

Important dates for this year's election set

By Mark Pavilons

The hours, dates, times and locations for voting in this fall's municipal election have been set.

King council received a report recently from Clerk Kathryn Smyth that outlined all the pertinent details for voters.

Feedback obtained from the 2010 election gave staff some food for thought. They decided to offer eight advanced voting dates this year, including one on the Saturday of Thanksgiving weekend. This is done so students returning home can cast their votes.

Other dates included this year are three Saturdays in October ? 11, 18 and 25, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Trisan Centre, Nobleton arena and King City arena. The municipal offices in King City will be open for voting the entire week prior to the vote, Monday to Friday. King City Lodge will again be used as a voting locale.

Staff is suggesting that voting locations use a ?live voter strike off??system, which allows staff to access an electronic version of the voters' list when processing electors. This is a more expedient way of updating the list ahead of voting day on Oct. 27.

The use of this technology is ?significant,??Smyth said, particularly with voting on Oct. 25, just two days prior to the vote.

By and large, Township staff will be manning the voting stations. Using internal staff not only saves time and money in recruiting outside workers, it strengthens King staff who have certain skills.