



Date: September 15, 2025

Resolution No. COU-2025-30

Moved By: Councillor Wheeldon 

Seconded By: Councillor Rowley 

Whereas Canadian governments at all levels are structured by and derive their legitimacy from democratic principles, practices, and norms;

And Whereas many countries around the world are experiencing increased political polarization and hostility, shifts toward authoritarianism, and the undermining of democratic norms;

And Whereas incivility and hostility increasingly define the political sphere in Canada at every level of government, but particularly in systems with political parties;

And Whereas this hostile political climate drives lower democratic participation, including low voter turnout and fewer and less diverse political candidates, resulting in a lopsided and unhealthy democracy;

And Whereas poor political health undermines the ability of democratic institutions to exercise effective leadership and overcome the unprecedented challenges of the 21st century;

And Whereas elections are one of the most central and participatory parts of Canadian democratic systems;

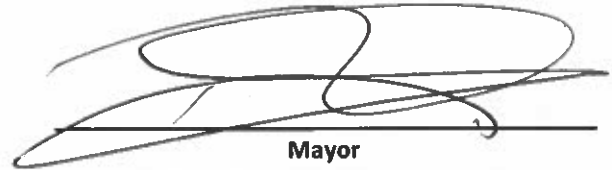
And Whereas numerous studies, including those by Parliamentary committees, have identified our First Past the Post electoral system as driving increasing polarization and declines in voter participation, and have recommended some form of proportional representation;

And Whereas electoral reform enjoys broad public support, with a majority of polling respondents who identify with every major party supporting change in the way that they vote;

Therefore Be It Resolved that the Municipality of Brighton call upon the provincial and federal governments to enact electoral reform, adopting proportional systems in which every vote counts and polarization is diminished, in order to safeguard and empower Canadian democracy;

And Be It Further Resolved that this motion be circulated to Prime Minister Mark Carney, Premier Doug Ford, and all Ontario municipalities.

Carried OR Defeated


Mayor

Recorded Vote		For Clerks Use Only			
Recorded vote called by: _____					
	For	Against	Abstain	Absent	COI
Mayor Brian Ostrander					
Deputy Mayor Ron Anderson					
Councillor Anne Butwell					
Councillor Hannah MacAusland					
Councillor Emily Rowley					
Councillor Jeff Wheeldon					
Councillor Bobbi Wright					
Total					
Carried <input type="checkbox"/>		Defeated <input type="checkbox"/>		Clerk's Initials <input type="text"/>	