

We support a small, simple change that will make a big impact on Toronto's elections, making them more fair, inclusive and friendly.

Let's end vote splitting

During municipal elections, Torontonians spend more time talking about who should drop out, who is stealing votes, and little time on the issues. With ranked ballots, vote splitting becomes null and void.

We can reduce strategic voting

Nowadays voters are often pressured to vote "strategically." With a ranked ballot, you can always vote for your dream candidate, but are also afforded a backup strategy with second and third choices. You'll no longer have to vote against the best candidate ever again.

Leadership with a majority support

Under our current system, a candidate can "win" an election with only 20% of the vote. In recent elections, more than half a dozen incumbent councillors were reelected even though the majority of their constituents never supported them.

Discourage negative campaigning

Candidates often throw insults and accusations in an effort to discredit their opponents. With runoff voting, these tactics don't work because candidates must also appeal to their opponents' supporters in order to win their second choice. This means more positive debates, and more respectful discussions.

More voices in the campaign and on council

As is often the case, potential candidates are discouraged from entering the race to avoid splitting the vote. This happens at the local level when aspiring candidates are asked by their own colleagues to stay on the sidelines. This is the opposite experience young candidates should have, and with runoff voting, new voices would be welcome. This would lead to more choice, more voices, more ideas, and ultimately a more a diverse council.

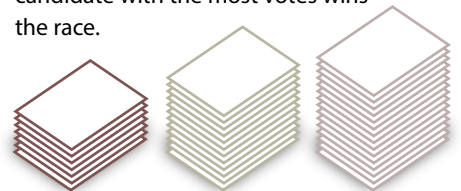
OFFICIAL BALLOT

- 2 Candidate A
- 3 Candidate B
- Candidate C
- 1 Candidate D
- Candidate E

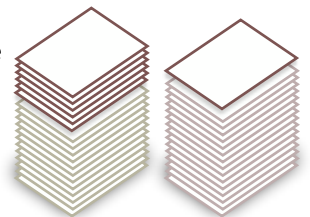
Imagine expressing your vote with more than a simple x. On a ranked ballot, you can rank your top three candidates – although you can stick with one if you prefer.

HOW IS THE WINNER CHOSEN?

In a traditional three candidate race, the candidate with the most votes wins the race.



With ranked ballots, a majority is required to win. If no one has 50% on the first count, then the candidate with the least votes is eliminated, and each ballot is transferred to the second choice. This process is continued until a candidate receives a majority.



Learn where your councillor stands, and what you can do to make this a reality at www.rabit.ca



RaBIT

Ranked Ballot Initiative of Toronto