



# Committee of the Whole

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**Meeting Date:** April 14, 2026

**Submitted by:** Marci Ivanic, Director of Legislative Services / County Clerk

**Subject:** 2026 Municipal Election – Joint Candidate Information Session

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## **BACKGROUND:**

The 2026 Municipal Election will be held on October 26, 2026. The nomination period for candidates opens on May 1, 2026, with Nomination Day set for August 21, 2026.

Middlesex County, in partnership with its eight local municipalities, will host a [Joint Candidate Information Session](#) on April 28, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. The session will take place at the Coldstream Community Centre in Ilderton (Municipality of Middlesex Centre).

Participants may attend in-person or virtually via Zoom. Representatives from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) will be in attendance. Staff representatives from Middlesex County and all eight (8) local municipalities will also be present to provide an overview of the roles and responsibilities of councillors at both the local and upper-tier levels, and to answer election-related questions.

## **ANALYSIS:**

The primary objective of this session is to encourage interested residents to learn more about running for their local municipal council. Participants will receive information on key aspects of the election process and the legislative requirements governing candidates. The session will also provide an overview of the roles and responsibilities of Mayors, Councillors, and municipal staff, and will highlight the relationship between Middlesex County and its local municipalities.



This coordinated approach supports transparency and ensures that prospective candidates across Middlesex receive consistent, accurate, and comprehensive information.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Costs associated with the Joint Candidate Information Session such as advertising expenses, will be incurred by Middlesex County as part of its coordination role. These costs are expected to be modest and will be managed within existing departmental budgets.

## ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC FOCUS:

This report aligns with the following Strategic Focus, Goals, or Objectives:

Strategic Priority	Goal	Objectives
<p>Collaboration &amp; Partnerships</p> 	<p>Strengthen collaboration with local municipalities and regional partners to improve economic efficiency, enhance service delivery, and support regional development in alignment with community priorities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Optimize service delivery through inter-municipal collaboration and shared services to improve efficiency and seamless operations.</li><li>• Build and enhance relationships with municipal, regional, First Nations, community, and private sector partners to align priorities, share resources, and implement joint initiatives that improve community well-being and economic growth.</li><li>• Improve communication and transparency through open engagement, accessible information, and informed decision-making.</li></ul>
<p>Adaptability and Agility</p> 	<p>Modernize the County's administrative capabilities to strengthen decision-making, improve service delivery, and achieve better community outcomes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transform, modernize and continuously improve administrative systems and processes to increase efficiency and enhance the experience of residents and partners.</li><li>• Strengthen internal administrative capabilities to ensure key support services have the necessary resources to meet community needs and support organizational growth.</li></ul>

## RECOMMENDATION:

**THAT** the 2026 Municipal Election – Joint Candidate Information Session report be received for information.