

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD**

BY-LAW NO. 2018-15

**A BY-LAW TO REGULATE THE PLACEMENT OF ELECTION SIGNS
IN THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD**

WHEREAS, Section 8 (1) of the *Municipal Act, 2001* S.O. 2001, provides that a municipality under this or any other Act shall be interpreted broadly so as to confer broad authority on the municipality to enable the municipality to govern its affairs as it considers appropriate and to enhance the municipality's ability to respond to municipal issues;

AND WHEREAS Section 9 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, provides that a municipality has the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person for the purpose of exercising its authority under this or any other act.

AND WHEREAS Section 11 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, as amended provides that a municipality may pass by-laws within the spheres of jurisdiction set out therein, respecting structures, including fences and signs;

AND WHEREAS Section 99 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* provides the rules which apply to a by-law of a municipality respecting advertising devices, including signs; that all costs and charges incurred for disposing of an advertising device may be recovered by the municipality as a debt owed by the owner of the device;

AND WHEREAS, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Bonfield deems it is expedient to regulate the placement of election signs on public roadways and properties for the purpose of preventing hazards to vehicles and pedestrians and to prevent an unsightly proliferation of election signs.

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BONFIELD HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Definitions

"Election Sign" means any officially authorized sign or other advertising device, including, without limitation, posters, placards, bulletins, banners, notices, pictures or any combination thereof:

i) advertising or promoting by use of words, pictures or graphics or any combination thereof is used by or on behalf of a candidate in a federal, provincial or municipal election or by-election, including an election of a local board or commission; or

ii) intended to influence persons to vote for or against any candidate or any question or by-law submitted to the electors under the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*

"Highway" means a common and public walkway, lane, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place, bridge, viaduct or trestle, designed and intended for, or used by, the general public for the passage of vehicles and pedestrians and includes the untraveled portion of a road allowance and adjacent ditches and shoulders thereof.

"Mobile Sign" means any sign mounted on a trailer or other freestanding structure, which is designed in such a manner so as to facilitate its movement from place to place but does not include a sign attached to a motorized vehicle where the principle use of the vehicle is transportation of people.

"Municipality" shall mean the Corporation of the Township of Bonfield.

"Municipal Law Enforcement Officer" means a person appointed by the Council of the Township of Bonfield for the purposes of enforcing Township by-laws and included as an Elections Officer for the purposes of enforcing this by-law.

2. General

- 1) Election signs shall not be placed prior to August 1st in any given election year.
- 2) Election signs shall not be placed on any municipal properties including but not limited to:
 - i) Municipal Office and Fire Halls
 - ii) Public Works Garage on Line 3 South
 - iii) All Municipal Parks and Community Gardens
- 3) Election signs shall not be permitted on road allowances immediately adjacent to the properties noted in Section 2.2 above with the exception of 2.2 iii)
- 4) Election signs shall not be placed/affixed to any building owned or leased or operated by the Township of Bonfield
- 5) Election signs shall not be:
 - iv) Attached to trees
 - v) Have flashing lights or rotating parts;
 - vi) Be illuminated;or
 - vii) Simulate any traffic control device
- 6) Election signs shall not be placed within 15 metres (50 Feet) of any intersection of public roads within the municipality.
- 7) Election signs may be placed on municipal road allowances provided that
 - viii) The signs are no larger than two (2) feet by two (2) feet;
 - ix) If the Public Works Manager, or her/his designate, determines that the location of the sign is impeding the necessary sightlines of motorists, municipality's snowploughing operations, or access to a private drive, the candidate shall, upon request of the CAO/Clerk or his/her designate, relocate the sign;
 - x) Should the sign be causing an immediate safety issue, the Public Works Manager, or her/his designate, shall remove the sign upon it being brought to her/his attention.
- 8) Where the election signs placed on private property are causing an immediate safety issue, the Public Works Manager, or her/his designate, shall remove the sign upon it being brought to her/his attention and the cost of such removal, as outlined in Section 10 of this by-law shall be charged back to the owner of the sign;
- 9) Election signs shall be removed **no later than** seven (7) days following Election Day.

3. Fees

Election signs placed in contravention of this by-law that are required to be removed or signs not removed within the time-frame noted above shall be removed by the Township of Bonfield and disposed of. The cost of such removal and disposal shall be charged back to the owner of the signs at a charge of \$50.00 per sign.

Candidates shall be responsible for compliant with signage by-laws and regulations of the Province of Ontario (MTO), as the case may be.

4. This By-Law shall come into full force and effect upon the final passing thereof.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 24th DAY OF APRIL 2018.



MAYOR



CLERK