

NEXTNiagara's Provincial Election Guide: How to play an active role

No matter where you live in Ontario, voters (18+) will head to the polls on **February 27, 2025** to elect Members of Provincial Parliament (MPPs) to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, and form our provincial government.

Did You Know: In provincial elections, we vote for the MPP we wish to represent our riding. It is important to familiarize yourself with the candidates you will be voting for, as well as the official party platform.

Understanding each level of government

Federal

- Citizenship & Passports
- Criminal law
- Currency
- Federal taxes
- Fisheries
- Foreign Affairs & International Trade
- Indigenous Lands & Rights
- National Defence
- Official Languages
- Parks Canada
- Postal Service
- Telecomms Policy
- Veterans Affairs

Provincial

- Colleges & Universities
- Education
- Hospitals & Health Care
- Natural Resources
- Property & Civil Rights
- Provincial Law and Courts
- Provincial Parks
- Provincial Road Maintenance
- Provincial Taxes
- Social Services

Municipal

- Animal Control
- Community Centres
- Fire Protection
- Land Use Planning (zoning)
- Municipal Parks
- Municipal Police
- Municipal Road Maintenance
- Public Transit
- Recreation & Community Facilities
- Waste Management
- Water Supply & Treatment

This is the level of government we're voting for on February 27th in Ontario!

Source: [Electionsanddemocracy.ca](https://electionsanddemocracy.ca)

These are important roles, so it is essential to do your research. Here are NEXTNiagara's top spots for finding the information you need to make informed decisions on election day:

1. [GNCC's 2025 Candidate Tracker](#): Up to date candidate information for all Niagara ridings.
2. [Elections Ontario](#): Find your riding, candidate information, and voting details.
3. **Local News**: Local journalists are busy during election season to cover the election, and candidates. Take a look at a few different news sites from your area!
4. **Social Media**: Many provincial candidates are actively engaging with constituents on various Social Media platforms. A quick search can help you identify (1) the position your candidate takes on specific issues and (2) how eager they are to participate in discussions with concerned citizens.
5. **Connect directly with Candidates**: Candidates are working to secure your vote, so reach out with any and all questions you have to help you make an informed decision about who will make the best representative for you and your community.

What should you be looking for when researching or reaching out to candidates?

As you do your research, ask yourself these questions to help you research candidates, learn about the views, and identify any gaps in their platforms:

- What day-to-day challenges do I see or experience in my City, Region, or Province?
- What community services/public spaces do I access and care about?
- What are my priorities/concerns for me, my family, and my community this year? In 2 years? In 5 years?

It is the responsibility of candidates to make their platforms available to voters. If something is missing, reach out to the candidate and ask about it!
Remember: No response is an answer.

Make a Voting Plan

Where to Vote: Elections Ontario [Voter Information Service](#) will help you quickly find your voting location! Your voter card will also have poll location information.

- Tip: Skip the line with advanced polling, or mail in voting! Visit elections.on.ca for more information about all the ways you can vote.

The Paperwork: Do you have valid ID ready? All voters are required to have proof of identification prior to voting.

- Tip: No voter ID card? You just need to bring one piece of ID with both your name and home address!