

## **Voting period extended due to technical issues**

Bradford West Gwillimbury, ON (*October 23, 2018*) – Due to technical difficulties experienced last evening with the online and telephone voting system, the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury has extended the voting period in the current municipal election for 24 hours to October 23 at 8:00 p.m. Voters will be able to cast ballots using the online and telephone voting systems throughout this period. A Voter Help Centre has been set up at the BWG Public Library at 425 Holland St. W, which will operate until 8:00 p.m. Voters who did not receive a voter notification letter can come to the Library to receive one.

The decision to extend voting was made after a bandwidth issue caused the voting system to be unavailable for a period of approximately 90 minutes beginning just after 6:00 p.m. last evening. In order to ensure that everyone who wishes to vote has an opportunity to do so, the Clerk exercised her authority under the *Municipal Elections Act* to extend the voting period in the event of an emergency.

The problem did not affect the integrity of the system in any way – all completed votes are safely stored, and only people who did not complete their vote and receive a final confirmation message will need to repeat the voting process. If voters are uncertain whether or not their vote was cast, they can enter the system again using their existing Voter ID and PIN, and the system will either tell them that they have already voted, or it will allow them to proceed if it identifies that they have not cast a ballot.

Since the system was restarted in the late evening of October 22, more than 500 people have successfully voted in BWG. The service provider, Dominion Voting, has assured all affected municipalities that the issue has been resolved.

Candidates and residents are invited to await results this evening at the Bradford and District Memorial Community Centre at 125 Simcoe Rd. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m.

Answers to the most common questions from voters will be posted on the Town's website, and residents are encouraged to direct inquiries through the Town's Facebook page, by email to [vote@townofbwg.com](mailto:vote@townofbwg.com) or by phone to 905-775-5366.

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