

TO:	MAYOR AND MEMBERS COUNCIL MEETING ON MAY 1, 2017
FROM:	CATHY SAUNDERS CITY CLERK
SUBJECT:	RANKED BALLOT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT RESULTS UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the City Clerk, this report **BE RECEIVED** for information.

PREVIOUS REPORTS PERTINENT TO THIS MATTER

- Corporate Services Committee – April 22, 2017 – Ranked Ballot Community Engagement Results
- Corporate Services Committee – January 24, 2017 – Ranked Ballot Election Model
- Corporate Services Committee – July 19, 2016 – Amendments to the *Municipal Elections Act*
- Corporate Services Committee – October 20, 2015 – Ranked Balloting Process
- Corporate Services Committee – July 21, 2015 – Province of Ontario Consultation – Municipal Elections Act
- Corporate Services Committee – June 15, 2015 – Submission: Ranked Ballots for Municipal Elections in Ontario
- Corporate Services Committee – June 15, 2015 – Submission: Province of Ontario – Legislation Review Municipal Elections Act, Municipal Conflict of Interest Act and Municipal Act

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to provide Municipal Council with an update on the public input received through the online survey from April 10, 2017 through to April 26, 2017. The charts contained in this report provide information received throughout the entire public consultation process including the open houses, online feedback and survey responses from March 8, 2017 through to April 26, 2017. The comments section of this report contains Rank Your Vote online survey information from April 10, 2017 through to April 26, 2017.

- An online survey at <https://getinvolved.london.ca/rank-your-vote>
 - 1,533 Visitors
 - 1,987 Sessions
 - 815 Surveys completed

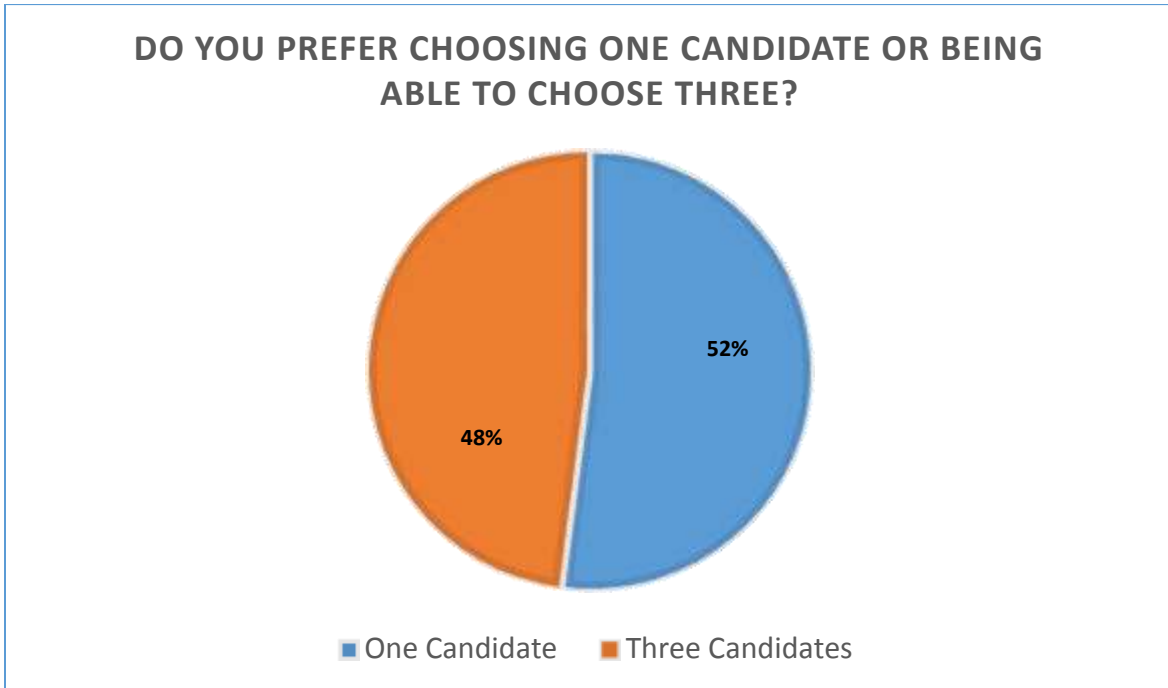
DISCUSSION

The survey asked three questions, the responses of which are provided below. Any comments that were provided outside the online survey are summarized in Appendix ‘A’ attached to this report. There were 815 online responses received between March 10, 2017 and April 26, 2017. There were also paper surveys completed at the open houses and Councillor-lead community meetings. It should be noted that not all questions would have necessarily been answered in all of the survey responses.

QUESTION 1: Do you prefer choosing one candidate or being able to choose three?

One Candidate: 420

Three Candidates: 387



QUESTION 2: How confident are you that you understand how a winner is determined?

Confident: 755

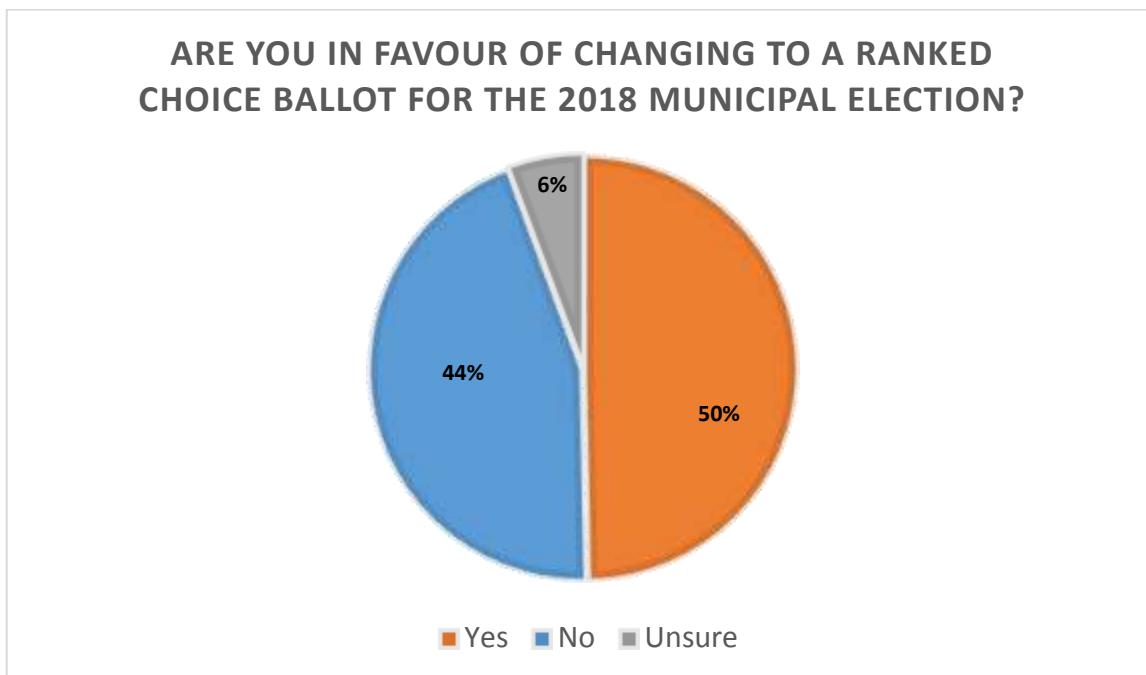
Somewhat Confident: 91

Not Confident: 25



QUESTION 3: Are you in favour of changing to a Ranked Choice Ballot for the 2018 Municipal Election?

Yes: 491
 No: 441
 Not Sure: 56



CONCLUSION

In accordance with Section 41.2(1) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, if Municipal Council were to decide to implement a ranked ballot election for the 2018 municipal election, a by-law must be passed on or before **May 1, 2017** in order to allow the Civic Administration to implement the change. A proposed by-law to implement a ranked ballot process, should Municipal Council choose to implement this process in the 2018 Municipal Election, has been attached as Appendix 'B' to this report..

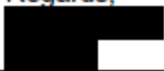
The City Clerk would like to acknowledge the assistance of Corporate Communication, Neighbourhood, Children and Fire Services and the City Clerk's Office staff in conducting the community engagement initiatives.

PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY:	RECOMMENDED BY:
SARAH CORMAN MANAGER, LICENSING & ELECTIONS	CATHY SAUNDERS CITY CLERK

Appendix 'A'

Online Engagement Survey
Additional Comments April

Additional Comments:
The winner of an election is the one with the most votes.
I think there is a risk of voters voting for unknown candidates feeling obligated to fill in all the blanks
It would be nice to have choices.
Given that it requires a lot of mental memory and critical thinking at the ballot box, I wonder if the law permits for short biographies to be included with the names on the ballot paper, or in the voting booth, so people are reminded whom they are voting for at that instant. I don't know if I could remember, well, especially when there is the potential for similar names to appear on the list.
ONLY POLITICIANS WHO ARE NOT GOING TO GET RE-ELECTED IN OUR NEXT MUNICIPAL ELECTION ARE IN FAVOUR OF THIS RIDICULOUS NOTION OF RANKED VOTES
More waste of money by this council.
I believe going to a ranked ballot system will result in less Londoners voting or result in spoiled ballots.
History would clearly demonstrate how difficult it is to get people out to the polls to vote for single candidates, so to add this ranked ballot concept would likely overwhelm the average voter. Terrible idea!!!!
Unfortunately, my experience since living in London is that there are seldom 2 or 3 candidates worth my vote. I would hate to think that some might pick a 2nd or 3rd choice because they think they have to. Leave it the way it is, at least we know that the candidate who gets the most votes under the first past the post system is the choice by those voting
this change would be to hard for older "real " voters to understand . Use the tried and true method that works,
The old army structure does not work anymore. We need forward thinkers with a continuously improving mindsets. Because we did certain things in the past does not mean they are still the best ways.
I am not in favour of Ranked Ballot voting. It does little to change the outcome when we have the number of parties that we do. You and council need to do your homework or proportional representation. It is used in many countries and it is the most democratic way to go. The research is there. The experts live in London. Contact them. thank you. [REDACTED]
Why change? What is the driving force behind the proposal?
also in favor of councillors at large i believe thunder bay uses this, totally against the tunnel too much unknown especially potential govt and funding change and can someone please explain to me without using the cop-out racism what is the difference between carding and the ride programs
I understand a voter still has option of voting for 1 candidate, thus does not have to rank 2 or 3. I am not sure ranked ballots will increase voter turnout, but if the voter is going to rank 3 candidates, the voter will likely pay more attention to those candidates running, not just an incumbent that has the popular support by name recognition.
Based on the Corporate Services report, it would be foolish for us to push forward with ranked balloting for the 2018 election. Too many issues remain unresolved (software and hardware) to allow us to proceed at this time.
[REDACTED]
The candidates' names on your list are so appropriate!
I don't believe ranked ballots are constitutionally fair to the voter. I don't want to place any endorsement for a candidate that I don't want to vote for.
Re Rapid Transit. Our previous uncommitted councils fouled up our rapid transit system when they did NOT have the gumption to implement the ring road and major improvements to our major road system. Kitchener/Waterloo is far beyond. The Talbot St. underpass where every truck gets stuck is one of them.
And NO, I am NOT in favor of an underpass on Richmond Street and have lived in London since 1953. Leave the main business districts alone, if not they will cease to

<p>exist worse than they are now.</p> <p>Our Engineering Department can't even design a road where the manhole covers are in the centre of the traffic lane. Granted the frost does some damage to them being below grade, but also vehicle tires bouncing off them throughout the year also contributes to the thousands of dollars of maintenance each year to bring them up.</p> <p>Regards, </p>
<p>Bad idea. London has enough trouble getting people out to vote. Making it more confusing for seniors will only lower the number of people who vote. We do not need to be spending the money it would cost to change over system.</p>
<p>It's the way of the future. Will reduce strategic voting. Will result in a closer match of majority voter intentions with the winning candidate.</p>
<p>No i am not in favor of this method, for i will be forced to put two votes forwards two candidates i do not support. I don't worry to much about this because in London we never get good candidates.</p>
<p>Spend your time and resource on more important matters. Already rejected by most municipalities and federal government</p>
<p>I think that this needlessly complicates the electoral system. It is never easy trying to find out where the candidates stand on the issues. To ask the average voter to rank three in his ward would be asking a lot. Instead the voters may just end up randomly picking a candidate for their second or third choice.</p> <p>Name recognition is very important. This system may favor the incumbant if the voter selects that candidate as one of their choices just because they heard of them.</p>
<p>This is a much fairer method of choosing the best candidate. Lets get moving with this NOW. Why does our present council defer so many issues and waste time on discussing the same issues for months. If I ran my business this way I would have closed the doors years ago.</p>
<p>We feel that the proposed Ranked Choice Ballot process is somewhat complicated and unwieldy. More information and further explanation is required. We are not certain that this process would necessarily be an improvement over the First-Past-the-Post system we are all so familiar with.</p> <p>A computerized form of registering ballots sounds attractive in that it would eliminate the necessity of manual vote counting. This we feel would be of benefit.</p>
<p>It is wrong to rush a decision for the 2018 municipal election. If this goes through it will be because of the will of council, not the people. This will make it easier for future councils to change how they are elected. Do better.</p>
<p>No need to change... Just a make work project by those trying to find a way to increase their political influence beyond their numbers.</p>
<p>Huge time and effort saver here. For everyone. Might take a little longer to sort and count, but sometimes that's the cost of effective choice. Eliminates the best of the worst types of choices.</p> <p>No longer a belief in defacing ballots because there's no "no e of the above" option. There are multiple ways this gives more power and means to express it back to the voting public. I really don't see a downside.</p>
<p>This is a dumb Liberal and NDP idea until the Prime Minister got elected by a Majority and now it is not under consideration any more at the Federal Level. There are far too many candidates at the Municipal level to use Ranked balloting. How are people to look into the backgrounds of all these candidates.</p>
<p>This is a dumb idea. Council should concentrate on the several matters at hand. If we go to this system my wife and I decided we will not vote again.</p>
<p>This is not an issue that should be decided by the current council. Put it to the citizens of London as a referendum in the next election.</p>
<p>This approach totally eliminates the ability of the voter to strongly designate a candidate of choice. Ranking just suggests making a selection on who is the next best and if the candidates have communicated distinct policy choices this doesn't make any sense. Implementing this approach without a referendum would be completely inappropriate.</p>

If it is not broke, don't meddle.
How many times are you going to let people take this survey? Until you get the answers the obnoxious town hall politicians want? WE DO NOT WANT RANKED BALLOTS EVER. WE CANNOT WAIT TO GET RID OF LOCAL TOWN HALL POLITICIANS.
it is a simple method to help ensure that the successful candidate has the support from a majority of voters rather than often having someone elected by a minority of votes
With Ranked Choice Ballot being the most fair system of voting, I wondering why it has taken so long to get here.
This is a non-issue. Please keep our electoral / voting process in line with all other provincial and federal election processes. It is a simple process, which is easy to understand, and consistent across the country. It also provides a direct end result which is logical and easy to follow. If our Provincial/Federal Partners decide to redesign the electoral process, allow them to do so with their resources and time and follow suit at that point. In the interim, please re-allocate Councillor and City of London Staff time to projects and initiatives that genuinely require your attention per your mandated job descriptions - taxation, municipal infrastructure, and related corporate/civic services. I really believe this to be a non-issue given the lack luster public response, minimal survey respondents, and no real driving force for 'change' to happen. Thank you.
The present system has worked well for many years. If it ain't broke , don't fix it. There is no sense whatsoever to change what has functioned adequately for so long.
Is completing this survey reaching a true cross section of voters especially older ones who may not be computer savvy or even have a computer to use.
Making everyone's vote count may even increase the number of votes cast so we have more participation in our democracy.
in local politics, there is no need. as tax payers we are generally only familiar with 2 candidates any way. leave it alone and do not waste money on this
I never have more than 1 choice for my vote so why would I ever consider a 1st, 2nd or 3rd... this is a really stupid idea.
This has always been the losing candidates reason they didnt get elected. First passed the post shows who the public wants not who they would settle for
It's about time we moved to a more fair and accurate method for electing our officials and representation!
This is one of the dumbest things this council has come up with. There are a lot more important issues to address!
I believe ranked balloting would take the 'politics' out of the process and better capture mass sentiment.
This is just another way for politicians to keep the voter in the dark
Please get on with managing the affairs of the city. How about going back to once a week garbage collection just like all the other cities in the province. Tomorrow will be the 12th day since our last garbage pick up. From what I read coming from the city management they will not be happy until we recycle until there is maybe a garbage collection every three months. We pay for garbage collection yet the city spends out tax money on every lame brain idea it can think of.
This council should get on with more important issues. They are acting like a group of pre schoolers.
I'm more inclined to have this be for Mayor only, I find most people don't know three candidates in their district for council, but I don't understand in 2017 how this is even a question. Move to ranked balloting, it's not 1867 anymore.
This is just change for change sake
This is a way for this municipal gov. to provide a smoke show to electoral process. Just another waste of taxpayers money, much like the so called BRT fiasco that is showing how inept this city gov. really is .
I want to vote for one candidate and only one. I do not want to give voting leverage to two other candidates for whom I am forced to vote in order to have my vote count.
This is a stupid idea. Some people who vote have barriers that they would not understand thus making the vote unfair.

A considerable amount of people have difficulty choosing one candidate let alone three.
This is a good way to ensure a winner gets a higher percentage of votes. We should try it for a few elections with the knowledge that we can change it again if something better comes along. Lets cut some of our ultra conservative strings, London.
I strongly feel that with such little interest shown in municipal elections over the years, the people that actually vote are voting for a specific candidate they have been following. They have not invested the time to get to know the other candidates. Basically the average voter will be throwing darts with a second and third vote. Ranked balloting does not belong in municipal politics by any means. Change for the sake of change is a bad decision. Do not allow this change. Educating voters to only choose one candidate will be top priority and will affect most ballots based on loyalty to a specific candidate. Thus the cost and effort of this proposed change in our democracy is fruitless.
System not broken. I research and know my candidate. Only way I would want a change if I could rank with 1, 1, 1 instead of being forced into choosing another candidate.
Have this as a referendum item in 2018 and if the majority wish ranked balloting, implement it in the next election when there has been sufficient time to test the new tabulation processes.
I do not understand why there are people opposed to this improvement in the way we elect our councilors. It's dead easy and better identifies an acceptable councilor.
If it is going to be more costly, what is the point?
The benefits are many and profound, and it really is as easy as 1-2-3. I'd like to see London lead on this issue and try ranked ballots in 2018.
Absolute nonsense!
Please hold an open house in the Old North neighbourhood. There are meetings rooms available for booking at King's College.
First-past-the-post is not a fair or accurate method for determining the candidate with the widest support and therefore the best candidate to represent us on city council. Elections are NOT horse races, where candidates who win by a nose are considered to be the best choice. In a field of several candidates, where there are no political parties involved, the personal qualities/ideas of the candidate are the most important factors involved in choosing a winner. It is fairest if the winning candidate has the widest possible support, even if that candidate is not the first choice of a plurality of voters. As for the administration's recommendation to wait: This proposed electoral change is a low-risk enterprise. Some Canadian municipality has to make the first step. We have a city council that is prepared to try new ideas, and we should support them wholeheartedly. Soon, fptp will be viewed as an archaic electoral system and Londoners will be proud to have led the way.
gives citizens to show which candidates they do not like by ranking them last.
Hold an official referendum and let the people decide!
London does not have be the first !
Let someone else be the guinea pig and see how it turns out for them.
Let us remember we are talking about Micky Mouse MUNICIPAL politics that are forever at a beginners level. (Just Learning).
Ranked ballots are MUCH more democratic than First Past the Post.
Spend more time focusing on "why" people should vote and they'll vote. "How" won't make a difference and you'll actively discourage people from voting by implementing this.
Don't jump to ranked ballots until software is available, certified and tested/used elsewhere.
We need to move to a ranked ballot system so that we finally can have elections where we elect someone where a true majority of people agree with that candidate, instead of just enough to get elected. On top of that I would love to see an option to track "none of the above" and if a majority (50%+1) choose that, disqualify all candidates in that ward and trigger a fresh election for that ward. If we can't guarantee

a true majority (not simply enough to be elected) of people agree with a candidate, then we aren't actually giving a voice to the people.
This reply is on behalf of 3 London residents of voting age.
A Ranked Choice ballot will help me by: - not having to do research on 3 candidates and the pros/cons of each - focussing on one candidate and their key strengths
I would prefer a change but do not feel there is adequate public support to justify a change. This is a significant step requiring broad buy-in. Also, I am not confident we have the technology to count these ballots in a way that will not embarrass us as a community. Once we know the public is solidly behind this idea, and once we know we can do a credible job of counting and reporting results, then let's make the change. Thanks for asking.
I believe we should give it a try. I like the thought that it would reduce negative campaigning and allow more candidates to stay in the race regardless of vote splitting. Hopefully it will not prove to be much more costly.
I think this is a much more fair way to hold an election, and it takes into consideration the will of the minority as well as the will of the majority.
If it ain't broke...don't fix it!!!
this idea is stupid!!!!!!
All you have to do is realize the faults with the results of the Federal and Provincial governments on 'first past the post' method of voting. I believe this change is worth trying and will produce good results for the citizens of London.
██████
I don't understand what is wrong with the current system. It appears to me that the new system could take a long time to decide on the winner and at what cost.
Make it so!
What about instead of 50 +1 using 60% - that way you are representing more than half of the people that turned out to vote
If we had Ranked ballots on the last election I think the outcome would have been different.
I feel that I have always had excellent representation using the FPP method. There is no need to change and often there are few credible people running.
Please heed the advice of your own Corporate Services Committee and leave the election system as is. We can't afford the additional costs, nor do we have to be the FIRST in Ontario to try this methodology. Council should focus on other issues such as BRT, as it involves millions of dollars. Having to rush the decision by May 1st to meet the provincial requirements could force through an issue that has not been properly vetted or received enough public input. Why does London have to be the experimental guinea pig? Perhaps next time but not 2018. Thanks.
I am especially pumped about the idea of reducing/eliminating negative campaigning. I wouldn't mind giving this a shot. We'll never know if we don't try it.
Using kiosk screen for voting is a good way that your vote will be missed or rigged voting. Paper the only way but would be very time consuming if ranked voting is used. This city doesn't have enough candidates running in each ward, we are not Toronto.
Ridiculous idea!
I am absolutely against changing the voting system - the first past the post system is the best and it always has been. Please do not waste any time or money on this issue - Londoners did not ask for this. Council needs to get down to business and run the city - if this council does not do what it promised and fails to operate with integrity and actually accomplish something positive, the citizens of this city will honourably remove them all when it comes time to vote again and vote for someone else who will actually do the job. Thankfully the federal Government actually listened to Canadians and decided to abandon the idea of changing the voting system - please follow their example and leave the system the way it is - the system that we have now works. You have 4 years in office to prove yourself and do a good job. If you don't, you get voted out and someone else gets a try. That is the way it works in our democracy. Please stop wasting time and energy on this issue.
There needs to be information about the cost of the ranked ballot proposal. Taxpayers are already overburdened with the proposed BRT (which I am not sure is

<p>what is needed). And the costs of being a sanctuary city..... again there has never been information shared about the costs to taxpayers to support this I am not sure why London feels it has to be the first for these types of initiatives when Our tax dollars already support a nUंबर of refugees and support their integration (legally). We also have an overburdened health care system in London and yet still think it wise to support a sanctuary city initiative. let's take a step back from the ranked ballot initiative and let some other city take on this endeavour and associated cost. I think the council should also take another look at the issue of sanctuary city.....altruism is fine but realism need to be considered as well</p>
<p>London should not be the first municipality to undertake this type of ballot. We do not have the skills to lead such an undertaking. With all the other projects (especially all the problems/difficulties being reported with the LRT design or lack of) I suggest council spend it time on more meaningful projects. ██████████</p>
<p>Science tells us this is better. Let's listen to experts.</p>
<p>It would be nice to see a candidate win with 50% + 1 vote of votes cast. Long overdue!</p>
<p>Seniors tend to vote. I believe changing the way we vote would cause unnessasary confusion on voting day. A change in the way we vote may be enough of a deterrent to convince senior voters and others to stay home and not vote at all. Also, we can't afford to spend more tax payers money at this time. Council has enough on their plates that they are having trouble dealing with without adding another unnecessary item.</p>
<p>The present system works fine.</p>
<p>I believe that first past the post-balloting is outdated.</p>
<p>In my opinion, if you don't have a majority of Londoners (51% ++) in favour of a ranked ballot system it should not be changed. What is the rush to be first? This is a subject that can be revisited at a later date without pressing up against a deadline as it is now.</p>
<p>Sounds good to me</p>
<p>The ranked ballot is more democratic and inclusive than the first past the post process. It may allow for a more diverse pool of candidates, and the winner will have more legitimacy as the choice of more than half of voters.</p>
<p>the present system is just fine</p>
<p>Is it possible to vote for the candidate you want 1 2 and 3 in the event you did not like any of the others on the ballot? The reason being that if the candidate did not make it on the 1st ballot he/she might make it on the second or 3rd ballot.</p>
<p>Waste of tax dollars on this as an issue. Federal level - makes sense. 3rd choice wins mayor in my city - this happens naturally now.</p>
<p>Ranked ballot electoral system is long overdue.....go for it!</p>
<p>Ranked ballots can be manipulated. I lived in Chatham for many years. They didn't have a "ward system". We had seven aldermen positions city wide. Each eligible citizen could vote for up to seven of those who were running for the job. It could be manipulated to get a person elected simply by having the backers or certain demographic groups vote for just one person and deny any votes for the remaining six positions. I had no confidence in that system nor in a ranked ballot system.</p>
<p>Surely "Ranked Ballots" is far more democratic than "First Past the Post" No Polical Party uses "First Past Post" internally when choosing candidates / leaders. Ranked Ballots will mean a councillor will not get elected wit say 26% of vote as happens Throughout Ontario.</p>
<p>Let London finally be the first instead of always following. London is a major city, let's act like one. Cost be damned, show that London is on the map and finally can be a true leader.</p>
<p>PS. BRT, a great idea if you are a UWO or Fanshawe student. Forget the tunnel, send more buses out to the industrial areas in SE London. Richmond st will become a ghost town.</p>

<p>I have said NO but I'm really thinking not yet. I can see where Ranked Voting may have some positives but with everything you have on your plate at the moment and 2018 not that far away, my feeling is that this decision should be delayed for another election. With BRT decisions to be made and dollars that may be better spent in other ways in 2017/18 a delay to a future election would seem a sensible decision.</p>
<p>Ranked ballot system long overdue for the next municipal election. Nice to see a candidate win with 50% plus 1 vote.</p>
<p>Of course your first question should say "being able to choose up to three" You can vote for one, two or three candidates.</p>
<p>Too confusing and people won't take the time to understand.</p>
<p>This is not a good idea. This will cause major confusion at the polls. Despite the city pushing this on Londoners, the change is not warranted. Rather than these one sided "consultations" the proposed change should be the subject of a referendum on next Election Day.</p>
<p>Having a candidate elected by 50% of the votes cast would mean the right candidate got elected.....better than first past the post method!</p>
<p>seems to be a much fairer system, both to the voters and the candidates. Kudos to London for taking this major step forward!</p>
<p>50% + 1 = 49.9% unhappy voters. Shouldn't a winner have a clear majority, say 65 or 70 % ? What about a referendum type system ranking the issues Londoners want dealt with then choose the person to implement it. There also needs to be some mechanism to remove incompetent people before their "due date". (ex - Premier Wynne). Isn't the idea to have someone who represents what the constituents want done, not their personal feelings or pet cause?</p>
<p>The Ranked Choice Ballot looks far too confusing. First Past the Post is the simplest and most effective tool for voting. As for touch screen voting, have you learned nothing from the Americans? Pencil and paper is the safest and easiest way to vote.</p>
<p>It's a red herring for some to say "it's too complicated." People will very surely learn how it works quickly and easily so we should go ahead.</p>
<p>this worked well in the Federal Liberal leadership vote so it should be great at the municipal level as well</p>
<p>This makes so much sense!</p>
<p>I firmly believe that a ranked choice ballot allows voters to better participate in democratically selecting our elected officials. This alternative limits strategic voting and ensures that every vote counts in an election. There are countless benefits to adopting a ranked choice ballot, with few drawbacks beyond a delay in result tabulation, the need for an educational campaign, and increased costs in administering the election. There is no argument that such a system makes an election *less* democratic, but can only operate to better reflect the views of a greater majority of people and elected candidates who are most desired by a wider section of the electorate. I think that London should be an industry leader in making this progressive change and be a trailblazer in the move to a new democracy for our country. That being said, I also think that a change like this needs to be done right. There is no use in pushing a new system through in an unrealistic timeline that may lead to an ineffective or criticized election. Proper time for studying and acquiring necessary election infrastructure as well as time for a thorough and effective informational campaign must be respected. So we should be a leader in electoral reform, but be a successful one.</p>
<p>This will be an amazing change for London. More people of diverse backgrounds would consider running if this happens, which is exactly what London needs to aim for.</p>
<p>I'm not sure why the City of London is considering changing its voting practices for municipal elections. As I understand it, no other city in Canada has adopted a Ranked Choice Ballot system and I'd don't think that London should be the first. There will be considerable extra costs associated with setting up this new system (equipment costs, promotion of the new system, etc) which I don't believe will help Londoners vote. I prefer the current First-Past-the-Post Ballot system which is clear, straightforward, and has no additional costs associated with it. I want to cast my vote for the candidate of my choice, and a Ranked Choice Ballot has the potential of letting candidates "win" that I don't fully support</p>

<p>I think that City Council should drop consideration of this initiative and concentrate on thinking of ways to get more Londoners out to vote on election day. To me, that's a far more important, worthy issue to look at (and likely a lot less expensive!).</p>
<p>Ranked ballots is great - fairer representation, and it leads to less ugly, negative campaigning (because each candidate wants to avoid alienating supporters of other candidates, in hopes of being their second choice pick)</p>
<p>Why one vs 3? Why not 2 or 4 or other? What if there are only 2 candidates? I am in favour of the concept but not the potential implementation if this survey is anything to go by!</p>
<p>Before you try to make elections more 'fair' or 'equitable' please read the book Democracy for Realists.</p>
<p>Having worked many municipal elections the motto should be keep it simple stupid! It's hard enough to get people out to vote. Let's not make it anymore difficult for them or for the folks who work the elections!! This is a crazy idea.</p>
<p>I believe this would allow for the best candidate to be chosen in a more thoughtful and equitable manner.</p>
<p>Ranked choice allows fringe candidates to skew the vote.</p>
<p>Other than ██████████ the current Mayor and council are a bunch of scumbags</p>
<p>I attended the highly screwed pro ranked ballot public participation meeting held Saturday April 22nd. I sat and listened to the staff presentation and the comments made by the pro ranked ballot supporters. I do not believe ranked ballots are a better voting method than first past the post. The candidate with the most votes should win. I believe my vote counts even if my candidate does not win. There are winners and losers in elections. As for candidates not running because they do not want to split the vote or they do not feel they could win in the current first past the post system, those ideologies are just sad. You run in an election because you believe you are the best candidate for the job. I vote for the person who I believe reflects my views of the current issues of the day, regardless of their gender or if they were a visible minority. How can you go ahead with ranked ballots when you don't know the actual costs of implementing this process? According to city staff there are no known vendors that currently have the algorithm that complies with the Ontario Governments requirements for ranked ballot elections. Valuable time must be spent finding a vendor, negotiating a contract to develop, test and support this algorithm. Time will also be required by city staff to certify that the algorithm works before the next election. Time and money will also have to be spent educating the citizens of London on how ranked balloting works. According to city staff once city council has committed to ranked ballots if problems arise in this process there is no going back to first past the post without going back through the public engagement process. It was mentioned at Saturday's meeting that the 2018 election could be used as a pilot for ranked ballots how ridiculous is that notion. Once you have spent the time and money converting to ranked ballots it is unlikely to revert back to first past the post. It is my opinion that this group of pro ranked ballot citizens do not speak for all citizens of London. There are 383,822 citizens in London and based on the number of people that have attended the various ranked ballots meetings and have been engaged in the various other platforms, my guess is that only a small minority of the total are in favour of ranked ballots. I do not believe this council has the mandate to change our democratic process of voting without fully engaging all citizens of London. Listen to the staff recommendation on this one do not change our voting process for 2018. Council has rushed the public participation process in this issue. Londoners do not fully engage on an issue until it impacts them. Prime example BRT. Look at how many years the city has been working on LRT/BRT before the people of London became engaged in the process. They did not become engaged until they learned about the tunnel and how BRT was going to impact them. The decision to change to a ranked ballot electoral system is too important and should not be made without fully engaging the entire population, let the people decide, put it on the ballot as a referendum. Spend the time between now and the next election informing the public on how ranked ballots work. If you are so compassionate about ranked ballots openly run with ranked ballots as part of our campaign platform. Go to the people knock on doors go to the malls to discuss this issue, don't assume the people will come to you.</p>

<p>In real estate it is location, location, location, in politics it should be communication, communication, communication. Learn from the communication mistakes that have been made with BRT and don't repeat them.</p>
<p>I don't think a majority of councilors (7 or 8) have the right to change our voting system that has been in place for over 100 years. Most of them never indicated their preference for this when they were campaigning for election.</p>
<p>Make it an issue for the next election - put a question on the ballot and let Londoners decide how they want to vote, not just a few people.</p>
<p>We have more important issues to address like the Richmond overpass and the Adelaide underpass and a ring road. Lets stop talking about Rapid Transit and Ranked Ballots and look at priorities.</p>
<p>Lets stick to priorities.</p>
<p>Why waste our tax dollars on unnecessary things, we need to over passes 1 on Richmond and 1 on Adelaide and we need a another round about to connect the out skirts of the city with out having to go through it.</p>
<p>Come on people, this is not a high school prom where we need to spend money on prom kings and queens. A school teacher is using high school tactics to run a city, this is quite pathetic.</p>
<p>There is no need, emotional or otherwise, to have my opinion recorded for who I would like to place second or third in an election. My hope will be that the person I believe to be deserving is the person who wins through the most votes. Period.</p>
<p>The 3 questions address the issue well enough.</p>
<p>I don't need three choices.I prefer to research well and vote for the one person I decide on win or lose the most votes should suffice. I believe the currant method works well and will be quicker ,less confusing for some .</p>
<p>If I were to through my 2 cents into this discussion, some people are not educated on the etiquette of voting, then name recognition or those that simply vote because they feel the obligation to fill in the blanks, then Ranked Choice Balloting would benefit them greatly and not necessarily put the proper people into office.</p>
<p>The way i understand the ballot i would be permitted to vote for the same candidate 1st 2nd and 3rd.</p>
<p>Do not alter the voting system. It will not give us the most fsvoured candidate, but one that panders to the most people.</p>

Appendix 'B'

By-law Authorizing Ranked Balloting

Bill No.
2017

By-law No. E.-

A by-law with respect to ranked ballot for the 2018 municipal election.

WHEREAS subsection 41.1(1) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as amended, provides that the Lieutenant Governor in Council may, by regulation, authorize elections for offices on a municipal council to be conducted in accordance with the following rules: 1. Electors vote by ranking candidates for an office in order of the elector's preference. 2. Votes are distributed to candidates based on the rankings marked on the ballots. 3. The counting of votes is carried out in one or more rounds, with at least one candidate being elected or eliminated in each round.

AND WHEREAS subsection 2(1) of Ontario Regulation 310/16, made under section 41.1(1) of the *Municipal Elections Act*, authorizes ranked ballot elections for offices on the council to be conducted.

AND WHEREAS subsection 41.2(1) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as amended, provides that the council of a local municipality may pass a by-law with respect to ranked ballot elections for offices on the council if such elections are authorized by a regulation made under section 41.1.

AND WHEREAS subsection 5(1) of Ontario Regulation 310/16, made under section 41.2(3) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as amended, requires that before passing a by-law respecting ranked ballots, Council must consider: 1. The costs to the municipality of conducting the elections; 2. The availability of technology, such as voting equipment and vote-counting equipment and software, for conducting elections; and 3. The impact of the proposed by-law would have on election administration .

AND WHEREAS Council has considered the requirements set out in subsection 5(1) of Ontario Regulation 310/16.

AND WHEREAS, sections 10 and 11 of Ontario Regulation 310/16, made under section 41.2(2) of the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*, as amended, require that an open house and a public meeting be held with respect to the proposed by-law to allow the public to review information, ask questions and make representations.

AND WHEREAS open houses were held on March 8, 2017 and March 9, 2017, and a public meeting was held on April 22, 2017, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of Ontario Regulation 310/16.

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. Ranked ballot elections shall be used for all offices on the council for The Corporation of the City of London.
2. An elector is entitled to rank a maximum of three (3) candidates for the office of Mayor and three (3) candidates for the office of Ward Councillor.
3. This by-law applies to all regular elections and by-elections of The Corporation of the City of London.
4. This by-law comes into force and effect in accordance with section 8 of Ontario Regulation 310/16.

PASSED in Open Council on May 1, 2017.

Matt Brown
Mayor

Catharine Saunders
City Clerk

First Reading – May 1, 2017
Second Reading – May 1, 2017
Third Reading – May 1, 2017