

Municipalité de
Municipality of

mATTICE-
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MUNICIPAL POLICY

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USE OF MUNICIPAL RESOURCES **BY ELECTIONAL CANDIDATES**

Purpose and Application

This policy provides guidelines for the use of municipal resources during municipal, provincial, and federal elections and the resulting election campaigns.

Its purpose is to maintain public confidence in governance and the electoral process, to comply with applicable legislation, and to ensure fairness and equity for all candidates.

The legislative context

The Municipal Elections Act prohibits municipalities from contributing to candidates' election campaigns and prohibits candidates from accepting contributions from certain entities. The Elections Financing Act and the Canada Elections Act contain similar prohibitions in the context of provincial and federal elections.

What is a contribution?

A contribution does not necessarily have to be monetary. It can also take the form of goods and services and includes the use of municipal resources such as electronic equipment, communication systems, office supplies, premises, infrastructure, intellectual property, staff, etc.

Guidelines

The municipality does not contribute to the election campaigns of candidates, and municipal resources will not be used to promote a candidate's election campaign or to take a position on an election issue.

Candidates may not use municipal premises, property, or resources to conduct activities related to their election campaign, including the distribution and posting of promotional materials and the right to campaign at municipal events.

Candidates may not use the logos, coat of arms, slogan, address, or other similar elements associated with the Municipality. The Municipality's website will only be used to inform the public about the candidates and the electoral process.

Candidates may use municipal services available to the public by paying the applicable rates (e.g., photocopies, room rentals, etc.).

Members of the Municipal Council hold their positions until the end of their term and continue to fulfill their political responsibilities during election periods. Council members who are also candidates in the upcoming elections must ensure they clearly distinguish between these two roles. Any potential conflict in this regard will be resolved in the public interest.

Municipal employees must comply with the law and this policy and may not provide municipal resources to support an election campaign. They must promote the principles of transparency, impartiality, respect and accountability in everything surrounding the electoral process.