all municipalities in Huron County are utilizing this same method of voting.

### Voter Information Letters

On or about September 30, 2026, each person on the Voters' List will be mailed, by first class mail, a sealed Voter Information Letter containing:

1. Their PIN, as well as the telephone number and designated internet address (URL) to cast their vote;
2. Instructions on how to vote;
3. Dates and hours of Telephone/Internet Voting;
4. The email address and telephone number of the Voter Assistance Centre;
5. Locations, dates and hours of the Voter Assistance Centre;
6. A list of contests and candidates;
7. Voter eligibility criteria; and
8. Illegal and corrupt practices.

## Voter Assistance Centres

During the voting period, voters will be able to cast their vote remotely using their own devices (i.e., laptop, smart phone, or tablet) in the comfort of their own home, at a time that most suits their schedule.

If access to a telephone or internet connection is unavailable, a Voter Assistance Centre will be provided with internet access during the voting period. In Central Huron, a Voter Assistance Centre will be available on weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. beginning Tuesday October 13, 2026 until Friday October 23, 2026. On Voting Day, Monday October 26, 2026, the Voter Assistance Centre will be open until 8:00 p.m.

## Internet Voting Process

Using any standard browser, voters can access the internet voting system by entering the Internet Voting address. The address will be located on the Voter Information Letter (VIL) sent to each eligible elector prior to the start of voting.

1. Eligible electors will receive their VIL by September 30, 2026. Please keep this letter in a safe place as you will require the information in this letter in order to vote.
2. During the voting window (October 13 – October 26, 2026), eligible electors can access the internet voting system by entering the voting address indicated in their VIL.
3. The voter will enter their voter ID and PIN found on the VIL along with their birthday. The system will then verify the credentials.
4. The voter will be asked to read and agree to the Oath of Qualification and confirm the terms of the Notice of Offences of Corrupt Practices.
5. Candidate selections can now be made by the voter. Following brief instructions on the current race, the voter will be prompted to make their selection(s) The online ballot will provide how many selections the voter is to mark for each race. Voters will mark their selection by clicking on the line of the candidate they wish to select.
6. The voter may deselect by clicking the selection again
7. Once the voter has completed all the ballots, they are presented with a review screen. If there are any undervoted races, a warning notification will be displayed. The voter may go back to fix any errors.

8. Once the voter is happy with their ballot selections, they will press the “cast ballot” button. Once the “cast ballot” button is pressed, the voter is no longer able to make any changes and they can no longer access the voting system. Their name is “struck off” the voters list and a “voting completed” message will display indicating that the ballot has been cast.

## Telephone Voting Process

Eligible electors can cast their vote from any touch tone telephone. The length of time to complete the telephone voting process is determined by the number of candidates running in each of the races:

1. Eligible electors receive their Voter Information Letter (VIL) by September 30, 2026. Please keep this letter in a safe place as you will require the information in this letter in order to vote.
2. During the voting window (October 13 – October 26, 2026) eligible electors can access the telephone voting system by dialing the phone number indicated on their VIL.
3. The voter will be prompted to enter their voter ID using the touch tone key pad, then their PIN (both found on the VIL) and then finally their birth date. The system then verifies the credentials.
4. After the verification process is complete, the voter will be requested to confirm the Oath of Qualification that is read to them and confirm the Notice of Offence of Corrupt Practices. Confirmation is obtained through pressing a key to confirm.
5. Once confirmed, a welcome message is played, and the voter will be provided with verbal instructions on how to vote for each race.
6. Each race is voted on separately. Electors will receive a message indicating the race, and by selecting the preferred candidate by selecting a certain key.
7. When a selection is made, the system will notify the voter which candidate’s name was selected and ask them to confirm the selection.
8. Once one race is confirmed, the message will prompt for the next race.
9. The voter will have a final review once all races have been confirmed.
10. Once the voter has completed the ballot review and has accepted all their choices, they will have cast their ballot.

11. The voter is now “struck off” the voters’ list and disconnected from the voting system.

## In Person Internet Voting

Electors may attend the Municipal Office (23 Albert Street, Clinton ON) at the following hours to cast their ballot using the internet for the 2026 Municipal and School Board elections:

- Tuesday October 13, 2026 to Friday October 16, 2026 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- Monday October 19, 2026 to Friday October 23, 2026 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.
- Monday October 26, 2026 between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

## Assistance with Voting

Electors voting at the Voter Assistance Centre may vote with assistance of a “friend” or “interpreter”. The elector and those providing assistance shall take the appropriate oaths on “Oral Oaths at Voter Assistance Centre” and shall vote according to the instructions and wishes of the elector. No person shall be allowed to act as a “Friend” of more than one voter at a Voter Assistance Centre.

## Taking Time Off Work to Vote

As per the [2026 Voters’ Guide](#) published by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, voters are entitled to three hours in which to vote on Voting Day. This does not mean you can take three hours off work. It means you’re allowed to be absent to give yourself three hours of voting time.

Typically, this is at the start or end of your working hours. For example, voting hours are from 10:00a.m. to 8:00p.m. If your working hours are from 10:00a.m. to 6:00p.m., you are entitled to leave one hour early so that you would have from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. to vote.

Your employer may decide when it would be most convenient for you to be absent in order to vote. For example, if you work from noon to 6:00p.m., your employer may decide that you should come in at 1:00p.m., rather than leave work at 5:00p.m.

## Missing Voter Information Letters & PINs

The Voters' List is the database used to create the Voter Information Letters (VILs). The VILs will be mailed to electors by no later than September 30, 2026. The VIL will contain a Personal Identification Number (PIN) plus an additional security element to gain access to the internet or telephone voting system.

If you believe you are an eligible elector and you are not on the Voters' List or have not received a VIL, please contact the Clerk's Office at [vote@centralhuron.com](mailto:vote@centralhuron.com) or 519-482-3997.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Who will receive a Voter Information Letter?**

All eligible electors on the Voters' List will receive a Voter Information Letter. If it is prior to August 12, 2026, to check if you are on the list, please visit:

<https://vreg.registertovoteon.ca/en/home>

### **What if my name is not on the Voters List within the Voting window?**

Eligible voters who are not on the Voters List will have to visit the Voter Revision Centre located at 23 Albert Street, Clinton ON and will need to complete a required form with approved ID to be added to the Voters List.

### **When should I expect to receive my PIN in the mail?**

Voter Information Letters will be mailed to eligible electors by September 30, 2026.

### **What if I do not get a PIN in the mail by the start of the Voting Window?**

If you are an eligible voter and on the Voters List, but did not receive a PIN in the mail by October 13, 2026, you can request a replacement PIN. If the election authorities' records indicate you were sent a PIN in the mail, that original PIN will be cancelled and cannot be used to cast a vote in the election. A replacement PIN will be issued to you if the original PIN has not been voted and if you provide ID.

### **Why would I not get a PIN in the Mail?**

If you did not receive a PIN in the mail, one of two things may have happened. First, your name was not on the Voters List. PINs are only mailed to voters whose names appear on the Voters' List for the Municipality of Central Huron. Alternatively, a PIN may have been mailed to you and it has been delayed for some reason in the mail system, or had an incorrect address. If this occurs, please attend the Voter Assistance Centre located at the Municipal Office (23 Albert Street, Clinton ON) with ID.

**Can anyone tell how I voted if they know my PIN?**

No. The system does not track how a particular PIN has voted, only that the PIN has been used to cast a vote.

**What if I lose or misplace my PIN?**

If a voter loses or misplaces their PIN they should contact the Clerk's Department of the Municipality of Central Huron immediately at [vote@centralhuron.com](mailto:vote@centralhuron.com) or 519-482-3997. The election officials can decide to replace the missing PIN if it has not already been used. Generally, a voter must travel to the Voter Revision Centre to sign a form, and then a replacement PIN may be provided. The original lost or missing PIN will be cancelled and it will not be able to be used to vote in the election.

**Once I have my PIN, do I have to register in advance if I want to use either the telephone or the internet to cast my vote?**

No, there is no registration required. During the voting period, using your PIN, you can use either the telephone or the internet to cast your vote.

**How do I access the voting system?**

Voting instructions will be included in the Voter Information Letter mailed to each eligible elector on the Voters List. Included in this information are instructions on how to access the voting system. Voters can cast their ballot using the telephone or cell phone by calling a toll-free number. Voters using personal computers will use the internet to visit a website that will allow them entry into the voting system where they will cast their vote.

**What do I do if the phone line is busy when I call and try to vote?**

If the phone lines are busy, simply hang up and call back a short time later. The voting system can handle a significant volume of calls simultaneously but there is always the possibility that many voters are attempting to call in the same timeframe. Voters will be able to connect to the system over the course of multiple days, beginning October 13th at 9:00 a.m. until October 26, 2026 at 8:00 p.m.

**Once I enter my PIN and start my voting process do I have to complete all the races on the ballot in one session? What if I am interrupted?**

You do not have to vote all the races on your ballot at one time uninterrupted. You can disconnect from the internet or the telephone and reconnect later, re-enter your PIN, and complete your voting activity at that time. You may even switch from one method to the other and complete your voting using the other method. The PIN remains active until you get to the final stage and actually cast your ballot.

**If I am using the telephone to vote, how will I know what number to press to vote for the candidate of my choice?**

The Voter Information Letter mailed to you has the list of candidates included on it for your reference. In addition, each time the system presents you with a race to vote on, it lists the eligible candidates running for that position and will instruct you to select the corresponding number for that candidate. Once you enter the corresponding number, the system will verify your selection with a statement and ask you to confirm your selection.

**Once a vote has been cast, can it be changed?**

No. Once a vote has been confirmed it cannot be changed. This process is the same as dropping the ballot into the ballot box in a traditional paper-based election ensuring complete voter anonymity and secrecy of ballot. The system does not know how the ballot was voted; only that the PIN was used in the election to cast a vote and thus cannot be removed from the vote count.

**What if I have a rotary phone at home, no cell phone and do not have a computer with internet service. How can I vote?**

You do not have to vote from home. You can vote from any location using any phone with touch tone service, or from any computer with internet service. You may also attend the Central Huron Municipal Office Voter Assistance Centre to cast your ballot.

**What if someone calls and asks for my PIN or Voter ID?**

You should treat your PIN with the same level of confidentiality that you treat your PIN on your bank card. Do not give your PIN to anyone. Election staff will never ask you for your PIN.

**If I am a voter with a disability, will I be able to obtain assistance with voting?**

Electronic voting has many advantages to assisting voters with various disabilities with voting independently. Voters with visual impairments may use the telephone, voters with hearing impairments may use the computer, and voters with mobility issues do not have to leave their home to complete the voting process. Should assistance be required, voters may attend the Voter Assistance Centre and have an election official assist.

**Would it be possible for me to receive more than one PIN?**

If you have received more than one PIN it is because your name appeared on the Voters List more than once. This rare situation might occur if you changed your place of residence and have been enumerated in both locations or you own property and are the registered resident at both locations. You are only permitted to vote once in a municipality and you should only cast a vote using the PIN associated with your primary

place of residence. Notify municipal election officials of the additional PIN and they will cancel this PIN rendering it unusable for the election. It is an offence to vote more than once in a municipality. You may also receive a second PIN if you own or rent property in another municipality that is using electronic voting and they are mailing out Voter Information Letters to eligible voters as well.

## Useful Resources

- [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – 2026 Voters’ Guide](#)
- [Municipal Election Act, 1996](#)
- [Municipal Act, 2001](#)
- [Education Act, 1990](#)
- [Municipality of Central Huron Website – Election](#)

