

Election Day, Monday, Oct. 27: What you should know

By LISA TALLYN Staff Writer

After weeks of election signs scattered along the roadside, candidate debates and campaigning it will be decided Monday who will have a seat at the Council table or school board for the next four years.

Halton Hills voters have several candidates to choose from with 38 people vying for 15 elected positions. Wards 1 & 2 Regional Councillor Clark Somerville is the only acclaimed candidate.

The incumbents are back in every council race except for Ward 2 where one of the councillors— Joan Robson, who has been a ward councillor since 2000— has chosen to retire. Mayor Rick Bonnette, who was acclaimed last election, is being challenged this time around by Sally Stull. Polls open at 10 a.m. Monday and people can cast their ballot until polls close at 8 p.m. Each location is specific to a person's ward and address. Residents should have received a Voter Notification Card telling them which location and poll to vote at.

Those who didn't receive a Voter Notification Card can still vote, however. They need to bring along a piece of acceptable identification such as an Ontario driver's license, Ontario Health Card (photo card) or an Ontario photo card to the polls. A full list of acceptable voter identification can be found at http://www.haltonhills.ca/election2014/ pdf/AcceptableVoterIdentification.pdf

Election workers will check identification and then check to see if the voter is on the Voters list, and if not, the voter will need to complete and sign an Amendment to the Voters List form,

prior to casting their ballot.

Area residents have already had plenty of opportunity to vote early at advance polls in both Acton and Georgetown. Turnout to those polls has been 5 per cent of the town's 42,080 eligible voters. That's up from two per cent in the advance polls in 2010.

Overall turnout during that election was 25.6 per cent.

Preliminary election results can be viewed Monday night at theifp.ca and the Town of Halton Hills website http:// www.haltonhills.ca/ as poll results are reported. It's anticipated that preliminary results from all polls will be reported by 10 p.m.

To read about the candidates and other election news go to www.theifp.ca/election

By MELANIE HENNESSEY

Get out and vote!

Special to the IFP

It's almost Election Day. Do you know where your polling station is?

It's my hope that most who are reading this are aware of the municipal election set to take place on Monday. I would also like to think that everyone is taking the time to find out more about their local candidates.

But if we look at statistics from the last local election in Halton Hills, one might wonder why so few local residents took the time to head to the polls. Only 25 per cent of eligible voters chose to exercise their democratic right during the 2010 municipal race.

The following year, 50 per cent of local voters turned out for the provincial election, while close to 60 per cent cast their ballot during the federal election. But don't let these numbers fool you. In my opinion, they do not indicate a hierarchy of importance.

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