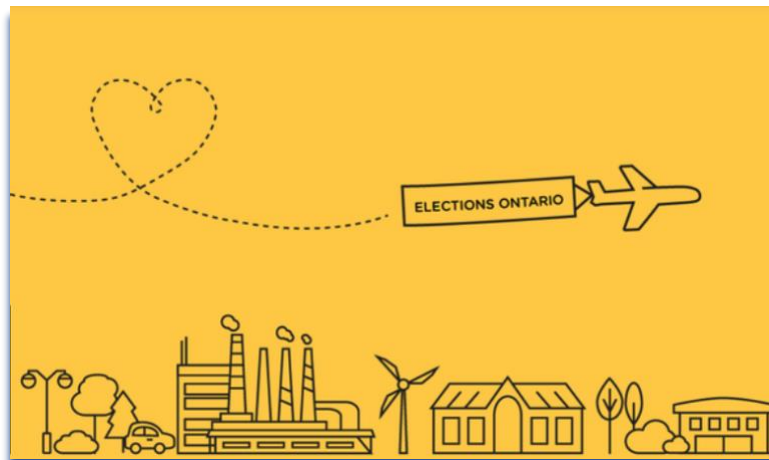
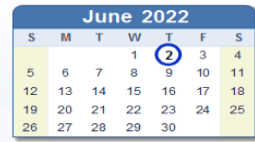


# Preparing for the Ontario Election 2022



## Election Toolkit Part 1

CFUW ONTARIO COUNCIL



Thursday, June 2, 2022

Ontario will have an election on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. The government does have the right to call it earlier if it wishes, but unlikely.

## ELECTION TOOLKITS FROM CFUW ONTARIO COUNCIL

Part 1, *Preparing for the Ontario Election* published January, consists of the basics on how to prepare for and how to get involved both as a club and as an individual in the election process.

Part 2, *Our Issues of Concern* published February, consists of Backgrounders and potential questions on a number of issues important to CFUW Ontario Council.

We hope that you will gain some insight and information both for your personal use and for the Clubs. It is hoped that excerpts of these will be shared either by newsletters or social media.

## PREPARING FOR THE ONTARIO ELECTION 2022

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**Election campaigns - how life has changed!** For organizations like CFUW, reacting to election campaigns is changing.

There are fewer and fewer All-Candidates meetings, and the traditional door-to-door campaign, connecting with the electorate, and “get out the vote” campaign are primary. Even in the time of COVID.



Door-to-door campaigns mean possible conversations – a chance to ask the candidate about their personal position on topics, perhaps even something close to home such as a rezoning or an eviction. It’s a chance for the potential politician to learn what’s important to their community.

Door-to-door campaigns also mean the need for volunteers, for supporters to help, to fundraise, to put up signs, to be on phone banks, to drive on election day.

Campaigns of any type always have a place for community organizations like CFUW to organize group gatherings, to put out their positions via social media, to publish information and questions in the newsletters for club members to use – to do public awareness of issues and concerns.

## GETTING INFORMED

### 1. What is the provincial government responsible for?

The Provincial governments are responsible for issues that are explicitly given to them in Canada's written constitution the *Constitution Act, 1867*. Through the provincial legislature, the provincial government has the power to enact or amend laws and programs related to:

Administration of Justice  
Natural Resources and Environment  
Education

Property and Civil Rights  
Hospitals and health services  
Social Services

The province directly funds or transfers money to institutions to ensure the delivery of these important responsibilities, as well as provincial highways, culture and tourism, prisons, post-secondary education, and other services to Ontarians. The provincial legislature also has power over all municipal institutions in the province.

From the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

## 2. What is your riding (or constituency)?

You most likely know already but just to check. Most are the same as the federal but not all, especially in the north.

<https://www.elections.on.ca/en/voting-in-ontario/electoral-districts.html>

## 3. Who are the candidates?

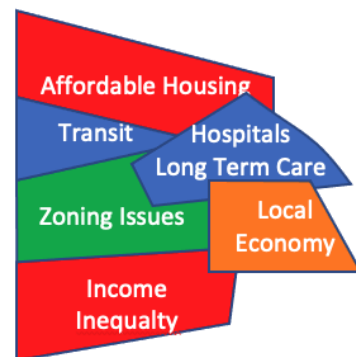
Check online to find your candidate. All ridings do not have candidates as yet:

- Wikipedia is following them. *Candidates of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Ontario general election*  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Candidates\\_of\\_the\\_43rd\\_Ontario\\_general\\_election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Candidates_of_the_43rd_Ontario_general_election)
- Progressive Conservatives: the current MPP or <https://ontariopc.ca/role/candidate/>
- Ontario NDP: <https://www.ontariondp.ca/>
- Ontario Liberals: <https://ontarioliberal.ca/>
- Ontario Green Party: <https://gpo.ca/find-candidate/>

## 4. What are the provincial issues?

At time of writing, many of the platforms were not available. Organizations, newspapers and the media will over the next few months begin checklists of important issues:

- Progressive Conservatives: <https://ontariopc.ca/>
- Ontario NDP: <https://www.ontariondp.ca/>
- Ontario Liberals: <https://ontarioliberal.ca/>
- Ontario Green Party: <https://gpo.ca/find-candidate/>



## 5. What are the local issues?

The provincial government is involved in local issues and services through funding, legislation, regulations, staffing and fundamentally determining the organization of municipalities. Finding out about issues usually starts with a chat with neighbours, club members, local advocacy groups. To learn more:

- Community and resident associations representing the neighbourhood: Google, your municipality or the local library can direct you.
- Local governments: check out your municipal website, call your councillor or alderman.
- Community newspapers: Ontario Community Newspapers Association  
<https://www.ocna.org/>
- Community media: Cable companies and networks have local TV shows in some areas.

- Community organizations representing groups or services: Google, your municipality or the local library can direct you.

## GETTING INVOLVED

### 1. A voter

Voting in Ontario is handled by Elections Ontario. <https://www.elections.on.ca/en.html>

- Ways to vote and other questions are found under **Voting**. Voter information cards will be mailed as usual.

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Voting Political Entities Political Financing Resources Media About Us

## Candidate Nominations

Register now to be nominated as a candidate in the upcoming provincial election.

Learn More

### What's New

[Interested in working in your electoral district's returning office for the upcoming provincial election?](#)

### Voter Registration

Confirm, update or add your information on the voters list.

Register

### Voter Information Service

Enter your postal code to find your electoral district, maps, and MPP information or [search by electoral district](#).

Postal Code Search

### Political Financing and Party Information

Find information about contributions and political entities.

View Now

Contact Us tel 1-888-668-8683 tty 1-888-292-2312 fax 1-866-714-2809 email [info@elections.on.ca](mailto:info@elections.on.ca)

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### 2. A poll official

From Elections Ontario: "If you are interested in working as a poll official at an advance voting location or on election day, you can begin to apply in March 2022. All positions will be posted on our website". <https://www.elections.on.ca/en.html>

### 3. A party supporter

Supporting a candidate can involve many things:

- Support female candidates. For many women just to get that nomination, they need support, funding and advice.
- Join the party associations to help them run campaigns.
- Donate to the party and to the candidate.
- Volunteer for the door knocking, signs, telephone contacts, helping to identify possible voters, and then helping to get out the vote on election day.
- Hold coffee parties for your candidate.

### 4. An activist:

You don't support a party, you support an issue:

- Research your issue. What can the candidates or their party do about it?
- Network - find like-minded people, perhaps an organization to help.
- Ask your questions, both at the door or at meetings. After the election, it might be necessary to remind the newly elected MPP of their response.



UN WOMEN

### 5. A club

Good candidates want to know what people in the community want, what their issues and concerns are. Connecting with the community via door-to-door campaigning, and meetings either individually or all-candidates, gives them that.

Do ensure that any position the Club takes is based on CFUW policy.

Some things that your club might think of doing:

- Sharing information via newsletters or social media. Always remember that your first audience is your own organization.

- Share some of the links from this *Preparing for the Election*, and also from Part 2 of the Election Toolkit, *Issues of Concern* which includes a short backgrounder and questions. Excerpts can be published in the newsletters or used in a .jpeg for social media campaigns.

CFUW Windsor's use of National's Backgrounder for the federal campaign.

- ☆ When doing a social media campaign, using Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, do have multiple images and post quite often.

**Gender-Based Violence**

**Key message**  
Everyone should live free from violence – but gender-based violence remains pervasive in Canadian society and threatens gender equality. A comprehensive, intersectional, and well-funded National Action Plan on Violence Against Women & Gender-Based Violence will help bring about systemic change that increases the safety for ALL women, girls, and gender-diverse people in Canada.

**What is the issue?**  
Unequal power relations, sexism, racism, colonial violence, and discriminatory laws all have a profound impact on the prevalence of gender-based violence (GBV) in Canada. Preventing and addressing GBV requires a broad spectrum of federal actions including: a housing strategy, poverty reduction strategy, and a strategy to combat the opioid epidemic, in order to address the root causes of violence and insecurity.

- **1 in 2 women** in Canada have experience at least one incidence of GBV since age 16
- 3,491 women & 2,724 children sleep in shelters **every night** because their home isn't safe
- Indigenous women are **killed at 7X** the rate of non-Indigenous women in Canada
- Less than **1%** of sexual assaults lead to conviction

- Candidates meetings:
  - ☆ Traditionally clubs have held [All-Candidates meetings](#). In the link, we have resources for holding these, including on Zoom, thanks to CFUW Brantford, Georgetown, Perth & District and Windsor.
  - ☆ Meetings with individual candidates. As some candidates are not attending all-candidates meetings, consider having meetings with individual candidates instead.

CFUW Windsor is meeting with female candidates by party via Zoom for a one-hour meeting to discuss one issue, in this case Long-Term Care. Others may wish to focus on a number of areas.

- Collaborate with other organizations, join coalitions.

From Facebook and Instagram: An All-Candidates meeting held for the federal election involving CFUWs Burlington and Oakville along with the local Retired Teachers of Ontario and the local coalition Advancement of Women Halton.

CFUW Oakville  
★ Favorites · September 12, 2021 · 🌐

Candidates Debates for 2 ridings Sept. 14 and 15 details on how to register for #virtualdebate here <https://buff.ly/3Aa5iPI> With collaborators RTOERO CFUW Burlington CFUW Oakville AWH Advancement of Women Halton

**Sept 14 3-5**  
Oakville-North-Burlington

**Sept 15 7-9**  
Burlington

**Candidate Debates**

Logos for CFUW, AWH, and RTOERO are visible in the graphic.

## HARRASSMENT

During campaigns and in politics in general, female candidates are harassed and abused. During the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence, Ontario Council ran a Stop Violence Against Women in Politics campaign.

Some recommendations:

1. Support women campaigning – volunteer and donate to their campaigns.
2. **Speak out against this form of violence; name it and call it out when it is observed.**
3. Get the police involved ahead of political campaigns to ensure vandalism is punished.
4. Write to leaders to call out misogynistic actions taken against their candidates or others.
5. Make issues local, not national.
6. Hold All Candidates Meetings that are issue focused and are opportunities for candidates to state their position. Do not allow All Candidates Meetings to degrade into debates where the adversarial nature of campaigning is supported.
7. Take actions to strengthen ourselves and our institutions by demanding accountability and transparency so leaders must face actions.



A 2020 study, [Trolled on the Campaign Trail: Online Incivility and Abuse in Canadian Politics](#) found that “Women and racialized candidates were not necessarily subjected to higher rates of incivility online, but the impact of the incivility and abuse they faced was often amplified by their lived experiences of threat, harassment, or marginalization offline.”

In another [article](#) based on this study, the authors, Chris Tenove and Heidi Tworek, pointed out that online attacks can threaten candidates’ security, undermine their psychological health, as well as their political staff; also undermining the quality of the candidates’ engagement with the public.

Almost every racialized or female candidate they interviewed told them that they faced online abuse that attacked their identity, which in turn had pushed some to leave politics.