Getting your ward

By Rebecca Johnson

Where do you start once you've decided to run for a specific ward?

- Learn the issues
- Attend ward meetings
- Start knocking on doors – election is 16 months away
- Start your "war chest" – need money
- Attend events in your ward
- Learn to accept criticism
- Start reading City Council meeting agendas
- Attend City council meetings
- Impact on your family
- How are you involved in the community – at Council
- Business cards
- Promotional material

How do you get the support for your ward?

- Make yourself known to your constituents
- Fill in Surveys
- Participate in Debates
- Connect with voters
- Advertising
- Talk to media

What kind of paperwork is involved?

- $100 deposit and 25 signatures (eligible voters)
- Registration period – May 1 to July 27 at 2 pm

DO YOU WANT TO RUN FOR POLITICS?

	WARD	AT-LARGE
Wards	Can select to run in whatever ward you wish. Do not have to live in the ward. Neebing, Red River, McIntyre Current River, Westford, Northwood, Mckellar	At-large is similar to running as the Mayor. Elected by all voters.
Election Spending	$5,000 plus 20 cents for each voter in the ward ($15,000)	$7,500 plus 20 cents for each voter ($23,500)
Voters	Elected by the voters in the ward The number of voters varies but approximately 5,000 in each ward.	Elected by all voters 80,000
Constituent Meetings	Up to 5 in one year. Held in the ward.	Each At-Large Councillor can hold up to 5 in one year
Application	$100 deposit and 25 signatures (eligible voters). Registration period – May 1 to July 27 at 2pm	$100 deposit and 25 signatures (eligible voters).Registration period – May 1 to July 27 at 2pm
Remuneration once elected in the City of Thunder Bay	$27,000 + $2,750 travel and $7,500 discretionary fund. *Currently under review*	$27,000 + $2,750 travel and $7,500 discretionary fund. *Currently under review*
What do you need to do to campaigns as a ward councilor that might be different than running at large	• Focus campaign regarding ward issues • Knock on doors • Can do alone • Costs for advertising less – signs • Generally well known • Hold open houses throughout campaign period in specific areas of the ward	• Look at city wide issues • Cannot knock doors • Require a campaign team • Have to promote across the city • Need to have name recognition • Difficult to host open houses due to size city
What helps a person decide whether they want to run at large or in a ward?	• Feeling that the ward constituents need a stronger voice • Ward meeting get the pulse of residents • Listen to concern and bring them forward to Council for Consideration and action • Able to work on one area of the city – can walk it and talk to constituents • Broader perspective of issues that impact the ward • Feeling that you have an ability to win • Less money required • Historically where you have lived • Time • Satisfaction with incumbent	• Generally at large Councillors do not hold ward meetings • At large, generally, deal with city wide issues but also get calls on ward issues. • They work with larger community issues

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