

1. Objective

While supporting the democratic process, freedom of expression and informed discussion on political issues, we act and appear to act in a non-partisan manner, in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act*, the *Elections Finances Act*, the *Canada Elections Act*, the *Municipal Elections Modernization Act*, and any other legislation related to elections at any level of government.

2. Campaign Contributions

We do not make contributions of money, goods or services to the campaigns of any candidate or political party.

3. Use of Library Resources and Property

- a) All candidates and political parties have equal access to the Library's resources and services.
 - b) We rent meeting rooms in accordance with the Rideau Lakes Public Library Facilities Policy (R-6).
 - c) As a candidate, you cannot use the Library's equipment, supplies, staff or other operational resources nor our logo in your campaign material.
 - d) We may hold an 'All Candidates' meeting, either as a library program or with a community sponsor, provided that all candidates are invited to attend and no candidate is featured or promoted as part of another library program or event.
 - e) Candidates and political parties may distribute campaign materials on public right-of-ways at the Library, unless prohibited by municipal by-law.
 - f) As a candidate, you or your representative may campaign in the Library, as a free public facility.
 - g) We promote awareness of elections and provide general information about them as part of our Community Information Policy (S-5). During an election, we provide an area where, as a candidate, you may leave up to 25 copies of your campaign brochure.
 - h) We do not post election signs or posters specific to a candidate or political party inside the Library or on Library property.
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4. Participation in Election Campaigns

As a Library employee or volunteer:

- you cannot participate in campaign activities during your working hours
- if you wish to run as a candidate in the municipal election, you must take an unpaid leave of absence from the date of your nomination until voting day, and give notice to the CEO in writing in advance. (*Municipal Elections Act*, Section 30)
- if you are elected to municipal council, the CEO deems you as resigned from your position before you take your declaration of office.

As a member of the Rideau Lakes Public Library Board, if you wish to run for office, whether municipal, provincial or federal, you may continue your Board responsibilities during the election.

5. Requests for Information about the Library

- a) The CEO coordinates requests for information about the Library from candidates or political parties. Any information we provide to one candidate or political party, we will provide to all other candidates and political parties.
- b) The CEO may meet with a candidate or political party, or provide you with a tour of the Library.