



Report n° CLERK2025-12

Date: October 8, 2025

Submitted by: Monique Ouellet, Clerk

Subject: Voting Method – 2026 Elections

### Nature/Goal

To present the proposed By-law 2025-87 for Council's consideration, being a by-law to adopt an alternative voting method for the 2026 Municipal Elections and any subsequent by-election in the following term of Council.

This proposed by-law also includes provisions to authorize the use of French material and also authorizes the Clerk to enter into necessary agreements to support the implementation of the Internet and Telephone Voting.

This report also provides members of Council with the results of the Request for Proposal process that was initiated further to Report No. CLERK2025-07 earlier this year.

### Directive/Previous policy

On May 20, 2025, further to the consideration of Report No. CLERK2025-07 (attached hereto), Council adopted a resolution confirming its desire to consider the use of an alternative voting method, being Internet Voting for the 2026 Municipal Elections, with the possibility of adding a supplementary option, being Telephone Voting, subject to the results of the Request for Proposal Process.

### Department's recommendation

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-law 2025-87, being a by-law to authorize the use of Internet and Telephone as an alternative method of voting in the 2026 Municipal Election, be adopted.

QU'IL SOIT RÉSOLU QUE le règlement 2025-87, visant à autoriser l'utilisation d'un mode de scrutin alternatif, soit le vote par internet et téléphone, pour l'élection municipale de 2026, soit adopté.

### Background

The Clarence-Rockland Municipal Elections have been successfully conducted with the use of internet and telephone voting since 2003.

### Discussion

Further to a joint Request for Proposal with the participation of seven (7) municipalities within the United Counties of Prescott and Russell, five (5) proposals were received and reviewed by the clerks as a group. The evaluation of the said proposals was conducted in two stages, as a two-envelope RFP process was utilized (envelope 1 – proposal; envelope 2 – pricing information). Further to the evaluation of all the proposals received, the group opened the pricing envelopes from the two (2) qualifying proponents in order to finalize its evaluation.

Voatz Canada Ltd. met the entire scope of performance and security requirement as defined in the RFP, with the lowest cost per elector at \$1.32/elector for Internet Voting ONLY or \$1.37/elector for both Internet and Telephone Voting. Since the cost of providing Telephone Voting in addition to the Internet Voting System is only \$0.05/elector, it is being recommended that both Internet and Telephone Voting be provided as alternate voting method in the 2026 Municipal Elections.

Further to Council adopting the proposed By-law 2025-87, authorizing Internet and Telephone Voting as an alternative voting method, the Clerk will proceed to finalize the arrangements with the successful proponent, Voatz Canada Ltd.

#### Financial impact (expenses/material/etc.)

The cost of the internet and telephone voting system will be covered by the election reserve.

#### Legal implications

A by-law to authorize an alternative voting method for the 2026 Municipal Elections must be adopted by Council before the contract is awarded to the successful proponent.

#### Supporting documents

- Report CLERK2025-07 – presented to Council on May 20, 2025
- Proposed By-law 2025-87, to authorize the use of Internet and Telephone Voting