

*Everything you need to know to*

**VOTE!**



# FEDERAL ELECTIONS 101: WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENS DURING A FEDERAL ELECTION

BY: ANNA HUSCHKA

*Hi my name is Anna Huschka (she/her) and I just wanted to clarify a few things before you start reading. I am speaking from a position of privilege as a white settler on Treaty 13 land. As a student minoring in Political Science, my goal is to make political knowledge as clear as possible in order to improve the political understanding of youth and newer voters. While voting may seem like a given now, I understand that the right to vote was not obtained equally and that many communities struggled to obtain and practice their right to vote in an election. I create these resources to encourage a trend of political awareness and political participation (especially through voting) in people everywhere, especially in an election that is so crucial to shaping the fight for climate justice.*



## General Terminology:

**Riding:** The voting regions, in which individual representatives are elected, forming the legislature (1).

**Governor General:** Acts as the representative of the British monarchy in what is currently Canada. What is currently Canada is a constitutional monarchy, and while the Queen plays no real role in our democracy nor our parliament anymore, the Governor General acts as their representative. For this reason, they hold important powers such as officially commencing elections since these orders previously required Britain's approval (1).

**Chief Electoral Officer: "Responsible for the administration of elections, referendums and other important aspects of our electoral system"** (2). They are independent of the government and all political parties, and report directly to Parliament (2).

**Writs:** Formal documents drafted by the Chief Executive Officer and sent to the Election Officers each riding, indicating that they should start an election (3)

## Why is an election called?

Elections are scheduled for the third Monday of October in the fourth calendar year following the previous election but can occur sooner in either of the following cases (3):

a) The Governor General can dissolve parliament on the advice of the Prime Minister and set the election date (3). The Canada Elections Act (section 57) specifies that election period can last a minimum of 36 days and a maximum of 50 days (4).

b) The current government can be made to resign and parliament dissolves via a failed confidence vote, in which the governing party loses the support of the representatives of the House of Commons, expressed in the failed passing of a confidence motion (4). Confidence motions include: motions that specifically say that the House of Commons does or does not have confidence in the government, motions made confidence votes by the government, proposed budgets, the government's reply to the throne speech, and motions from the opposition proposing changes to legislation or explicit motions of non-confidence (4). Learn about the *Stages of an Election* on Page 3.

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# TERMS TO KNOW

**Riding:** A riding is an electoral district of up to 100,000 members in a given community, there are 338 ridings in Canada. Community members of the same riding vote together to elect their local representative, generally called a Member of Parliament.

**Member of Parliament (MP):** This is a term used to describe successfully elected representatives of Ridings. MPs work in the federal parliament in Ottawa, as well as at their local riding office.

**Prime Minister (PM):** This title is given to the head of the federal party who wins the most ridings in a given election. The PM is the head of government, chairs and appoints the Cabinet, and report to the Crown.

**Cabinet:** Cabinet Members are elected MPs, generally from the governing party who are appointed by the PM to chair specific portfolios related to the interests of Canadians, such as Finance, Women's Rights and Indigenous Relations.

**Governing Party:** This term refers to the party who elects the most MP's, otherwise known as winning the most "seats".

**Governor-General:** The Governor-General is appointed by the PM and acts as the official representative of the Crown to Canada. They hold the highest level of political office in Canada and are the only person with the authority to call federal elections.

## STAGES OF AN ELECTION

**1** **Pre-Writ Period:** The time leading up to the commencement of an election period in which parties start behaving as if the next election is impending (1).

**2** **Dissolution of Parliament:** The Governor General dissolves parliament on the advice of the Prime Minister and directs the Chief Executive Officer to issue the writs (5).

**3** **Dropping the Writs:** The writs are dropped by the Chief Executive Officer, formally telling "the election officers in each riding to hold an election" (5).

**4** **Nomination of Candidates:** Political parties choose their candidates for each riding after the writs are dropped (5). Candidates can run as independents without party affiliation (5).

**5** **Campaigning:** The campaign period is anywhere from 36 to 50 days long and consists of candidates encouraging voters to vote for them (5).

**6** **Voting:** Eligible citizens aged 18 and older vote for the representative of their choosing to represent their riding in the House of Commons. Voting happens via advance polls, by mail, on election day, or at an Elections Canada office (5).

**7** **After the Vote:** Votes are counted and validated, the winning candidates are announced and the governing party is established based on which party wins the most ridings, the election concludes and parliament resumes (5).



# WHAT HAPPENED TO ON-CAMPUS VOTING?

**BY: PAYTON MITCHELL**

## What's going on with on-campus voting?

In 2015, Elections Canada launched its *Vote on Campus program*, this program gave students a choice between voting for their home riding associated with their parent's address or, the riding associated with their student address. This program provided on-campus polling stations and increased youth voter turnout by half a million in 2015 and 2019 compared to 2011. Despite this, the campus polling program was cancelled by Elections Canada for the 2021 Federal Election because... "COVID".

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has called this election a "referendum" on his ability to govern throughout the pandemic. Students, especially those working in the service industry, have been hit hard by changes to education, workplace shutdowns, isolation measures, and more. The Federal Government's decision to hold an election just two weeks after classes begin while cancelling the Vote on Campus program has made it more difficult than ever for first-time voters entering post-secondary education to participate in our democracy. **Don't let the government push you out of the conversation.** We outlined everything you need to get cast your ballot below.

## SIGN UP TO VOTE BY MAIL (before September 14)



**TIP:** If you move to your university or college town by or before September 20th (election day) be sure to be proactive and figure out where you want to mail it to - your student residence or your permanent home address. You can vote by mail in your home riding, or vote in the one associated with your student address (using utility bills or other proof of address in the registration process). This requires planning in advance but will likely be the easiest option for many, given the pandemic and given accessibility/transportation barriers to polling stations now that they will not be on campus. (1)

FIND YOUR RIDING



FIND YOUR VOTING LOCATION



## ADVANCED POLLS

Friday, September 10; Saturday, September 11; Sunday, September 12; and Monday, September 13, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. You can also vote at any time by going to an Elections Canada returning office, there's one in every riding!

## Acceptable ID at the polls:

1. Show one piece of any ID issued by a Canadian government (federal, provincial/territorial or local) with your photo, name and current address. Including ID, Healthcard, Status Card, Passport etc.
2. Show two pieces of any ID with your name and address, it's OK if you only have one type of ID with your current address. This can include your lease, a bank statement or utility bill or your Concordia student card.
3. You can still vote if you declare your identity and address in writing and have someone who knows you and who is assigned to your polling station (like a roommate or neighbour) vouch for you. The voucher must be able to prove their identity and address. A person can vouch for only one person.

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# VOTING 101

BY: CHRISTINA DICARLO

EDITORS: CAMERON FIORET, MANVI BHALLA, TARO HALFNIGHT, SAM PATON, AND JANAYA CAMPBELL

## How does Voting Work, Anyway?

Every Canadian citizen 18 years or older is eligible to vote for a Member of Parliament (MP) to represent their riding in the federal government (1). Canada uses a first-past-the-post (FPTP) voting system, meaning the candidate with the highest number of votes in each riding wins a single seat in the House of Commons (2). The candidate with the most votes will win the seat regardless of whether they've obtained an actual majority of the total votes within their riding (2). Some individuals believe this system is helpful, due to the straightforward relationship between citizens of a riding and their single representative (1). This leaves the accountability of each representative clearly defined, with each MP responsible for the interests of their electoral district (1). However, the FPTP system is not favoured by everyone, as some believe it may encourage strategic voting, where voters will instead vote for the candidate most likely to defeat their least favourite candidate, rather than their desired choice (2).

A popular alternative that has been suggested to overcome these drawbacks of the FPTP system is proportional representation (PR) (3). PR systems are designed to equate the share of votes received to the proportion of seats in the House of Commons (3). This system is often viewed favourably by smaller parties who may not have strong support in a particular riding, but may receive a significant share of the votes throughout all electoral districts (3). Although a potential improvement in representation, some worry this may make it difficult for a party to win a majority government (2,4).

While leaders in the federal government have proposed electoral restructuring, no major

actions have been taken to replace the FPTP voting system (5). Different voting systems may create different voting behaviour, significantly impacting the outcome and turnout of an election (1). Many nonvoters in Canada do not identify with a single party, and an electoral reform that does not require the voter to choose a single party may serve as a new way to build democracy (1).

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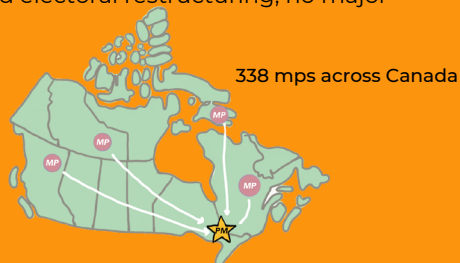


Figure 1. Members of the federal government are elected representatives called Members of Parliament (MP) (3). Each defined geographical area in Canada, or "riding," votes for MPs that represent them in the federal government (4). The leader of the political party that gains the most elected MPs is appointed Prime Minister (PM) by the Governor General of Canada.

# COMMITMENTS TO THE PARIS AGREEMENT & SDGS: HOW CLOSE ARE WE TO MEETING THEM?

BY: JORDAN KILGOUR

2030 is the year many have slated as the deadline for achieving important international goals. From the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals to the 2015 Paris Agreement, the Government of Canada has made some bold and ambitious commitments to improve health and wellbeing nationally and worldwide. With only 9 years left until this deadline, it is extremely important that Canada is actively working towards achieving these milestones, notably minimizing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and mitigating the impacts of the current climate crisis in all areas of our society. Visit our site to read the breakdown of Canada's climate commitments and to learn about where we are in our progress to achieving these goals.

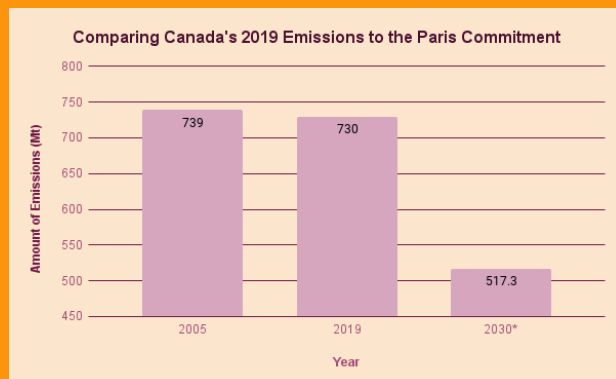


Figure #1: A bar graph comparing Canada's most recent 2019 emissions to the Paris Commitment. Canada has committed to reducing emissions 30% below 2005 levels. Emissions in 2005 were 739 Mt, and emissions in 2019 were 730 Mt. By 2030, emissions must reach 517.3 Mt in order to meet this goal. Data taken from Environment and Climate Change Canada (1).

## Highlights:

1. If Canada's nationally determined contribution (NDC) to the Paris agreement is to reduce GHG emissions to 30% below 2005 levels by 2030, this means our emissions must decrease to 517.3 Mt of total GHG emissions in the next 9 years. Taking into account the 1.1% decrease we see in 2019 from the 2005 emissions levels, this means Canada is currently 4% of the way to the Paris Agreement Targets.

2. Based on Canada's Nationally Determined Contribution under the Paris Agreement, the IPCC special report estimates that the strategies "would not limit global warming to 1.5 degrees celsius, even if supplemented by very challenging increases in the scale and ambition of emissions reductions after 2030" (2).

3. The IPCC report further states that if global warming were limited to 1.5 degrees celsius, the climate change impacts affecting sustainable development, poverty, and social inequalities would be significantly reduced, emphasizing the importance of intersectionality and interdisciplinary efforts towards addressing the climate crisis (2).

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# OUR ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS REPORT CARD: WHAT WORKED AND WHERE CAN WE IMPROVE?

## RACHEL HOWLETT

*My name is Rachel Howlett (she/her) and I am from Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, which is the traditional land of the Mi'kmaq known as Mi'kmaki in the region of Sipekni'katik. The Mi'kmaq Nation is part of the Wabanaki Confederacy, which includes land from what is now known as Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Maine. I am speaking from a position of privilege as a white settler and I want to acknowledge that intersectionality is essential in every topic in order to fully address the injustices of the world we live in. My goal as an ally is to reduce environmental injustices through encouraging climate action and demanding political accountability. This post was written to highlight the climate promises made by the last Federal Government so that this public information relating to the governance of present-day Canada is more accessible to others.*



The current Federal government was re-elected as a minority government in 2019 (1). After four years at the helm of Parliament Hill, the Government of Canada made various promises surrounding climate change during the 2019 federal election (2). These included a net-zero emission future by 2050, planting two billion trees, an adequate disaster response, and investing all the earnings from the Trans Mountain Expansion Project in Canada's clean energy transition (2). In addition, during the campaigning for the 2019 federal election, previous accomplishments from the previous four years were highlighted as a majority government. These included “[lifting] 87 long-term boil water advisories in Indigenous communities and are on track to eliminate all of them by 2021” and that they are “moving forward with a ban on single-use plastics” (2). As the next election has just been announced, it is a good time to explore the outcome of these promises.

### **Net-zero Emission Future by 2050**

Introduced in November 2020, the Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act proposed many emissions reduction targets in order to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 (3). Under the act, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change is obligated to report to Parliament regarding each national emissions target with a plan to achieve the targets (4). In February 2021, the Net-Zero Advisory Body was launched by the Federal government as a

permanent resource (5). This independent group is composed of 14 experts from across the country who will advise the government “on the best pathways to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050” (5). On June 29 2021, the Canadian Net-Zero Emissions Accountability Act became law through royal assent (6). In addition to the objective of net-zero emissions by 2050, the Act reaffirms the 2030 greenhouse gas emissions target as being 40-45% below the country's 2005 levels (6). The act also requires emission targets to be set 10 years prior for 2035, 2040 and 2045 (6). Historically, Canada has failed to meet its self imposed climate targets (7).

### **Planting Two Billion Trees**

This project was slated to begin in spring 2021, and according to the parliamentary budget office, the cost of this was just under \$6 billion (8). The Government of Canada had originally estimated the project to cost \$3.16 billion (8). The federal website has a timeline that states that the program will start “forging partnerships, planting trees and increasing seedling production” in spring 2021 and continues with “tree planting ramps up” from fall 2021 to 2030 (9). Natural Resources Canada provided an update in June 2021 which stated that the government has received 120 applications for tree planting in 2021 and is now finalizing agreements that would have the capacity to plant 30 million trees (10).



### **Investing all Earnings from the Trans Mountain Expansion Project in Canada's Clean Energy Transition**

The Government of Canada has owned the Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) project since 2018 (11). The pipeline cost more than \$4 billion to buy and in February 2020, the Trans Mountain CEO estimated the total cost of the pipeline to be 12.6 billion (including the \$1.1 billion already spent by Kinder Morgan, who was the previous owner) (12). The pipeline is not yet finished, and the completion date is estimated to be at the end of 2022 (13). TMX has faced widespread opposition from the Tsleil-Waututh peoples and the Wet'suwet'en First Nation (14,15). This opposition arises from many reasons, notably that pipelines transport crude oil and natural gas and are associated with many adverse effects on the environment such as spills (16). To read more about pipelines in what is currently Canada, read about the four proposed pipelines outlined in this resource.

### **Eliminate all long-term boil water advisories in Indigenous Communities by 2021**

As of June 2021, there are still 58 long-term boil water advisories in 38 different first nations communities across the country (17). The federal government highlights that 101 long-term drinking water advisories have been lifted as of March 10, 2021 (17). The new estimated date to find long-term solutions to all water advisories is 2025, as per documents from the House of Commons Public Accounts committee meeting in April 2021 (18). For a history and updates on the progress towards lifting all long-term boil water advisories, review and check-in on our living document here.

### **Moving Forward with a Ban on Single-Use Plastics**

In the fall of 2020, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change announced that the next steps were to be taken to achieve zero plastic waste by 2030 (19). The next regulations are supposed to be put in place by the end of 2021 (19). This ban would include "plastic checkout bags, straws, stir sticks, six-pack rings, cutlery, and food ware made from hard-to-recycle plastics" (19). The latest press release from Environment and Climate Change Canada regarding plastic waste was on April 15th, 2021 and outlined \$1.3 million in funding from the Government of Canada to support projects "that aim to reduce plastic waste, prevent plastic pollution and support the transition to a national circular plastic economy" (20). These projects are run by five organizations: Bluenose Coastal

Action Foundation, Canadian Coalition for Green Healthcare, Conference Board of Canada, Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Ontario and Scout Environmental (20). The press release reaffirms that the Federal government is continuing to work with provinces and territories to reduce plastic waste (20).

### **Additionally, there were more climate priorities included in the mandate letter for the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change written in December 2019 by the Prime Minister (21). These included:**

- Completing all flood maps in Canada
- Helping to expand and diversity urban forests in cities
- Expand the Learn-to-Camp program
- Providing bursaries to families where cost is a barrier for national or provincial park access
- Clearer designation and preservation of national heritage places
- Working with the Minister of Fisheries Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard to introduce a new plan to conserve more of Canada's land and oceans
- Strengthening the Canadian Environmental Protection Act 1999
- Creating a new Canada Water Agency
- Protecting further large lakes in Canada
- Evaluating and updating the Species at Risk Act
- Supporting the implementation of the Oceans Protection Plan
- Helping to advance towards a complete zero-emission vehicle target by 2040 (21).

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# WHAT DOES THE GOVERNMENT DO ANYWAY?

**BY: PAYTON MITCHELL**

## **FEDERAL**

Officially, the role of Canada's federal government is to maintain "*Peace, Order and good Government of Canada, in relation to all Matters not coming within the classes of subjects by this Act assigned exclusively to the Legislatures of the Provinces.*" In practice, what's considered to be "federal jurisdiction" is quite broad. It includes aeronautics (space); radio; television; nuclear energy; responsibility for the national capital; natural resources, offshore mineral rights; federal official languages; citizenship; federal police and surveillance (RCMP and CSIS), foreign affairs (including refugee intake); the control of drugs; and the authority to exercise "emergency powers" through the declaration of war. In addition to these, the federal government is given automatic jurisdiction over anything that falls outside explicitly provincial powers.

## **PROVINCIAL**

Provincial government play a more direct role in the management of services to citizens including education and healthcare, other responsibilities that fall under the province include; their internal constitutions; direct taxation for provincial purposes; municipalities; school boards; hospitals; property and civil rights (their largest area of responsibility); administration of civil and criminal justice; penalties for breaking provincial statutes; prisons; marriage; provincial civil service; local works; and corporations with provincial objectives.

## **MUNICIPAL**

Municipalities derive all their power from the province. Smaller municipalities rely on the province or larger regional networks to provide services to residents, where as cities are generally more self sufficient, which local policing and other powers being handled by the municipality rather than the province. Municipal governments are responsible for areas such as libraries, parks, community water systems, local police, public transportation, local economic development, roadways and parking.



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# DEMANDS FOR A JUST AND EQUITABLE FUTURE: CENTRING CLIMATE JUSTICE THIS FEDERAL ELECTION

**BY: SHAKE UP THE ESTABLISHMENT'S  
POLITICAL RESEARCH TEAM**

The Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was just released in August 2021, citing human impacts as one of the biggest influences on increases in global temperature and other climate change effects (1). Expected changes noted within the report include “increases in the frequency and intensity of hot extremes, marine heatwaves, and heavy precipitation, agricultural and ecological droughts in some regions, and proportion of intense tropical cyclones, as well as reductions in Arctic sea ice, snow cover and permafrost” (1). It is extremely concerning that many of these changes are already occurring due to increased greenhouse gas emissions, and are irreversible for the next centuries (1). These expected changes to the climate will have the biggest and quickest impact on the most vulnerable people in our society who have the least amount of resources.

As youth, the results of the IPCC report are overwhelming, as it is our future at risk. One of the biggest influences we can have is as voters. With the calling of a federal election, it is imperative that climate justice is at the forefront of voters' minds as they head to the polls. The results of this election are vital to the combatting of climate change effects and the sustaining of what is currently Canada's natural spaces.

Our government has a massive role to play in terms of lessening already occurring and predicted effects of climate change.

**Here are just some demands needed for a just and equitable future:**

1. Prioritize solutions for the housing crisis.
2. Invest in sustainable, renewable energy and resource solutions.
3. Adopt stricter, ambitious, and attainable climate targets.
4. Engage and consult with underrepresented and affected communities.
5. Creation of green jobs and support of grassroots movements.
6. Ending of remaining boil-water advisories in Indigenous communities.

Ultimately, we need clear, direct, collaborative action from our government in order to minimize the effects of climate change, and our choices as informed voters can showcase to our government just how large of a priority climate justice is and should be.

## References

1. [IPCC, 2021: Summary for Policymakers. In: Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \[Masson-Delmotte, V., P. Zhai, A. Pirani, S. L. Connors, C. Péan, S. Berger, N. Caud, Y. Chen, L. Goldfarb, M. I. Gomis, M. Huang, K. Leitzell, E. Lonnoy, J.B.R. Matthews, T. K. Maycock, T. Waterfield, O. Yelekçi, R. Yu and B. Zhou \(eds.\)\]. Cambridge University Press. In Press.](#)





## About Us

[Shake Up The Establishment \(SUTE\)](#) aims to make credible, evidence-informed information readily available to promote informed voting, advocacy practices, and political accountability surrounding human and social justice issues that are exacerbated by the climate crisis. We collaborate directly with groups and communities working to address injustices, alongside our ongoing work towards environmental literacy and political action. SUTE previously launched a successful vote for the climate campaign for the 2019 Federal election, and worked alongside partners such as Patagonia Toronto. SUTE is a national organization but is grateful to be situated on the ancestral, traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas Peoples. Learn more at our website, [www.shakeuptheestab.org](http://www.shakeuptheestab.org).

The climate crisis is not a partisan issue.



## Learn More

### Voter Rights Timeline: Systemic Barriers Towards Voting Experienced by Historically Excluded Groups

By: Meagan Parmassar (She/Her) and Anna Huschka (She/Her)  
Contributor/Editor: Aarisha Elvi Haider (She/Her)

It is irresponsible to deny the systemic racism ingrained in what is currently Canada, and namely, in our settler/colonizer-based governmental structure. Racialized communities continue to face barriers in participation and representation in the current political system designed by, and for, white individuals. Historically, non-white communities have had to advocate to be granted the right to vote and to be involved in any capacity in the democratic process within the settler/colonial government. To view a brief history of voting rights in Canada and a detailed reflection of the barriers faced by racialized communities in Canada, be sure to visit our site and [read through this meaningful piece](#).



[Structure of the Canadian Government](#)



[Non-Partisan Political Party Comparison Chart](#)

# WHY MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS MATTER

**BY: SCARLET GUY**

With a municipal election coming up on November 7th, it is important that young voters know exactly what is at stake. It is often unclear where the line between municipal, provincial, and federal jurisdiction lies, so it is important to know what your municipality governs and which advocacy issues they can and will address.

In Quebec, over \$15 billion per year is allocated to municipal budgets. But where does all of that money actually go? You can think of your municipal government as the “government of the community.” Municipal governments are in charge of the bulk of public infrastructure, including amenities such as libraries, parks, bike paths, and fire departments. Municipal governments also control policing and waste collection.

Due to its wide range of responsibilities, municipal governments must address several advocacy issues associated with their jurisdiction, such as defunding the police and addressing unsustainable rising house prices.

So far in 2021, Montreal’s municipal government has paid little attention to the basic demands of its citizens. After widespread calls to defund the Montreal police (SPVM), the City of Montreal increased the SPVM’s budget by \$14.6 million (a whopping 17.6% of the entire city budget). Meanwhile, the city also decreased the affordable housing budget by \$13 million. In the past, the City of Montreal donated millions of dollars to affordable housing initiatives for students, and by decreasing the funding for these initiatives, the city is condemning students and low-income citizens to the wrath of landlords, potentially dangerous living arrangements, and unmanageable pricing. From this disappointing budgetary action, it is evident that the City of Montreal does not have the best interests of its population in mind as it continues to be complacent in the face of systemic racism while pushing affordable housing needs aside.

Alongside affordable housing, food security is a major advocacy issue that can be addressed by Montreal’s municipal government. The City of Montreal contributes to multiple local organizations and recognizes that infrastructure is a significant obstacle in the success of battling food insecurity. The City must continue to invest in these initiatives, ensuring the security of its citizens.

The best way for the City of Montreal to effectively and efficiently serve their people while accommodating public demands is to defund the police and reallocate this funding to initiatives involving affordable housing and homelessness, food security, public transport, and arts and culture.

**THE MONTREAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION  
WILL OCCUR ON NOVEMBER 7TH, 2021.  
MAKE SURE TO REGISTER TO VOTE!**

## References

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# HOW TO VOTE IN THE 2021 QUEBEC MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

**BY: SCARLETT GUY AND JACK CRONIN**

**EDITED BY: PAYTON MITCHELL**

## WHO'S ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ANYWAY?

Any Canadian citizen as of September 1st and 18 years or old as of November 7, 2021, and has resided in Quebec for at least 6 months is eligible to vote in Quebec's municipal elections. To prove this, you'll need a record of your "domicile", which can be found on any official mail, utilities or government ID with your full name and Montreal address. You must also be on your municipality's elector's list. New voters need to register by contacting VOTEQC (868372)

## CHECK IF YOU'RE ON THE PROVINCIAL ELECTORS LIST



Registering to vote is the next step in participating in Montreal's municipal election. To be registered to vote in the election, your name must be on the list of electors. To ensure that your name is on the list of electors, you should contact the Montreal Returning Officer by phone (514-872-3142) or email ([greffier@ville.montreal.qc.ca](mailto:greffier@ville.montreal.qc.ca)). The Returning Officer may ask for specific documentation, so make sure you have that on hand when trying to register!

## HOW TO VOTE

Once you are registered, you are all set to vote! You can vote by mail or at a polling station in Montreal. To vote by mail under the age of seventy, your domicile must be located outside of the municipality's territory (and you must meet the previously outlined criteria). Otherwise, if you are not living in the same municipality as your domicile, you may vote by mail.

To vote in person, you must bring one of the following to the polling station; your health insurance card, driver's license, Canadian passport, Certificate of Indigenous Status, or Canadian Armed Forces identification card. According to Elections Quebec, "your employer must give you four consecutive hours so you can vote while the polling stations are open, without any reduction in pay or penalty." If you have any trouble at the polling station, attendants will provide any assistance needed.

## ADVANCED POLLS

Voters may also vote in advance polls, which will occur at polling stations on October 31st, 2021, between 9:00 am and 8:00 pm. Advance polling stations require the same identification as standard polling stations.

**YOU CAN VOTE THROUGH WHICHEVER METHOD FEELS MOST COMFORTABLE TO YOU. JUST MAKE SURE TO VOTE!**

## References

"Municipal Elections – November 7, 2021." Élections Québec, 2021, [www.electionsequbec.qc.ca/municipales/en/](http://www.electionsequbec.qc.ca/municipales/en/).

