



YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE

This municipal election, vote for poverty solutions!

Guelph & Wellington Poverty Elimination Collaborative | September 2026

Municipal Election Day is October 26, 2026

Why Vote?

Voting gives you a say in who represents you and the important decisions that shape your community's services, growth and future. Municipal decisions have some of the biggest impacts on our daily lives.

Municipalities make decisions every day that shape whether people can afford to live, find a safe home, access services, and participate fully in their communities. While municipalities cannot solve poverty alone, they have an important role to play in addressing it.

Your vote is an opportunity to choose leaders who will use the tools available to municipalities to address the root causes of poverty and advance solutions that increase wellbeing and create lasting change.

What can municipalities do to solve poverty?



Build a community where all can thrive

Plan services, infrastructure and investments with the needs of people living on low incomes in mind, and meaningfully include people with lived experience of poverty in decisions and planning.



Support livable incomes and decent work

Use municipal policies, procurement and partnerships to support living wages, good jobs and affordable access to essential services, while advocating to other levels of government for strong income security.



Create and protect affordable housing

Use planning, land, funding, partnerships and other tools to create more affordable housing and protect the affordable housing we already have.



Prevent and reduce homelessness

Invest in preventing people from losing their housing and in housing and support that help people afford, find and maintain stable housing.



Use their voice and influence

Municipalities can work together and advocate to provincial and federal governments for the investments and policies needed to address poverty.



GET INFORMED. GET READY TO VOTE.

Voting to support poverty solutions? Consider this...

When choosing who to vote for, you might consider whether candidates:

- understand the root causes of poverty and the systemic barriers that contribute to it
- support long-term solutions, not just emergency responses
- support livable incomes and decent work that offers fair wages and working conditions
- are committed to creating and protecting affordable housing and preventing and ending homelessness
- will meaningfully work with people with lived experience and community partners
- will use the tools available to municipalities and advocate for action from other levels of government

Election Day is October 26, 2026. Get ready to vote:

1

Learn about the issues.

Learn more about the poverty issues facing our community and the solutions that can address them. Explore our fact sheets, learn from community resources, and attend local events.

2

Know how and where to vote.

Visit your municipality's election webpage for information about voter registration, advance voting, voting locations, and Election Day.

3

Find out who is running.

Learn which candidates are running for mayor, councillor and school board trustee in your municipality, ward or County ward.

4

Learn about what candidates support.

Look at candidate platforms and ask questions about their priorities - what will they do to address poverty and advance solutions?

5

Vote in advance polls or on election day.

Your vote is your voice in shaping the future of your community. Use what you've learned to make an informed choice about the candidates and priorities you want to support in your community.

**Visit our election webpage to learn more:
gwpoverty.ca/municipal-election-2026**

