

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CONMEE

BY-LAW # 2026-017

Being a by-law to regulate the use of municipal resources for election purposes.

Recitals:

1. Council of the Township of Conmee has authority under the *Municipal Act, 2001* and the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* to govern the conduct of municipal elections and the use of municipal resources.
2. The *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* prohibits municipalities from making contributions, including goods or services, to candidates in an election.
3. Council has an existing policy respecting the use of corporate resources for election purposes that remains in effect.
4. Council considers it appropriate to give that policy legal effect through a by-law in advance of a municipal election to ensure enforceability and legislative clarity.

ACCORDINGLY, THE COUNCIL FOR THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF CONMEE ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Schedule "A", attached hereto and forming part of this by-law, being Policy No. 19 – Use of Corporate Resources for Election Purposes, is hereby adopted and shall be enforced as a by-law of the Township of Conmee.
2. The Clerk is authorized to administer and enforce this by-law.
3. Schedule "A" may be amended only by by-law of the Council of the Township of Conmee.
4. This by-law shall come into force and take effect on the date it is passed.

Enacted and Passed this 26th day of May, 2026.

THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF CONMEE


Sheila Maxwell, Mayor


Karen Paisley, Clerk



**SCHEDULE "A"
TO BY-LAW NO. 2026-017**

**POLICY NO. 19
USE OF CORPORATE RESOURCES FOR ELECTION PURPOSES**

Preamble

The purpose of this policy is to clarify that Members of Council are required to follow the provisions of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996. It is necessary to establish guidelines on the appropriate use of corporate resources during an election period to protect the interests of both the Members of Council and the Corporation.

The Municipal Elections Act, 1996 prohibits a Township from making a contribution to a candidate. As a contribution may take the form of money, goods, or services, any use by a Member of Council of the Corporation's resources for their election campaign would be viewed as a contribution by the Township to the Member, which is a violation of the Act.

Scope

This policy applies to all candidates.

Policy

1. No candidate shall use the facilities, equipment, supplies, services, staff, or other resources of the Township for any election campaign or campaign-related activities except as provided for below.
2. The Community Centre may be rented by candidates for campaign purposes provided they pay the established rental rate.
3. Photocopying may be permitted for candidates at the approved rate.
4. No candidate shall undertake campaign-related activities on Township property during regular working hours. This includes hall rentals.
5. No candidate shall use the services of persons during hours in which those persons receive any compensation from the Township, with the exception of photocopying.
6. Corporate resources and funding may not be used for any election-related purposes including, but not limited to:
 - printing or distributing any material paid by municipal funds that illustrates that a Member of Council or any other individual is registered in any election;
 - profiling (by name or photograph), or making reference to, any individual who is registered as a candidate in any election;
 - printing or distributing any material using municipal funds that makes reference to, contains the name or photograph of, or otherwise identifies a registered candidate for municipal elections;
 - campaign advertising in the Conmee Newsletter, other than as permitted below.

7. Campaign advertising in the Conmee Newsletter may be permitted at the current advertising rate. The Clerk will also produce one election edition of the Conmee Newsletter that will provide ratepayers with candidate information. Candidates may provide information and/or a profile for this edition at no cost to them, to a maximum of one 8½" × 11" page per candidate.
8. The Municipal Clerk is authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect to this policy.
9. This policy does not apply to Township road rights-of-way. Election signs are permitted on road rights-of-way except in front of municipally owned properties. Private property on the opposite side of the road may be used for election signs.

Limitation

Nothing in this policy shall preclude a Member of Council from performing their duties as a Councillor, nor inhibit them from representing the interests of the constituents who elected them.