

## Town of Antigonish Post 2024 Municipal Election Survey Results



1. In what role did you participate in the 2024 Town of Antigonish Municipal election?

13 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Candidate for Council
2	anonymous	Candidate for Council
3	anonymous	Election Staff (Campaign)
4	anonymous	Election Staff (Polling Station)
5	anonymous	Election Staff (Polling Station)
6	anonymous	Candidate for Council or Mayor
7	anonymous	Election Volunteer (Campaign)
8	anonymous	Candidate for Council
9	anonymous	Mobile Polls Staff, Advance Poll Staff, Election Day Poll
10	anonymous	Election Staff (Town of Antigonish)
11	anonymous	Candidate for Council or Mayor
12	anonymous	Candidate for Council or Mayor
13	anonymous	Candidate for Council or Mayor

2. Please rate the Returning Officer's accessibility (availability) throughout the election process?



3. Please rate the Returning Officer's responsiveness throughout the election process?

[More details](#)



4. How welcoming was the Returning Officer throughout the election process?



5. How would you rate the impartiality displayed by the Returning Officer?

[More detail:](#)



6. How comfortable were you working with the Returning Officer throughout the election process?

[More details](#)



7. How would you rate the professionalism displayed by the Returning Officer?

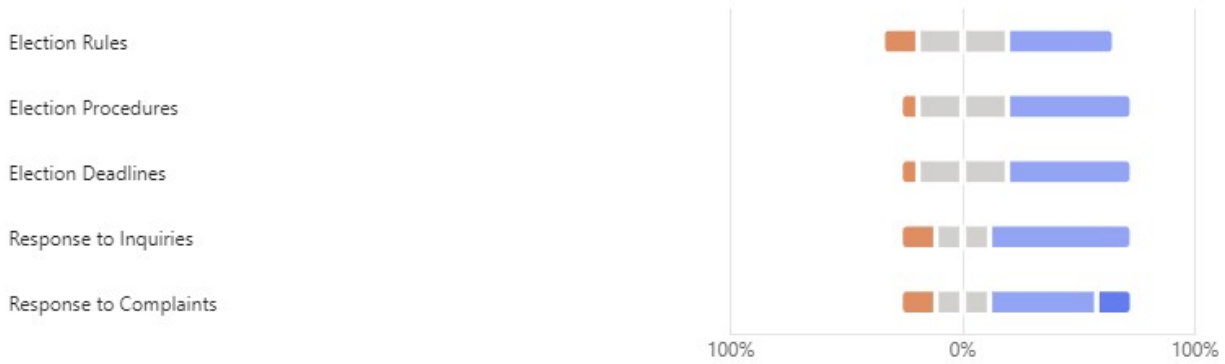
[More detail:](#)



8. How clear was the communication from the Returning Officer regarding each of the following?

[More details](#)

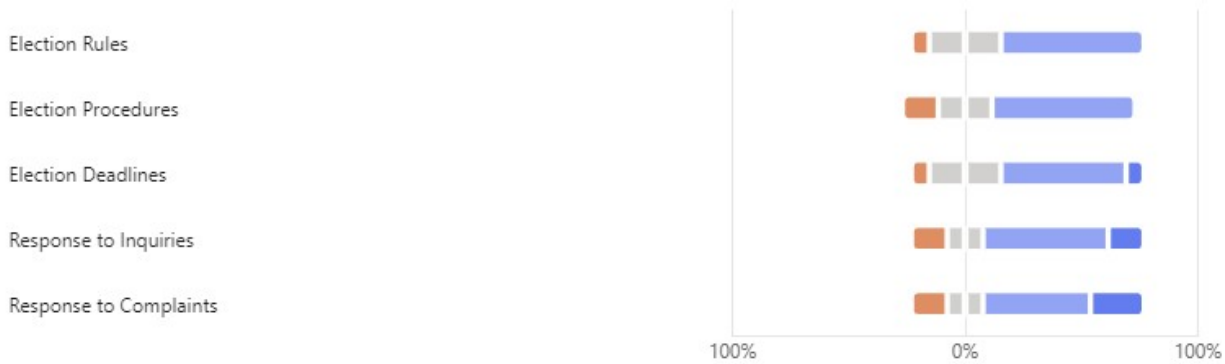
Extremely Unclear   Unclear   Clear   Extremely Clear   N/A



9. How timely was the communication from the Returning Officer regarding each of the following?

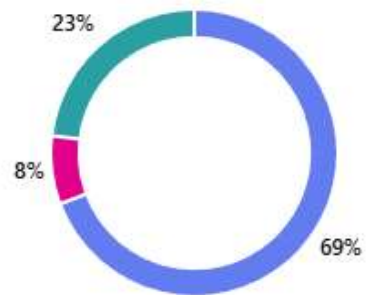
[More detail:](#)

Very Late   Late   Timely   Very Timely   N/A



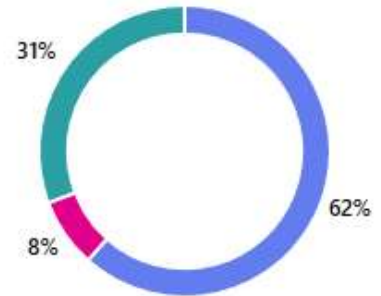
10. Were the nomination and candidate registration processes overseen by the Returning Officer handled efficiently?

Yes   9  
 No   1  
 Unsure   3



11. Do you believe the Returning Officer ensured that all candidates had equal access to resources and support?

- Yes 8
- No 1
- Unsure 4



12. Please identify any aspects of the Returning Officer's performance that exceeded your expectations.

6 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Alan was very accessible and responsive
2	anonymous	Offered to answer calls on weekends and afterhours
3	anonymous	Very pleased with returning officer's performance except for one issue
4	anonymous	Very efficient in all aspects of my campaign.
5	anonymous	His availability to respond to questions
6	anonymous	No aspects exceeded



13. Please identify areas the Returning Officer could improve upon for future elections.

7 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	More attentive to email communication
2	anonymous	Insisting that the Municipal Elections Act be followed to allow candidates into apartment buildings without randomly buzzing at peoples' units.
3	anonymous	Returning officer..make sure candidates are advised of date, time and locations regarding advance polls. Candidates were not advised regarding one poll.
4	anonymous	The survey needs N/A option.in the answers as many questions cannot be true fully answered if the statement does not apply.
5	anonymous	The policy and communication for signage should be improved. The RTO referenced the nomination package, the Bell Aliant, Nova Scotia Power, Provincial Department of Public Works, the Municipal Planning Strategy, and finally a policy passed by Town Council a number of years ago. I did ask that the policy be distributed to all candidates but that didn't happen.
6	anonymous	Clarity on the out of province potential voters and any repercussions that may arise
7	anonymous	Use technology, have awareness of all current information regarding anything related to election, communicate clearly about issues, communicate to everyone at the same time - not calling or texting individually. Many people were new at this, so you need to over communicate information.

14. How welcoming was the Returning Office staff throughout the election process?



15. How comfortable were you working with the Returning Office staff throughout the election process?

[More details](#)



16. How would you rate the impartiality displayed by the Returning Office staff?

[More details](#)



17. How would you rate the professionalism displayed by the Returning Office staff?

[More details](#)



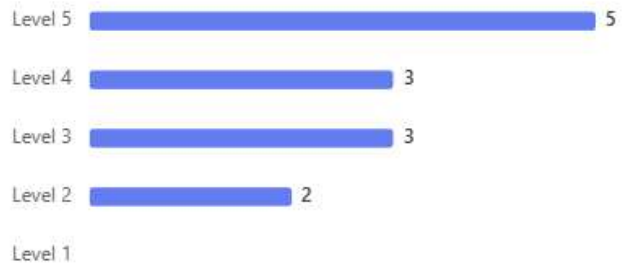
18. How efficient would you describe the overall election operation?

[More details](#)



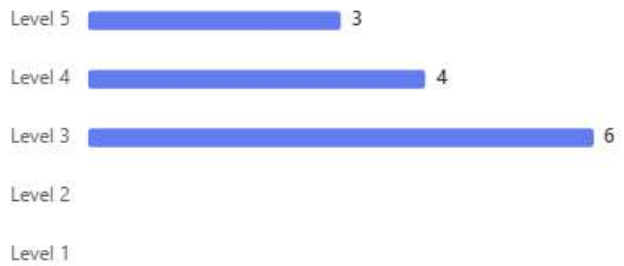
19. How would you rate the staffing level at the Returning Office?

[More details](#)



20. How would you rate the staffing level at polling stations?

[More details](#)





21. What are some things that were handled well during the election?

8 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	Communication from Deputy clerk and returning officer was excellent
2	anonymous	Communication from town staff on current issues to communicate with the public
3	anonymous	Process....Friendly, knowledgeable staff
4	anonymous	Everything was handled well except the "the let Antigonish decide" forum. Returning Officer should have been more publicly vocal about complaints about it as whether or not they were valid.
5	anonymous	My registration process was smooth. I obtained the list of electors efficiently.
6	anonymous	Efficiency of the staff.
7	anonymous	Everything ran smoothly
8	anonymous	Melanie was terrific!



## 22. What are some things that were handled poorly during the election?

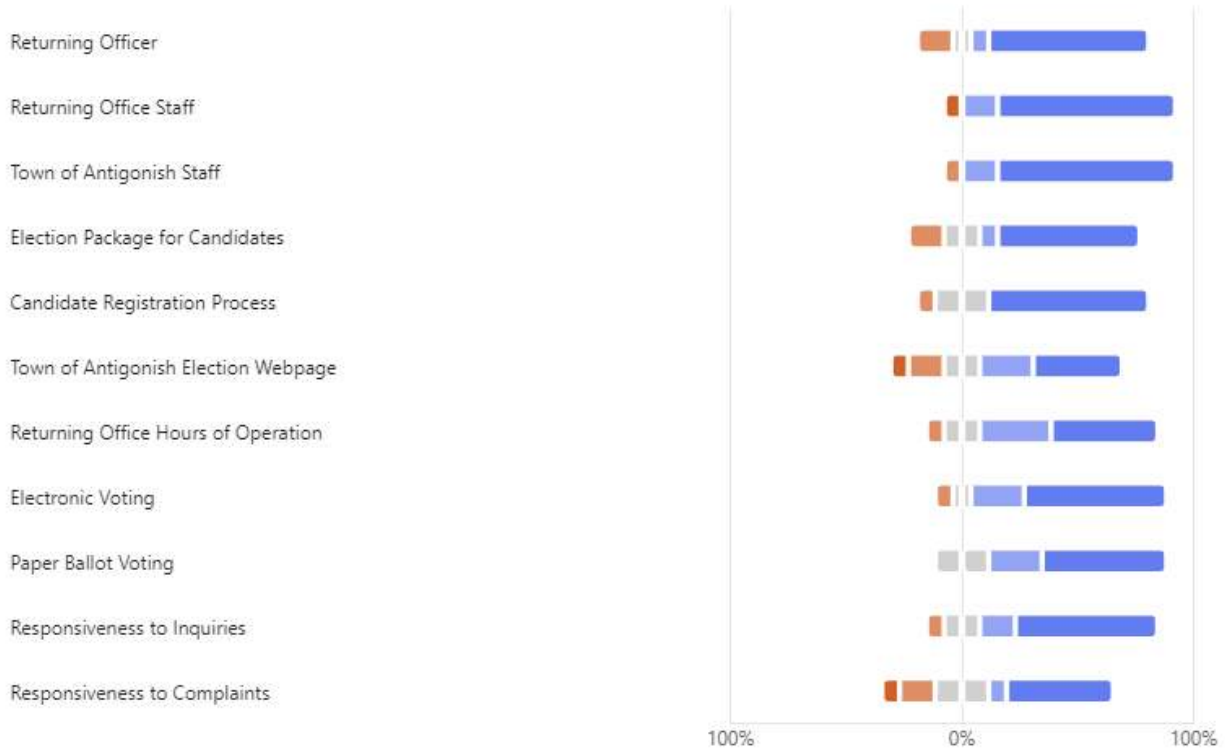
8 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	nothing I can think of
2	anonymous	Being asked to randomly buzz apartments and allowing superintendents to refuse entry to apartment buildings without consequence.
3	anonymous	Did not hear complaints
4	anonymous	The "the let Antigonish decide forum". Also, Town needs a true debate among Mayoral candidates with only the topics and not the questions known in advance. Mayoral candidates need a true debate, and an open forum where audience does not have to submit questions in advance. Also, the vote counting delay at Mall poll should never have happened and no public explanation given or widely published if it were given.
5	anonymous	I would suggest that software training for the electors list be scheduled earlier in the campaign and should have flexible times with a call-in service. I was a one person team for most of it.
6	anonymous	Some candidates had signs on Town property Present elected officials showing bias towards candidates. They still are under the Code of Conduct but staff did nothing
7	anonymous	Communication Training at polls - I spoke to many people who were not asked for ID and they didn't know the person working at poll Very little communication about voter cards, etc. Residents didn't have a lot of info When Sean Cameron said students couldn't vote and was watching 14,000 times - it wasn't clarified publicly
8	anonymous	Counting the vote took too long

23. Overall, how satisfied are you with the following aspects of the 2024 Town of Antigonish Municipal election?

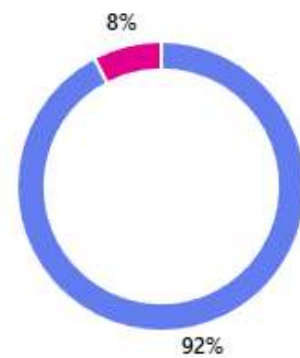
[More details](#)

● Very dissatisfied ● Somewhat dissatisfied ● Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied ● Somewhat satisfied ● Very satisfied

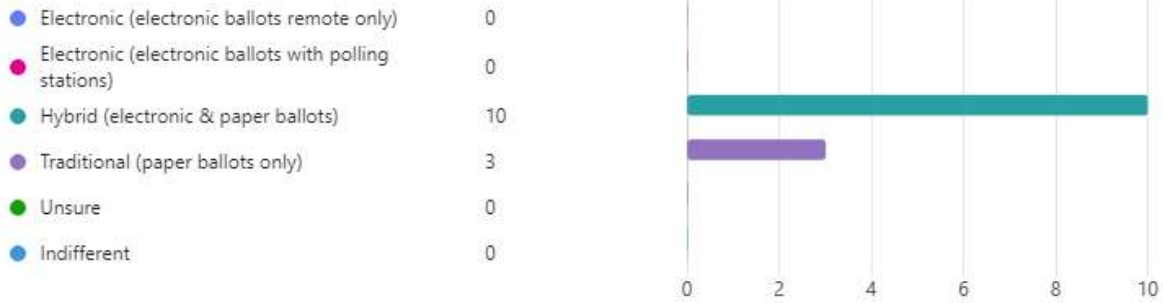


24. Do you support the practice of the Returning Office visit senior residences to help facilitate voting?

● Yes 12  
 ● No 1  
 ● Unsure 0  
 ● Indifferent 0



25. The Town of Antigonish had a hybrid election, with anytime electronic voting (online and phone) and in-person paper ballot voting at advanced polls and on election day. Other municipalities ran traditional paper ballot only elections and others electronic voting only. What format of election would you prefer in 2028? [More details](#)





## 26. What can we do to improve the election experience?

8 Responses

ID ↑	Name	Responses
1	anonymous	nothing I can think of at this time
2	anonymous	Enforcing rules. Candidates were allowed to print materials with OA disclaimer, pass on false information to voters and discouraged voters from participating. It was disheartening.
3	anonymous	Improve the process to get the election results out to the public in a timely manner
4	anonymous	Next time have a competent person counting votes and supervisor who does not let situation get so bad that votes are 3 hours late being released.
5	anonymous	Improve guidelines for signage. Improve access to software training for electors' list.
6	anonymous	Use social insurance numbers rather than date of birth for e-voting. Facebook has date of birth information and no security to prevent others from voting using another person's letter
7	anonymous	Improve communications Have protocols around complaints and the turn around There was a lot of focus on students and their vote. Since the Returning Officer didn't enumerate students, there should be tables for adding them to the list and polls on campus and communications about this happening. The process to be added to the list is a huge barrier. Seniors in homes are not users of our town, they do not pay taxes and also can be from other places. If there are voting stations at seniors homes - there should be the same on campus. I heard and witnessed bias and obviously sidedness. I found the election overall very frustrating.
8	anonymous	counting the vote faster