

December 20, 2017

### **West Lincoln to elect additional Regional Councillor in 2018 election**

A proposal to add a second representative from the Township of West Lincoln to Regional Council has received “triple majority” approval. As a result, for the first time electors in that municipality will be able to vote for a Regional Councillor in the 2018 municipal elections. The Mayor, by virtue of the position, automatically serves on Regional Council.

After the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing provided a regulation in November kick-starting the process, Regional Council gave its approval earlier this month followed by approvals from the majority of local area municipalities representing the majority of electors in Niagara – achieving the triple majority requirement.

The approvals had to be provided by the end of 2017 in order to make the necessary changes for the elections which will take place October 22, 2018.

West Lincoln boasts a population of 14,500 which is projected to double by 2041.

Also for the first time, the Regional Chair will be elected directly by Niagara voters. Until now, the Chair has been selected by members of Regional Council.

### **Quotes**

"I am pleased that the growing municipality of West Lincoln will be doubling its representation at Regional Council. I thank the municipal Councils for their timely and thoughtful consideration of this important initiative. It is gratifying to see Niagara unite behind the Township and its desire for both a stronger voice at Regional Council and a stronger Regional presence in that community." ~ **Alan Caslin, Niagara Regional Chair**

"West Lincoln is very excited that its request to increase the composition of Niagara Regional Council to add an additional Regional Councillor for the Township of West Lincoln has been approved. I want to make it very clear that this process that West Lincoln Council embarked on, alongside our local area municipal partners, was not just about more governance, but rather increasing the level of service for a municipality experiencing tremendous growth starting in 2017. I would like to thank Niagara Regional Councillors as well as the local area municipalities for their support in bringing this issue forward to their prospective Councils in an expeditious manner so this change can take effect for the 2018 municipal election." ~ **Douglas Joyner, Mayor, Township of West Lincoln**

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