

Simply Voting Municipal Training

2026 Ontario Municipal Elections



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Simply Voting Outage

In the event of a voting system outage, Simply Voting maintains a Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP). This DRP is reviewed and tested annually to ensure its procedures are understood by the Simply Voting staff involved.

Simply Voting uses multiple levels of redundancy to protect our Information Systems. These levels of redundancy can be stratified into four levels:

Level 1 – Server Redundancy

Simply Voting's server infrastructure at the primary data centre is built on an enterprise-class cloud computing service, with full redundancy across the entire infrastructure (no single points of failure).

Level 2 – Backup and Data Redundancy

Simply Voting's data is backed up at regular intervals and stored off-site in a secure location as per Simply Voting's Backup Plan. The "Hot Site" database is synchronized with the database at the primary data centre via remote replication. The voting system files and voting data files on the "Hot Site" web server are synchronized with the web server at the primary data centre via Rsync.

Level 3 – Data Centre Redundancy

Simply Voting's system configuration at its primary data centre is replicated at a backup data centre in a separate geographical location, as a "Hot Site".

Level 4 – DNS Redundancy

Simply Voting uses redundant off-site Anycast deployments with Cloudflare for its DNS service.

The Voting System's "vital signs" are monitored 24/7 and staff are immediately paged upon any alert condition.

Contingency

Upon experiencing an outage, Simply Voting staff immediately:

1. Assess the situation in the primary data centre; determine the nature of damage and the projected time to repair or restore and report to staff
2. Review recovery procedures, and roles and responsibilities
3. Restore systems using the recovery procedures, switching to back-up data centre
4. Verify systems availability
5. Provide ongoing status and notification of systems availability to staff and have staff provide updates to all stakeholders

Simply Voting staff will be in contact with the municipality providing updates and information.