

# **ELECTRONIC VOTING YOUR VOTE MEANS NOTHING!**

## **WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!**

Most municipalities are starting to gear up for the 2026 election. This might be something to think about, especially if they are all consumed with the “convenience” of e-voting/online, phone/mail in (alternative) voting.

**This form of voting is OPTIONAL.** According to the Association of Mun. Managers, Clerks and Treasurers<sup>1</sup> – **THEY DON'T HAVE ANY RULES, AND THEY DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS!**

If you are concerned for those in long term care, disabled and can't get to a polling station – there are rules for that in the *Municipal Elections Act* – and this form of voting is NOT ONE OF THOSE RULES!

### **“Cyber Risks in Ontario Online Elections”**

by James D. Brunet, Western University:

**“Types of Threats to Online Voting [Alternative forms of voting] When compared to in-person, hand-counted, paper ballots which are chiefly verified through procedural measures, online voting presents new risks in existing categories of election threats.**

- **Ballot secrecy threats, ... a person could determine how another person voted...**
- **Privacy threats, ... personal information ... is accessed without authorization**
- **Coercion threats, where a voter is illegally pressured or incentivized [vote buying] to cast a particular vote.**
- **Count-related threats, ... votes are counted incorrectly, or an incorrect count is reported.**
- **Ballot-stuffing threats, ... invalid votes are cast and counted.**
- **Ballot-altering threats, ... a voter's choice is changed without their authorization.**
- **Authentication threats, ... unauthorized individuals can cast votes ...**
- **Availability threats, ... access to the voting service is disrupted for voters.**
- **Legitimacy threats, ... the public does not have confidence in the election result.**
- **only a 25-83% accuracy rate. ”<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Modernizing the *Municipal Elections Act* for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

<sup>2</sup> “Cyber Risks in Ontario Online Elections” by James D. Brunet, Western University, p. 11-12

# Your vote can be changed without your knowledge or consent.

The paper goes on to explain: “*There is a broad list of potential **attackers for municipal elections in Canada.**” They can be “**politically motivated, include partisan individuals/groups, people with a financial interest in municipal policy, or even state actors, financially motivated (e.g. a ... group targeting municipal infrastructure), personally motivated (e.g. disgruntled employees...).**”*

**Municipal Council is the most important level of government.** It has the biggest influence on the provincial and federal governments.

## **Has there been corruption? – YES!**

2024 The President of Smartmatic and two of the executives were charged for bribing the Commissioner of Elections, in the Philippines, for \$1 million dollars to “**win business tied to ...voting machines and election services for the 2016 elections.**”<sup>3</sup> “**Pro-Beijing groups claim credit for helping Olivia Chow win Toronto mayoralty. She says she was unaware. Two prominent community groups aligned with the Chinese government supplied numerous volunteers to the effort, a letter from one of the groups claims**”<sup>4</sup>

What does government tell us – **it must be scientifically proven...NOW IT IS!**

**“...a paper ballot cast at a polling station provides the firmest guarantees...”<sup>5</sup>**

## **SPEAK OUT**

**CALL YOUR COUNCILLORS -TELL THEM TO GET RID OF “ALTERNATIVE VOTING” (e-voting, mail-in/phone in voting)**

**Because YOUR VOTE DOES MATTER!**

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.npr.org/2024/08/09/nx-s1-5069756/smartmatic-alleged-bribery-scheme-elections-philippines>

<sup>4</sup> <https://nationalpost.com/news/politics/pro-beijing-groups-claim-credit-for-helping-olivia-chow-win-toronto-mayorality>

<sup>5</sup> “*Cyber Risks in Ontario Online Elections*” by James D. Brunet, Western University, p. 9-10