

Election Engagement Toolbox

Dear colleague,

Welcome to our Election toolkit. In this package, we have nonpartisan tools and tips to help you get your community more engaged in the coming Mayoral election.

This election is going to have a **big impact on communities** across the City, and **every community deserves a voice** at City Hall!

But in the past, youth, newer Canadians, people living on low incomes and other **marginalized people have been overlooked** because they are seen by politicians as disengaged from the voting process.¹

Let's change that. We have lots of opportunities to make that happen.

- The United Way is working with Toronto Metropolitan University and the Star to host a debate that's focused on the issues affecting diverse communities. They are **committed to raising issues identified by your communities with the candidates** in the debate and using the ideas coming out of your communities to help shape the questions asked on stage.
- To make the most of this exciting debate, and this important election, we are working to give nonprofits across the City the tools to connect to their communities, **amplify** local voices, share questions you want asked in the debate, and help folks have a say at the polls.
- We have created this toolkit, full of nonpartisan voter engagement tools, to support your efforts to help the community be heard, supported and informed.
- We have created **easy feedback tools** so you can share what you are hearing in your community through our feedback form (available at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteReportingTemplate</u>) or our online feedback tool (at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteFeedback</u>) or just email <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u>.

There are lots of simple ways to **help people share their views** and get engaged – so voters, and those who don't have a vote yet, can speak up and get active.

And what we hear from your community will shape the questions mayors get asked in the United Way/TMU/Star debate.

We hope this toolkit helps, but please let us know if there is anything that you need to help your community have a voice in this unique election. You can reach us by email at info@ontarioforall.ca or by phone or text at 416 820 7889

VEARAR

Sean Meagher Coordinator, Ontario for All

¹ <u>https://www.cbc.ca/news/business/election-economy-poor-1.5290318</u>,

 $[\]underline{https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res\&dir=rec/part/tud\&document=correlates\&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res\&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates\&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/part/tud&document=correlates&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/parts&lang=elections.ca/content.aspx?sections.ca/content.aspx?sections.ca/content.aspx?sections.ca/content.aspx?sections.ca/content.aspx?sections.ca/content.aspx?sections.ca/content.aspx?sections.ca/content.aspx?sections.ca/$

This toolkit makes it easy to engage your community in the election, with tips, scripts and resources. We have tools for simple activities and more complex ones, basic voter info and everything else you'll need.

These are activities that can engage voters, but they are also opportunities to engage new residents, with information and activities, even if they aren't yet voters. Let us know what you're planning, and we'll work to support that too. It's all here, and online at www.ontarioforall.ca/mayoral-resources, from:

Super simple things (the green sheet, marked "Sheet A") like:

- <u>Tabling at your facility</u> It's easy and it connects with lots of people
- Posting on your website Add info to your resource pages or links to ours
- Posting on social media It only takes a few seconds to inform your followers

More engaging conversations (The blue sheets, marked "B1, B2 & B3") like:

- <u>Embedding a conversation on issues in your programs</u> (B1)- We have easy guides to incorporate discussion about election issues in your drop-in activities or your formal programs. They include guides to talk about the voting process and guides for discussion issues.
- <u>Embedding a conversation on voting (B2)</u> We have easy guides to incorporate discussion about voting too, to help people feel confident about casting a ballot.
- <u>Asking for Pledges</u> (B3) Have pledge cards at your site and invite people to sign an "I will vote" pledge to promote better turnout.
- Using Surveys (B3) Quick and easy surveys let folks express their priorities.
- <u>Holding a "Vote Pop-Up"</u> (B3) We have tools to help you hold a nonpartisan mock election on issues at your site, complete with ballots and voting booths, to get people in the habit of having their say.

Game Changers (the purple sheet, marked "Sheet C") like:

- <u>Holding an election event at your site</u> Get more people engaged in talking about the issues, and the impact of this election in a meeting or townhall.
- <u>Hosting your own debate watch party</u> Bring your community together to watch the United Way debate and talk about the issues.
- <u>Promoting opportunities to join in city-wide online activities</u> We will host open discussions on the issues. Let folks in your programs and your community know they can join in.
- <u>Promoting the City-wide debate-watch party</u> When the United Way debate happens, we'll host an online watch party. Invite your community.
- <u>Getting Out The Vote</u> Get people in your area to knock on doors or make phone calls to remind people to vote. With advance polls, mail-in voting and election day there are lots of opportunities to raise voter turnout, and community voice, in your area.

Part of engaging your community in the election is helping them cast a ballot. So we have included Toronto Metropolitan University's **voter information guide (the yellow sheet, marked "Sheet D")** as well. We also have more basic, nonpartisan tools that tell people how they can vote, where they can vote, and why voting will matter in their day to day lives, all available online at <u>www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-mayoral-election-2023</u>.

In your work, we're asking you to **keep track of how many people you connect to, and share the feedback you hear**, so we can show the new Mayor how much more engaged communities are getting. Share your community's input through our feedback form (available at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteReportingTemplate</u>) or our online feedback tool (at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteFeedback</u>) by just email feedback to <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u>.

We hope you find this all helpful. But if there's something you need that you don't find here, **let us know at <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u>** and we'll figure out a way to help.

SUPER SIMPLE ACTIVITIES

Tabling

Set up your table

Ideally, you will want to set up in an area with high traffic for program participants and the public, at times when your organization is busiest. Your lobby is usually best. The weather is getting warmer, so you could also table in front of your building (but remember to bring rubber bands or paperweights to keep the material from blowing away).

Staff your table and help them engage

You will engage far more people if you have the table staffed. The person doesn't have to be an expert, because they are giving people tools to get information. There are links, info sheets, and guides so if folks have questions, the table staff can just refer them to the tools.

Encourage the person staffing it to stand up and walk around to encourage people to come to the table or engage them while walking by.

Whether standing or sitting, a few words make all the difference. Encourage the table staff to greet people and let them know what's going on. Simple greetings like "Hi, have you heard we are getting a new Mayor?" or "Hello, we're here to hear your ideas for a better City" or "Hi, I wondered if you had any thoughts about how City Hall can do a better job?" Use anything that lets them know that not only that an election is going on, but that they have a say in what the government does next.

Track engagement

It's good to know how many people you've reached, so include a simple scoresheet with the materials to let the table staff make a tick mark for everyone they talk to.

Ideally, ask people to sign a voting pledge where they put down their name and email and take a sticker that says "In this election, I'm a voter"

What's on the table

We have all the tools you need – just print or copy as many as you require - including: - simple one-pagers that tell folks the rules for voting (<u>bit.ly/TOvoteHowToVote</u>)

- a clear outline of what City Hall can do for you and why the election matters (from www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-mayoral-election-2023)

- QR codes to link folks to more information via their phones (from <u>bit.ly/ToVoteQRcode</u>)
- Pledge sheets & stickers (from www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-mayoral-election-2023)
- Voter survey (on paper in this kit on B3), by QR code at <u>https://bit.ly/TOvoteSurveyQR</u>)

- Posters, to let people know what's going on (from <u>www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-</u> mayoral-election-2023)

You can add anything else you want:

- You can go to SPT's website at <u>www.socialplanningtoronto.org/municipal_election_resources</u> for links to advocacy materials on any issue

- you can invite local groups to add their materials

After the tabling, use the template at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteReportingTemplate</u> or our online form at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteFeedback</u> to send us the feedback you got, or just email summary to <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u>. Please include the number of people you engaged.



Sheet A

Web Posts

We have materials that you can add to your website.

Add info to your site

Use the material provided at <u>www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-mayoral-election-2023</u> to get information to add to your website. The site includes materials on how to vote and why this election will affect people in Toronto

Link to info

We have downloadable PDFs that your program participants or community members can link to at <u>www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-mayoral-election-2023</u>, many are in multiple languages. You can also link to election tools at <u>www.ontarioforall.ca/mayoral-resources</u>

Be sure to support the pledge

Invite people to a pledge to vote this year at - www.surveymonkey.com/r/TOvotePledge23

On the Issues

Add access to information on the issues by linking to SPT's election issues page at www.socialplanningtoronto.org/municipal_election_resources

Social Media Posts

Use social media to share lection info by posting about the coming election, the importance of having your say and all the information about how to vote, and why it's worth having your say.

Hashtag everything

Maximize your impact by using the hashtag **#OurFutureOurVoteTO** so that others can find your posts. Add in other relevant hashtags like #TOpoli.

You can use our material

We have graphics and assets you can post at <u>www.ontarioforall.ca/mayoralsocialmedia</u> If you create a great tweet or post, share it with us, email it to <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u> or just make sure the hashtag it with **#OurFutureOurVoteTO**

You can make your own

Create your own posts and link to voter tools and information.

- Remind people about the date a lot (June 26^{th} , from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM)
- Remind people they can vote early (June 8th June 13th, 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM)
- Remind folks it's easy to find out where and when to vote bit.ly/TOvote23

Help folks in your programs to make 5 second videos about an issue they care about and post them.

Create picture frames with space at the bottom so they can write their top issue and post a phot of themselves with their issue.

Remind folks of all the things City Hall does, and the massive influence a new mayor will have on things like affordable housing, clean streets, parks, transit, youth programs, seniors' programs, social services and community safety and policing.

Don't forget the hashtag #OurFutureOurVoteTO



Hosting Conversations about Issues

This election comes at an important time in the City.

Most candidates have described this as a critical moment when the City is struggling with very challenging issues. But it's hard to do everything, and the candidate who becomes mayor will have to set priorities.

It's important that candidates hear from all parts of the City about the priorities people have.

We'd like to hear from your community about the issues that matter most.

Here are three approaches you can take to get a conversation going in your programs.

Poll-led

What you'll need: Flip chart or chalk board

Open the discussion with the introductory sentence. Ask participants to work in pairs for 5 minutes and then report back to the group on question 1.

Work in the group as a whole for all other questions. Write down a summary of all responses on the board or flip chart as they are provided.

Introductory statement:

"Polls tell us the top issues in this election are housing, inflation, safety, services and transit."

Introductory questions for participants to discuss in pairs for 3-5 minutes, and report back to the group:

Do you agree that these are the most important issues? Which ones would change? Which ones would you add?"

During the report back, note the 5 issues from the polls and any that are added on the board/flip chart.

Group discussion questions:

"Which issue do you think is most important"

Allow a brief group discussion on the priorities and then ask for a show of hands to choose the number one issue.

Ask questions to explore the issue including:

Why is that issue important?

What would you want to City to do about that issue?

United Way, TMU and the Toronto Star are going to be holding a mayoral debate and want your ideas about what to ask the candidates. What would you ask the candidates about that if they were here now?

Move on to the second most important issue using the same process. Continue to 3^{rd} or 4^{th} most important depending on the time.

After the session, use the template at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteReportingTemplate</u> or our online form at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteFeedback</u> to send us the feedback from the group, or just photograph the flip chart or chalk board and email the images to <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u>.



Self-guided

What you'll need: Flip chart or chalk board

Break the room up into pairs or threes – give everyone 5 minutes to talk amongst themselves about the election. Ask each group what they think is the biggest issue in the election on the issue and why it matters.

Ask each group to report back.

Write their comments on a flip chart or chalk board.

Poll the room, asking people to raise their hands for which item they think is the most important.

For the top issue, ask the group:

What matters to you most about this issue - why is it important to you?

What would you want to City to do about that issue - what solutions would you propose?

United Way, TMU and the Toronto Star are going to be holding a mayoral debate and want your ideas about what to ask. What would you ask the candidates about that issue if they were here now?

Write their comments on the flip chart or chalk board.

Repeat the discussion for the second and third highest scoring issues.

After the session, use the template at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteReportingTemplate</u> or our online form at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteFeedback</u> to send us the feedback from the group, or just photograph the flip chart or chalk board and email the images to <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u>.

Deeper dive:

What you'll need: Flip chart or chalk board, Newspaper articles on key issues

Print up media stories or fact sheets on the issues. Some can be found on the Social Planning Toronto website at <u>www.socialplanningtoronto.org/municipal_election_resources</u>

Let the group choose any one issue and read aloud the content of the description.

Ask participants to give their feedback, and note their comments on flip charts or a chalkboard. Ask participants:

- What aspects of the material did they agree with?
- What aspects did they disagree with?
- what do they think the material should have included that it missed?
- Are there other aspects of this issue that you think are important?
- What should City Hall be doing to address this issue?
- United Way, TMU and the Toronto Star are going to be holding a mayoral debate and want your ideas about what to ask. Ask what questions they would ask if the candidates were here right now.

After the session, use the template at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteReportingTemplate</u> or our online form at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteFeedback</u> to send us the feedback from the group, or just photograph the flip chart or chalk board and email the images to <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u>.



Hosting conversations about voting

Many of your participants engage in regular programming. It might be language training or computer skills or an employment training program. Or you might engage people who are in your drop-in, in your waiting room or lined up for the food bank. Nonpartisan voter information is important to everyone and a great addition to whatever programming you are doing, and we've tried to make nice, short, activities that are easy to do in minutes

Exercises

Do your program participants think voting is difficult, useless, or irrelevant? Here are three quick exercises you can do to show them otherwise.

1) Does every vote REALLY count?

People often think it takes a lot to win a race, but at City Council, just a few votes can make all the difference.

Ask participants how important they think their own single vote is.

Ask participants to guess how many members of the current city council have won or lost by less than 600 votes. Write the numbers on the chalk board if you have one.

Then give them the good news. Of the folks now on City Council, 10 of them, 40%, have won or lost races by less than 600 votes. One came as close as 94 votes in the last election. Many other past City Councillors have gotten elected in very very close races. One deputy mayor only managed to get re-elected by 20 votes. The longest serving mayor in Toronto got elected for the first time by a margin of less than one vote in every poll.

It doesn't take much to change the outcome of City elections.

2) Why care about a City election?

Most people don't know a lot about City Hall. But we rely more on the City than we think:

Remind participants that there are 3 levels of government

- Federal Government Led by Justin Trudeau, which covers all of Canada
- Provincial Government Led by Doug Ford, which covers all of Ontario

- City Government - Vacant since John Tory resigned, which covers all of Toronto

Ask which level of government they think impacts their day to day lives the most.

Then ask who they think delivers the following services. After each one, ask which level of government does that. Let them know it's the City after each one. (Get everyone to shout together "City").

List of services: Affordable housing, housing standards, homeless shelters, TTC, Traffic, Parks, Rec centres, sports fields, Senior's Services, Youth Programs, Childcare, Employment Programs, safety, policing, clean streets, garbage, clean water, sewer system, development and construction, local electrical systems.

After the exercise, ask who thinks it's important to get a mayor who cares about how those services are provided for people in this community.

Ask who is willing to take the voting pledge for the June election.



3) How hard is it to vote?

Most people think voting will be harder than it is.

Try a short pop quiz to see what people know about the process.

1) Does it take a lot of time?

How long did the Elections Canada study on voting say it takes to cast a ballot in an election?

a) Under 8 minutes b) Under 15 Minutes c) About 30 minutes d) More than an hour

Answer: A - on average people waited about 3 minutes and spent about 4 minutes marking their ballot

2) Is voting difficult?

What percentage of people did the Elections Canada study on voting say found it very easy or somewhat easy to cast a vote?

a) 50% b) 75% c) 90% d) 98%

Answer: D - Over 80% found it very easy and another 16% found it somewhat easy

3) Am I allowed to vote?

If you are over 18 and a Canadian Citizen what else do you need to be able to vote?

- a) Be on the voter's list b) Have a voting card c) Have government ID
- d) Have anything that shows your address in Toronto

Answer: D - Yes, voter cards, or ID can show your address, but so will a piece of mail, a cancelled cheque, a report card, a benefits statement, a bank statement, a utility bill, or any other document issued by a government or corporation showing your address. Any of those will be accepted at the voting booth.

4) When do I vote?

When are you able to cast a ballot in the next election?

- a) Election day (June 26th from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM)
- b) During advance polls (June 8th June 13th, 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM)
- c) By mail any time up to June 15th (applications due by May 26th)
- d) All of the above

Answer: D - voters have a lot of choices about where and when to vote.

5) Where do I vote?

Where are you able to cast a ballot in the next election?

- a) At a polling place near my home on election day, June 26th
- b) At any polling place anywhere in the City on advance poll days (June 8th -13th)
- c) By mail anywhere, anytime up to June 15th (applications due by May 26th)
- d) All of the above

Answer: D - voters have a lot of choices about where and when to vote.



Pledges

People tend to vote more often if they see themselves as "voters".

Sometimes people get discouraged, and stop seeing themselves as someone who has a role in shaping their City. If those folks are to be more engaged, they need to see themselves as someone who is entitled to a voice, and affirm their right to a vote.

One thing that has had a consistently high impact on that is voting pledges.

Just by signing a form that says "I am going to vote in this election" voter turnout goes up significantly. It goes up a whole lot more if they are reminded of that pledge near voting day, so it's best to get contact information as part of the pledge. That way you, or our central team, can follow up. You can download a pledge form or order a set of printed pledge forms from <u>www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-mayoral-election-2023</u>. They can also sign the pledge online at <u>www.surveymonkey.com/r/TOvotePledge23</u>.

Pledges tend to work best with other reminders too. Use a sticker as a bonus for making a pledge – get stickers at www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-mayoral-election-2023

Surveys

Share a simple survey with people in your community. Let them answer one at a time, or use the survey as a group discussion tool in your drop-in or program time.

People can fill this out on paper or online at <u>https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TOvote23</u>

Toronto Mayor By-election Survey

What's the most important issue in this election?

Do you think City Hall was doing a good job dealing with that issue before now?□Yes□No□Don't Know□Prefer not to answer

What do you think the new Mayor should do about this issue?

If the candidates were here right now, what would you ask them?

Did you vote in the last city hall election in October last year? \Box Yes \Box No \Box Don't Know \Box Prefer not to answer

Do you plan to vote in this election, in June? _Yes _No _Don't Know _Prefer not to answer

Take a photo of the completed survey and send the image to info@ontarioforall.ca



Host a "Vote Pop-up"

Practice makes progress.

One of the easiest and most fun ways to get people thinking about voting is to give them a chance to try it out.

"Vote pop-ups" are a tried and true tool to demystify the voting process, connect people's concerns and hopes to the election and build a culture of engagement.

HOW IT WORKS

We'll provide the tools you need to host a mock election at your venue. People can vote for issues or ideas rather than candidates, so you can gauge interest in particular topics and concerns, while still staying nonpartisan.

The Democratic Engagement Exchange at Toronto Metropolitan University will send toolkits and offer training for staff and volunteers interested in hosting a Vote PopUp. The toolkit includes everything needed to create a simulated polling place, including ballot boxes, voting screens, sample ballots, and a guide describing best practices.

Training includes online videos that you can review whenever you need.

THE IMPACT

To date, the toolkit and training have been used with Federal and Provincial election in Ontario and BC and has been downloaded by over 500 people in over 100 communities across Canada. Over 300 community groups have held a Vote PopUp.

To get your kits and access training materials just go to <u>www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-</u> <u>mayoral-election-2023</u>



GAME CHANGERS

Host your own townhall or watch party

Your community deserves a voice in this election.

In addition to helping people make it to the polls, we want to support your efforts to get the issues that matter to your community into the debate.

We'll share your community's concerns and ideas with the candidates, and those ideas will help shape the questions the United Way, TMU and the Star ask in the May 31st Debate.

Hosting Townhalls

Hosting a townhall at your site can be an easy way for participants in your programs or members of your community to gather and discuss the issues.

<u>Pick a date and time when lots of folks can come</u>: If you are hoping to get program participants, maybe lunchtime on a day with lots of programming is best. If you want to reach a wider range of local residents, an evening is usually best. Either way, putting on a lunch or dinner is a good way to make it easy for people to come and stay.

<u>Pick an experienced moderator</u>: Sometimes people have strong opinions about elections, so choose someone to lead the meeting who has had some experience managing big groups, such as a teacher. Make sure you start by setting ground rules for the discussion – for example, speak respectfully, don't interrupt, and accept that people have different points of view.

<u>Plan out an agenda that gets at the value of voting and the issue folks care about:</u> Use the agendas and questions in our "Conversation in Your Program" and "Issues that Matter" sections to generate questions and ideas for your agenda.

<u>Speakers on issues</u> can help and Social Planning Toronto has a roster of advocates on their website at www.socialplanningtoronto.org/municipal_election_resources.

There are more tips for hosting townhalls in elections in ONN's Advocacy guide at www.ontarioforall.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/ONN-Advocacy-Toolkit.2019.pdf

After the event, use the template at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteReportingTemplate</u> or the online form at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteFeedback</u> to share ideas folks raised or just email a summary to <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u>.

Hosting a Watch Party

The United Way, TMU, and Toronto Star debate is on May 31st. It's a great opportunity to bring your community together to talk about the election.

Invite your community a half hour before the debate starts. Include some snacks just like you would for the World Cup. It's helpful to have a conversation with community members about the issues and the candidates before the debate starts.

Remind folks that this is a nonpartisan event, so we won't be picking sides or deciding who should win – everyone gets to make their own choice. We're here to talk about issues.

What issues do people most want to see discussed? What questions do they hope will get asked? Which candidates have they seen speak out about the issues they care about?

Let people know there will be a brief discussion after the debate.

After the debate is over, ask people to talk about any answers that impressed them. Ask about ideas they heard from candidates that they thought were useful and that would help make a better city. Ask folks to make sure they fill out a pledge to vote in the election before they go.

After the event, use the template at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteReportingTemplate</u> or the online form at <u>bit.ly/TOvoteFeedback</u> to share ideas folks raised or just email a summary to <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u>.



Promote City-Wide Watch Parties and Events

If you're too stretched to host your own event, we will be hosting city-wide events online. We will send invitations for each event in the coming weeks.

1) A discussion of the issues: Social Planning Toronto will host an online event on policy. You can go to www.socialplanningtoronto.org/municipal_election_resources for details.

2) A City-wide watch party: On May 31, we will be hosting a "debate watch" party online. People can come early to hear from a panel on the issues that have emerged during the campaign and the policies they expect to hear about. We will be showing the debate on our site and inviting people to comment in a moderated chat box (moderators will delete any disrespectful or partisan comments). We will have the panel back after the debate to review the results and answer questions that were posed in the chat. Details soon.

Run a "Get Out The Vote" (GOTV) drive

Getting voters to the polls is the most important part of democratic engagement. Helping people get to the polls is totally nonpartisan (as long as you don't discuss who to vote for) and many charities do it across Canada. People who can't vote (such as permanent residents and non-citizens) can participate in the voting process by getting out the vote.

Before the Voting Starts

<u>Posters:</u> Put up posters encouraging people to vote and include information on voting. You can order posters from <u>www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-mayoral-election-2023</u>.

<u>Pledges:</u> Ask people to sign a pledge to vote in this election. Give all signers an "I am a voter" sticker. You can order pledges and stickers from <u>www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-mayoral-</u><u>election-2023</u> You can hang onto the pledge cards for your own get out the vote effort, or take a photo with your phone and send the images to <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u>.

<u>Information sheets</u>: Put out information sheets explaining how to vote and encouraging voting. They are the yellow sheet in this kit. You can download them or order printed copies from www.engagedemocracy.ca/toronto-mayoral-election-2023.

For Advance Polls

<u>Special reminders:</u> Put up special posters on advance poll days saying "You can vote TODAY for Mayor – Thursday, June 8th – Tuesday, June 13th from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM at **ANY** voting location in Toronto" with a list of locations in your area. You can find local voting stations at <u>bit.ly/TOvote23</u>.

<u>Make it an event</u>: Many communities make voting an event. Help program participants pick a location to gather and go together to the polling place. Offer rides if you can.

On Election Day

<u>Special reminders</u>: Put up special posters saying "You can vote TODAY, June 26th, for Mayor from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Just go to <u>bit.ly/TOvote23</u> to find your voting location."

<u>Call your pledge cards</u>: If you collected pledge cards, get volunteers together to call the people who signed and remind them that today is voting day. Have a computer on hand so callers can get help and volunteers can look up the address of the polling place at bit.ly/TOvote23 for anyone who isn't sure.

<u>Knock on doors</u>: In many communities, people go door to door to promote voting. Get a group of volunteers together and go door to door to remind people it is voting day. They can look up the polling location for any community at bit.ly/TOvote23.



Voting in Toronto is Easy

WAYS TO VOTE IN-PERSON

During Advance Vote Days: June 8 to 13

From 10:00AM to 7:00PM

On Election Day: June 26 From 10:00AM to 8:00PM

WHERE TO VOTE?

Advance voting locations and election day voting location posted June 1st online at toronto.ca/myvote.

Advance Vote Days:

NEW THIS ELECTION: VOTE ANYWHERE!

You can vote at any advance voting locations across the city. That's right - If you see a voting location you can walk in and vote!

Election Day: You vote at your assigned voting location.

DO I NEED TO BE ON THE VOTERS' LIST?

You only need to be on the Voters' List to apply for a Mail-in Voting package.

Check if you are on the voters' list by visiting **toronto.ca/myvote**. Type in your name, date of birth and address. **If you are not on the list, click 'Register to vote' to add your information.**

If you are not on the list, you can add yourself to the list when you go to vote in person.

WAYS TO VOTE BY MAIL-IN BALLOT

- Voting in person is easier than ever but if you can't vote in person you can vote by mail.
- You must be on the Voters' List to apply for a mail-in ballot.
- The deadline to apply is May 26 by 4:30 PM.
- The deadline for ballots to be received by Toronto Elections is **June 15 by 12:00 PM (noon)**. This is 11 days before election day.
- Mail-in Voting packages will be sent out starting May 23. You return your completed package by mail using the prepaid postage or by dropping it off at one of the yellow drop boxes located in each ward between June 1 to 15 at noon.

Apply Online: Visit toronto.ca/VoteByMail.

Apply by Phone: Call Toronto Elections at (416) 338-1111 (press option 5).

HOW TO VOTE BESIDES IN-PERSON OR BY MAIL?

For information on other voting methods, please visit **toronto.ca/elections/voters** or contact Toronto Elections at 416-339-1111.

JOB ALERT:

Want to get more involved as a poll worker? Visit toronto.ca/elections to apply! You do <u>not</u> need to be a citizen to be a poll worker.









WHO CAN VOTE?

You can vote if you are:

- 1. At least 18 years old
- 2. A Canadian citizen
- 3. A resident in the city of Toronto, or you or your spouse own or rent property in Toronto

Bring any of the following documents to prove where you live:

- Ontario driver's licence
- Ontario Health Card (photo card)
- Ontario Photo Card
- Ontario motor vehicle permit (vehicle portion)
- cancelled personalized cheque
- mortgage statement, lease or rental agreement relating to property in Ontario
- insurance policy or insurance statement
- loan agreement or other financial agreement with a financial institution
- document issued or certified by a court in Ontario
- any other document from the government of Canada, Ontario or a municipality in Ontario or from an agency or such a government
- any document from a Band Council in Ontario established under the *Indian Act* (Canada)
- income tax assessment notice
- child tax benefit statement
- statement of employment insurance benefits paid T4E
- statement of old age security T4A (OAS)
- statement of Canada Pension Plan benefits T4A (P)
- Canada Pension Plan statement of contributions

- statement of direct deposit for Ontario Works
- statement of direct deposit for Ontario Disability Support Program
- Workplace Safety and Insurance Board statement of benefits T5007
- property tax assessment
- credit card statement, bank account statement, or RRSP, RRIF, RHOSP or T5 statement
- CNIB Card or a card from another registered charitable organization that provides services to persons with disabilities
- hospital card or record
- document showing campus residence, issued by the office or officials responsible for student residence at a post-secondary institution
- document showing residence at a long-term care home under the *Long-Term Care Homes Act*, 2007, issued by the Administrator for the home
- utility bill for hydro, water, gas, telephone or cable TV or a bill from a public utilities commission
- cheque stub, T4 statement or pay receipt issued by an employer
- transcript or report card from a post-secondary school





Mayoral By-Election Community Priority Reporting Template

ue Name	ity did the discussion tak	What should the Mayor do?	Iow many people participated Questions for candidates

Please email completed templates to <u>info@ontarioforall.ca</u> or photograph it and email the image. You can also fill it out online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/TOvoteTemplate23

Find information on the Mayor's By-election here



Complete a simple voter survey