Council voted on Monday (Dec. 12) to maintain the first-past-the-post system for the 2018 election.

Photo by Graeme Frisque

Council decides against ranked-ballot election reforms

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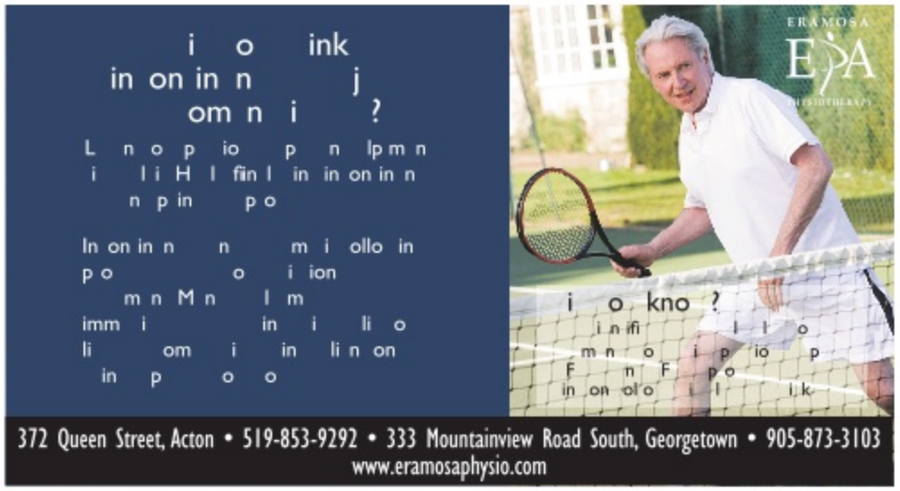
The ongoing election reform debate in Ottawa has found its way to Halton Hills.

The Municipal Election Modernization Act, which passed third reading at Queen s Park and received Royal Ascent in June, will bring many changes to municipal elections across the province, including allowing municipalities to choose individually how they would like to conduct elections.

While things may change under future administrations, council voted on Monday to adopt staff recommendations to stick with the first-past-the-post format rather than explore the option of ranked-ballots in 2018.

The lack of current adoption by levels of government make it difficult to move to an untested, unproven method to use for such an important democratic and complex process as a municipal election, town clerk and director of legislative service Suzanne Jones told council.

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