

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, January 11, 2013				Report Date	Wednesday, January-02-13			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	x	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

REPORT TITLE
Advance Vote Report 11/01/13/1003

RECOMMENDATION: That Council adopt the attached by-law setting dates for an advance poll for a by-election.

**A resolution adopting by-law 2013-03 which states...**

1. **THAT** an advance vote shall be held on Saturday, March 16, 2013 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., at the Township Hall, 15 Township Hall Road, Stonecliffe;
2. **THAT** an advance vote shall be held on Saturday, March 16, 2013 between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m., in a location to be determined in Deux Rivieres;
3. **THAT** this by-law comes into force upon the date of passing.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Should Council decide to hold a by-election to fill the vacant office a further by-law setting dates and times for an advance poll is required. Not knowing Council's decision but in an effort to reduce time lengths before an election may be held and to facilitate planning and preparation this by-law is being presented for consideration by Council at this time.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS/BUDGET IMPACT: Costs of a by-election can be reduced significantly from that held in 2012. As 2012 was the first election run by current employees some efficiency has been realized and will be incorporated into any new election, be it a by-election or the election to be held in 2014.

For a turnout of nearly 100% of the permanent residents of Deux Rivieres, at a total of about 30 individuals, holding a polling station open for 10 hours is not seen as a reasonable expense. Changing the polling station in Deux Rivieres to an advance poll allows for a reduction in hours.

Future votes will include:

- an advance poll in Deux Rivieres with reduced hours,
- an advance poll in Stonecliffe with reduced hours and
- one polling station in Stonecliffe on Election Day with legislated hours.

With the limited number of electors, anything more does not affect an individual's ability to vote but instead simply misuses taxpayer dollars.

Expenses will include:

1. the printing of a couple of copies of the voter's list, in-house; - <\$45
2. printing of ballots - in-house; - <\$10;

3. advertising – there are at least three legislated ads that must be inserted in the paper - \$140;
4. training and salary for staff to man two voting locations and one advance poll –
  - a. 4 hours – 3 x \$10.40 x 5 - \$157.50
  - b. 4 hours – 3 x \$10.50 x 5 – \$157.50
  - c. 12 hours – 2 x \$10.50 x 13 - \$273.00
  - d. approximately \$588;

Total costs would likely be less than \$800.

Aside from the by-election in 2012 this municipality has not spent anything on elections in each of 2007 and 2010.

There is money in an elections reserve which may be utilized so that the current budget will not be affected.

In a vein of accountability to the electors, it is staff opinion that the expense is justified.

Policy Impact: This course of action follows the letter of the law and allows that the members of the public are those responsible for filling the vacant spot on Council.

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,  
Municipal Clerk

*Melinda Reith*