



Electronic Voting

Town of Windsor

UNSM Spring Workshop

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Town Council's concerns...

- ✚ Why change a system that has worked well?
- ✚ What if the technology fails?
- ✚ How do we know the system counted all the votes?
- ✚ How do we know that the system did not give the votes to somebody else?
- ✚ Why are we taking away the social aspect of walking to a polling station and voting?

Democracy – casting your ballot

- ✚ Democracy – Fair, accurate, transparent process
- ✚ Outcomes – A process that can be verified independently
- ✚ Paper balloting accomplishes this; electronic technology replicates the ballot box online



Some advantages...

- Accessibility for those unable to be physically present
 - Health Issues
 - Travelling
 - Work schedules
 - Family commitments
 - Bad weather, etc

Some advantages...

- ✦ It was simple to use
- ✦ Pin technology common place for credit cards, bank machines, tax returns, etc. Not an issue for those who used it
- ✦ People (seniors) liked the ease of technology
- ✦ Voting took place over ten days on a 24/7 basis
- ✦ Fantastic support from the provider
- ✦ No mad rush at the end



Some disadvantages...

- Council's campaign period shortened

Windsor's experience...

- ✚ Easy set up
- ✚ Council passed an Electronic Voting Bylaw
- ✚ Polling Stations with electronic lists – strikeout happening live...
- ✚ Minutes after the polls closed, we have results tabulated
- ✚ Stats collected at a high level

Windsor's experience...

- ✦ Election Day (Ordinary Polling Day) was a non-event
- ✦ People commented on how easy it was
- ✦ The audit tests worked well
- ✦ “Auditor” retained – to verify the process
- ✦ Someone called to say they changed their mind and wanted to vote for somebody else 😊
- ✦ Seniors loved it...yes, really!

Anecdotal Evidence

- ✦ Senior citizen cut short her bridge game
- ✦ Did not have a computer and called our office
- ✦ Mrs. Vivian MacMillan – 92 years old
- ✦ Voted at the Community Centre

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Proof is in the pudding...

Take a look at some stats...



END



Questions?