

# Broadcasters and publishers must follow new advertising rules during the 2018 Municipal Election period, from May 1 to October 22, 2018

The City of Brampton's Municipal Election will take place on Monday, October 22, 2018 to elect a Mayor, a Peel Regional Council Chair, Regional Councillors, City Councillors, and Trustees for the following four school boards: Peel District School Board; Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board; Conseil scolaire Viamonde; and Conseil scolaire catholique MonAvenir.

Recent changes to the <u>Municipal Elections Act, 1996</u> (the Act) set out new rules for election campaign advertising. This notice provides information for broadcasters and publishers to understand their obligations under the Act.

## Candidate advertisement

A candidate advertisement is a message in any medium (e.g. broadcast, print or electronic) that a candidate purchases or directs to promote or support their election.

- Advertisements must identify the candidate and contact information.
- A list of candidates running in the election will be regularly updated and available at: <u>www.brampton.ca/bramptonvotes</u>

## Third party advertisement

A third party advertisement is a message in any medium (e.g. broadcast, print, or electronic) that promotes, supports, or opposes a candidate in the election or a "yes" or "no" answer to a question on the ballot.

- Between May 1 and October 22, 2018, individuals, corporations, and trade unions who wish to conduct third party advertising in the City of Brampton must be registered with the City Clerk.
- Advertisements must identify the name of the registered third party advertiser, the municipality where they are registered, and contact information.
- A list of registered third party advertisers will be regularly updated and available at: <u>www.brampton.ca/bramptonvotes</u>.

# **Obligations for broadcasters and publishers**

Broadcasters and publishers must comply with the following obligations under the Act:

# 1. Broadcasters or publishers as registered third party advertisers

Broadcasters or publishers who wish to conduct third party advertising must register as a third party advertiser and follow the Act's requirements.



# 2. Collecting mandatory advertisement information

#### For a candidate advertisement:

- The candidate must provide broadcasters and publishers with the following information **in writing** before the advertisement can appear:
  - Name of the candidate
  - Name, business address and telephone number of the individual who deals with the broadcaster or publisher under the candidate's direction (Note: individual may be the candidate themselves)

#### For a third party advertisement:

- The third party advertiser must provide broadcasters and publishers with the following information **in writing** before the advertisement can appear:
  - Name of the registered third party advertiser
  - o Municipality where the third party advertiser is registered
  - Name, business address, and telephone number of the individual who deals with the broadcaster or publisher under the direction of a registered third party advertiser

#### 3. Maintaining records

Broadcasters and publishers must maintain records of the advertisement for 4 years after the date it appears and the public must be allowed to inspect these records during normal business hours. Records must contain:

- The mandatory information collected in writing, as described above.
- A copy of the advertisement or the means of reproducing it for inspection.
- A statement of the amount charged for its appearance.

#### 4. Ongoing obligations

Broadcasters and publishers should be mindful of other requirements under the Act, including rules if they contribute to campaigns.

# Additional resources

City of Brampton

- City of Brampton Elections website: <u>www.brampton.ca/bramptonvotes</u>
- E-mail: <u>bramptonvotes@brampton.ca</u>
- Phone: 905.874.3952

Government of Ontario

- Ministry of Municipal Affairs website: <u>www.ontario.ca/municipalelections</u>
- E-mail: <u>mea.info@ontario.ca</u>
- Phone: 416-585-6226

This document is for reference only. For legal advice, please consult legal counsel.