

Candidate Q&A - 2026

The following questions have been submitted by candidates that have filed with the City of Stratford for the 2026 Municipal and School Board Election. For the awareness of all candidates, the responses to these questions are shared below:

Options for Casting your Vote during the Voting Period

Question – Will there be an option to vote online during the voting period?

Answer – The City of Stratford will be using internet and telephone voting again for the 2026 Stratford Municipal and School Board Election. This means that electors will have the option to vote online through a computer, tablet or their phone during the voting period or through the telephone.

Voting opens on Friday, October 16 at 10:00 a.m. and closes on Monday, October 26, at 8:00 p.m.

To vote, electors will need their date of birth and a unique PIN which will be found in their Voter Information Letter. Voter Information letters will be delivered by October 14, 2026.

Eligible electors who do not receive a Voter Information Letter in the mail can contact the Clerk's Office in person at Stratford City Hall, by phone: 519-271-0250 extension 5237, or by e-mail: elections@stratford.ca.

Spending Limit for Parties and Expressions of Appreciation

Question – Is the dollar limit for parties and expressions of appreciation a cap on total spending or just a cap on the amount that can be funded from campaign contributions?

Answer – The 2026 Candidates Guide developed by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing provides the following information in relation to the question posed:

- On Page 23: "The spending limit for expenses related to holding parties and other expressions of appreciation after the close of voting is calculated as 10% of the amount of your general spending limit.

Expenses related to parties and expressions of appreciation are subject to the specific spending limit regardless of whether they are incurred before or after voting day."

Withdrawal of Nomination

Question – When is the deadline to withdraw a nomination?

Answer – The 2026 Candidates Guide developed by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing provides the following information in relation to the question posed:

- On Pages 6-7: "If you decide to withdraw your nomination, you must notify the clerk in writing by the close of nominations (2 p.m. August 21, 2026).

If you withdraw your nomination, you are still required to file a campaign financial statement covering all the financial transactions you made in your campaign.

If your campaign did not have any financial transactions, you must file a financial statement reporting this. Your nomination fee will be refunded by the clerk if you file your financial statement by the deadline."

The Withdrawal of Nomination – Form EL19 must be completed and submitted to the Clerk's Office by the close of nominations (2 p.m. August 21, 2026).

A copy of the [2026 Candidates Guide](#) was placed in the Candidates Package and is available on the [City's website](#).