

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF RYERSON

## BY-LAW # 12 -26

### Being a By-law to regulate the placement of Municipal Election Signs in the Township of Ryerson

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WHEREAS Section 10 (2) (10) of the Municipal Act, 2001, S.O. 2001, c.25 as amended, states that a municipality may pass by-laws respecting structures including fences and signs;

AND WHEREAS Section 99 (2) and (3) of the Municipal Act provides that the municipality may remove signs at the expense of the owner of the sign if it is erected or displayed in contravention to this by-law;

AND WHEREAS 88.3 (2) of the Municipal Elections Act, 1996, S.O. 1996, c.32, Sched., as amended, states that any election campaign advertisement purchased by or under the direction of a candidate shall identify the candidate;

AND WHEREAS Section 88.7 of the Municipal Election Act states that where a municipality is satisfied that there has been a contravention of the Act with regard to a sign used as a Third-Party Advertisement, the municipality may require the sign to be removed;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ryerson hereby enacts as follows:

#### 1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1. Candidate means a person who is nominated to run in a municipal election.
- 1.2. Clerk means the Clerk for the Township of Ryerson, or their designate.
- 1.3. Highway means a common and public highway, street, avenue, parkway, driveway, square, place and includes any bridge, trestle, viaduct, or other structure forming part of the highway and includes the boulevards and any area between the lateral property lines of the highway.
- 1.4. Municipality means The Corporation of the Township of Ryerson.
- 1.5. Municipal Election Sign means any sign advertising or promoting a candidate in a municipal election or municipal by-election either placed by a representative for a registered candidate or registered third party advertiser.
- 1.6. Owner means the person who places or permits the placing of an election sign or any person described on the sign, whose name, address, or telephone number is on the sign or who benefits from the message on the sign and for the purposes of this By-law there may be more than one owner of an election sign.
- 1.7. Park means any land or premises under the control or ownership of the Municipality for park and recreational purposes and includes any lane, walkway or public parking area leading thereto, and includes all buildings, structures, equipment, facilities, and improvements located in or on such land.
- 1.8. Person means an individual, corporation, or association, and includes a registered Third-Party Advertiser.
- 1.9. To Place means to attach, install, erect, build, construct, reconstruct, move, display, or affix in any manner.
- 1.10. Private Property means real property that is not a highway or public property.
- 1.11. Public Property means real property owned or under the control of the Township of Ryerson, Provincial Government, Federal Government or any of their

respective agencies, boards, or commissions but, for the purposes of this By-law, does not include a highway, and does not include a property where one or more persons reside on the Public Property.

1.12. Third-Party Advertiser means a registered individual, corporation or trade union that is registered with the municipality in accordance with prescribed legislation.

1.13. Voting Day means voting day as defined in the Municipal Elections Act, 1996.

1.14. Voting Place means a place where electors cast their ballots or ballots are counted which includes all the area enclosed by the lot lines of the public property and any highway abutting.

## 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS

2.1. Municipal Election Signs shall not be placed prior to the Candidate filing their nomination papers or prior to the registration of a Third-Party Advertiser.

2.2. Municipal Election Signs shall not be placed on any Public Property including but not limited to:

2.2.1. Municipal Office and Garage and Quonset Building

2.2.2 Heritage Centre, Wiseman Corners School Building

2.2.3. Municipal open space (including municipally maintained planters, flower beds etc.)

2.2.4 All Municipal Parks

2.3. Municipal Election Signs shall not be permitted on road allowances immediately adjacent to the properties noted above, on either side of the travelled road.

2.4. Municipal Election Signs shall not be placed/affixed to any building owned, leased or operated by the Township of Ryerson.

2.5. No person shall place or permit to be placed on a motor vehicle, a Municipal Election Sign where the motor vehicle is parked at a Voting Place on any day when electors are voting.

2.6. No person shall display the Municipality's logo, in whole or in part, on any Municipal Election Sign.

2.7. Municipal Election Signs shall not:

2.7.1. be attached to trees or utility poles;

2.7.2. be at the voting place designated in the Clerk's procedures;

2.7.3. have flashing lights or rotating parts;

2.7.4. be illuminated;

2.7.5. simulate any traffic control device; or

2.7.6. impede or obstruct the passage of pedestrians.

2.8. Municipal Election Signs may be placed on Municipal road allowances with the following provisions:

2.8.1. The Signs shall be no larger than two (2) feet by two (2) feet.

2.8.2. If the Clerk's Office or Public Works Department determines that the location of the Sign is impeding the necessary sightlines of motorists, the municipality's grading, construction, mowing or snowplow operations, or access to a private driveway, the Candidate or Third-Party Advertiser shall, upon the request of the Clerk or their designate, remove the Sign.

2.8.3. Should the Sign be causing an immediate safety issue, the Municipality shall remove the sign upon it being brought to their attention.

2.9. Where Municipal Election Signs placed on private property are causing an immediate safety issue, the Municipality, shall remove the Sign upon it being brought to their attention, and the cost of such removal shall be charged back to the owner of the sign as per Section 4 of this By-law.

2.10. Municipal Election Signs shall be removed no later than seven (7) days following Municipal Election Day.

2.11. Candidates and Third-Party Advertisers shall be responsible for compliance with signage by-laws and regulations of the Province of Ontario (Ministry of Transportation).

2.12. The Township of Ryerson will not be responsible for investigating or prosecuting any acts of vandalism to the municipal election signs of a candidate.

### 3. SIGNS IN GOOD REPAIR

3.1. No person shall permit a Municipal Election Sign to be left in a state of disrepair.

### 4. FEES

4.1. Municipal Election Signs placed in contravention of this By-law that are required to be removed, or Signs that are not removed within the time frame noted in Section 2.10, shall be removed by the Municipality and disposed of. The cost of such removal and disposal shall be charged back to the owner of the signs as per the current fees by-law.

### 5. REMOVAL AND DESTRUCTION OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION SIGNS

5.1. The Candidate or Third-Party Advertiser to whom a Municipal Election Sign relates shall be responsible for the erection and display of the Sign and shall ensure that all the requirements of this By-law are met.

5.2. The Clerk or a Municipal Law Enforcement Officer may remove any Municipal Election Sign erected in contravention of this By-law without notice.

5.3. The Municipality may recover the expense for the removal of a Municipal Election Sign under this By-law from the Owner of such Sign and may commence proceedings against the Owner to recover such costs.

5.4. Municipal Election Signs removed in accordance with this By-law, will be stored at the Public Works Garage at 28 Midlothian Road until seven (7) days following Voting Day. Candidates (or designate) may pick up their signs within the seven days, or the signs will be destroyed or otherwise disposed of by the Municipality without notice and without compensation to any party.

### 6. OTHER LAWS

6.1. Nothing in this By-law relieves any person of the responsibility for adhering to other applicable laws where regulating signs or for obtaining the approval of the Federal and Provincial governments or agencies thereof as required or for obtaining the approval of the property owner, or any other statutes that regulate election signs.

### 7. TITLE

7.1. This by-law may be cited as the "Election Sign By-Law".

### 8. FORCE AND EFFECT

8.1. This By-law shall come into full force and effect on the date of final passage hereof at which time all By-laws and/or resolutions that are inconsistent with the provisions of this By-law and the same are hereby repealed or rescinded insofar as it is necessary to give effect to the provisions of this By-law.

Read a First, Second, and Third Time,  
signed and the Seal of the Corporation affixed  
hereto, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March 2026.

Original Signed by Glenn Miller

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DEPUTY MAYOR

Original Signed by Nancy Field

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ACTING CAO/CLERK