

**BUSINESS ALERT- REGISTER NOW**  
**Corporation of Hamilton Elections – Anticipated in the week of May 4<sup>th</sup>**

Business ratepayers may once again vote in the upcoming municipal elections. Businesses should ensure that their nominees are registered to vote in good time. Ratepayers who are not registered will not be permitted to cast their ballot on polling day.

There will be the following votes for the positions of Mayor and eight common councilors:

1. The residents will vote for their resident representatives.
2. The ratepayers will vote for their ratepayer representatives.
3. Both classifications will vote for the mayoral candidate.

The number of positions selected by the residents and ratepayers respectively will be determined on a pro-rata basis based not on the number of taxpayers that fall into each category but the number of persons eligible (i.e. registered) to vote in that category.

Application forms are available from City Hall or The Parliamentary Registration Office, 3rd Floor, Craig Appin House, 8 Wesley Street, Hamilton HM11. Further information is available online at: [www.elections.gov.bm](http://www.elections.gov.bm). For enquiries: Tel 441-293-8683. Email: [pro@gov.bm](mailto:pro@gov.bm).

Each business ratepayer is entitled to one vote per company (or one vote per group of companies, where premises are occupied by subsidiaries of another registered voter). Only business ratepayers liable to pay Corporation Tax are eligible to vote. Local companies, sole traders and partnerships are eligible. Exempted companies, churches and charities are not eligible to vote.

Owners of commercial property liable for Corporation Tax are also eligible to vote. If they own more than one assessment number, they must choose one to vote under (as the Owner) and list the remaining units on their registration form, noting if they are occupied or vacant.

The selected nominee should be registered in the parliamentary register for Bermuda and must NOT also be a resident of the municipality in question. If a sole proprietor lives in the municipality, he/she must vote as a resident but may appoint another person as their nominee to vote in respect of their business premises.

The nominee of a local company should be a director, manager or the company secretary (or an employee, if the former are unavailable) and the appointment should be evidenced by company resolution or an official letter on company letterhead signed by someone other than the nominee or in addition to the nominee. Said letter must also make reference to the assessment number being voted on as well as the full name of the business ratepayer.

The application for registration requires that you state the assessment number of the premises, which is printed on the Corporation Tax bill or available online at [www.landvaluation.bm](http://www.landvaluation.bm) (under their search facility). If various businesses occupy a single assessment number, they must jointly appoint a nominee, as they cannot split a vote.

Anyone considering standing as a candidate in the election should familiarize themselves with the requirements and ensure that they have an appropriate proposer and seconder standing by to nominate

them. A resident candidate must be backed by registered resident voters and a ratepayer candidate must be backed by registered ratepayer voters.

If eligible, you should register to vote in the near future. Once the nomination day is announced (i.e. the Registrar announces the date for accepting nominations for the elected positions), the register will be closed and no new registrations will be accepted.

Completed registration forms and the required accompanying documents must be returned to the Corporation of Hamilton offices in City Hall for the attention of the Secretary.

Businesses must (re)register even if they were registered before the Municipalities amendment legislation took effect.

Michelle Stone  
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WAKEFIELD QUIN LIMITED