



Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada

*Following the May 13, 2002 By-elections Held in
Bonavista—Trinity—Conception*

Calgary Southwest

Gander—Grand Falls

Saint Boniface

Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel

*Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles and
Windsor West*

and the December 9, 2002 By-elections Held in

Berthier—Montcalm and

Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay

www.elections.ca



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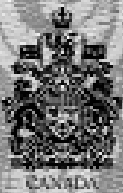
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March 31, 2003

The Honourable Peter Milliken
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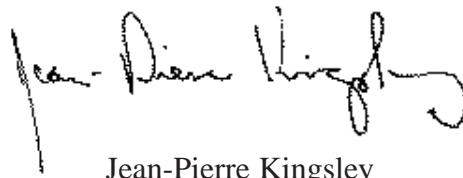
Dear Mr. Speaker:

I have the honour to submit this report, which covers the administration of the federal by-elections held in the electoral districts of Calgary Southwest, Saint Boniface, Windsor West, Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel, Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles, Bonavista—Trinity—Conception and Gander—Grand Falls on May 13, 2002 and Berthier—Montcalm and Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay on December 9, 2002, and the administration of my Office since the publication of the previous report. I am submitting this report in accordance with subsection 534(2) of the *Canada Elections Act*, R.S.C., c. E-2, within 90 days after the end of the year in which the by-elections were held.

Under section 536 of the Act, the Speaker shall submit this report to the House of Commons without delay.

I have included summary information on the results of the by-elections, together with an account of the events. The official voting results of the May 13, 2002 by-elections were published and made available on Elections Canada's Web site (www.elections.ca) in August 2002, and those of the December 9, 2002 by-elections in March 2003.

Yours truly,



Jean-Pierre Kingsley

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Foreword

I am pleased to present this report to Parliament and Canadians on the administration of the nine federal by-elections held in 2002.

The *Canada Elections Act* of 2000 requires that I consolidate our report on all by-elections into a single document at the end of any year in which at least one by-election has been held, and this is my first report to do so.

Along with my annual *Report on Plans and Priorities* and *Performance Report*, this document is one of a trio of reports providing accountability to Parliament.

This statutory report describes some new, streamlined procedures used in the nine by-elections. We have reaped the benefits of work done since the last general election to improve the quality of electoral information in the National Register of Electors. The Register is used to prepare lists of electors and the voter information cards sent to all registered electors.

Elections Canada must also provide public education and information on electoral matters, especially during electoral events. In the 2002 by-elections, we improved our communications and tested new products, such as a “reminder card.” We also tested changes to the voter information card, which now displays eligibility criteria. Each innovation, no matter how small, is a step toward ensuring that Canadians will be better informed about electoral events and will have faster and easier access to essential voting information.

Following a decision by the Alberta Court of Queen’s Bench, I did not apply the third party advertising rules in the *Canada Elections Act* to the 2002 by-elections. A Supreme Court of Canada decision allowing all inmates of federal penitentiaries to vote in federal elections was applied in the two December by-elections.

The Commissioner of Canada Elections, appointed by the Chief Electoral Officer, is responsible to ensure that the *Canada Elections Act*

is complied with and enforced. Since the 2000 general election, of the 933 complaints received by the Commissioner, 896 have been settled and 37 are still being investigated.

Our experience during the 2000 general election made it clear that we needed to review our public enquiry system. I am pleased to report that we are in the process of designing an enquiry system that Canadians will be able to access via telephone or the Web 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Most citizens will be able to get the answers to the two most frequently asked questions: “Am I on the list?” and “Where do I vote?” For more complex questions, callers will be routed seamlessly to either an enquiry officer or a returning officer. Our advertising strategy is being designed with the help of younger and older voters and non-voters who attended focus groups across the country. Voter turnout among young people has been falling. Research we have commissioned confirms this problem and we are developing an action plan to address it.

During 2002, we supported the work of the ten independent federal electoral boundaries commissions by providing professional, financial, legal, technical and administrative services, including assistance with mapping, census data, publications, advertising, and the *Federal Representation 2004* section of our Web site.

I have made nine appearances before parliamentary committees to speak on topics ranging from my office’s estimates, to Aboriginal electoral matters and Elections Canada’s support of the boundaries commissions.

In September 2002, in Sigtuna, Sweden I had the pleasure of signing the Bill of Electoral Rights for Citizens with Disabilities. Canada is one of eleven countries whose work on making elections accessible to persons with disabilities is highlighted on the Web site of the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES). Elections Canada hosted the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws in September in

Ottawa, and the Inter-American Forum on Political Parties in Vancouver in December. Several meetings of the various advisory committees (returning officers, political parties, National Register of Electors) have been held.

The sharing of information and resources among the federal, provincial and municipal electoral agencies in Canada is increasingly frequent and I welcome all opportunities to join forces in making voting more accessible to all eligible Canadians.

Our aim is to remain the most modern and innovative electoral agency in the world, and I am personally committed to the continuing process of electoral reform that has earned Canada its reputation around the world as a model of electoral democracy. It is a privilege for me to serve Parliament and the Canadian people, and to lead a dynamic, multi-talented team whose dedication to strengthening and upholding Canada's electoral system is exceptional.

Jean-Pierre Kingsley
Chief Electoral Officer of Canada

The 2002 by-elections

Nine members of Parliament resigned their seats in the House of Commons during 2002:

- on January 14, the Honourable Ronald J. Duhamel, the Liberal Party of Canada member for Saint Boniface, Manitoba
- on January 14, the Honourable Alfonso Gagliano, the Liberal Party of Canada member for Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel, Quebec
- on January 14, the Honourable Herb Gray, the Liberal Party of Canada member for Windsor West, Ontario
- on January 25, the Honourable Brian Tobin, the Liberal Party of Canada member for Bonavista—Trinity—Conception, Newfoundland and Labrador
- on January 31, Preston Manning, the Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance member for Calgary Southwest, Alberta
- on March 24, the Honourable George Baker, Liberal Party of Canada member for Gander—Grand Falls, Newfoundland and Labrador
- on March 24, Raymond Lavigne, Liberal Party of Canada member for Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles, Quebec
- on May 7, Stéphan Tremblay, Bloc Québécois member for Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay, Quebec
- on May 21, Michel Bellehumeur, Bloc Québécois member for Berthier—Montcalm, Quebec

The seven by-elections on May 13

On March 27, the Prime Minister announced that by-elections would be held on May 13 to fill the vacancies in the first five electoral districts: Bonavista—Trinity—Conception, Calgary Southwest, Saint Boniface, Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel, and Windsor West. Following this announcement, the Chief Electoral Officer issued writs to the returning officers of the five electoral districts, directing them to conduct the by-elections. This gave the returning officers an electoral calendar of 47 days.

On April 5, the Prime Minister announced that by-elections to fill the vacancies in the next two electoral districts (Gander—Grand Falls and Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles) would also be held on May 13. The Chief Electoral Officer then issued writs to the returning officers of these two electoral districts, directing them to conduct the by-elections according to a 38-day calendar.

Table 1 is an overview of the important milestones during the period from the issue of the first five writs to the return of all seven.

Table 1

Key dates for the May 13, 2002, by-elections in Bonavista—Trinity—Conception, Calgary Southwest, Gander—Grand Falls, Saint Boniface, Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel, Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles and Windsor West

Date	Election calendar day	Event
March 27	Day 47	Issue of the writs for Bonavista—Trinity—Conception, Calgary Southwest, Saint Boniface, Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel and Windsor West; preparations made to open the offices of the returning officers; voting by special ballot may begin
March 28	Day 46	Notice of Election published in Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel; candidates may file nominations
March 29	Day 45	Notice of Election published in Bonavista—Trinity—Conception; candidates may file nominations
March 30	Day 44	Notice of Election published in Calgary Southwest and Saint Boniface; candidates may file nominations
March 31	Day 43	Notice of Election published in Windsor West; candidates may file nominations
April 5	Day 38	Issue of the writs for Gander—Grand Falls and Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles; preparations made to open the offices of the returning officers; voting by special ballot may begin
April 7	Day 36	Notice of Election published in Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles; candidates may file nominations
April 8	Day 35	Notice of Election published in Gander—Grand Falls; candidates may file nominations
April 10	Day 33	Revision of lists of electors begins
April 15	Day 28	Targeted revision begins
April 17, 18 and 19	Days 26, 25 and 24	Voter information cards mailed to all registered electors
April 22	Day 21 (2:00 p.m.)	Nomination of candidates close
May 2	Day 11	Revised lists of electors distributed
May 3, 4 and 6	Days 10, 9 and 7	Advance polls
May 7	Day 6 (6:00 p.m.)	Revision and special ballot registration end for those voting by special ballot
May 10	Day 3	Official lists of electors distributed
May 13	Day 0	Advertising blackout in effect; election day
May 14	Day -1	Validation of the results performed in Bonavista—Trinity—Conception, Calgary Southwest, Saint Boniface, Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel, Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles and Windsor West
May 16	Day -3	Validation of the results performed in Gander—Grand Falls
May 21, 23	Days -8, -10	Writs returned

The two by-elections on December 9

On November 1, the Prime Minister announced that two by-elections would be held on December 9 to fill the vacancies in Berthier—Montcalm and Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay. Following this announcement, the Chief Electoral Officer issued writs to the returning officers, directing

them to conduct the by-elections according to a 38-day calendar.

Table 2 is an overview of the important milestones during the election period from the issue of the writs to their return.

Table 2
Key dates for the December 9, 2002, by-elections in Berthier—Montcalm and Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay

Date	Election calendar day	Event
November 1	Day 38	Issue of the writs; preparations made to open the offices of the returning officers; voting by special ballot may begin
November 2	Day 37	Notice of Election published in Berthier—Montcalm; candidates may file nominations
November 5	Day 34	Notice of Election published in Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay; candidates may file nominations
November 6	Day 33	Revision of lists of electors begins
November 11	Day 28	Targeted revision begins
November 12, 13 and 14	Days 27, 26 and 25	Distribution of the householder in Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay
November 13, 14 and 15	Days 26, 25 and 24	Voter information cards mailed to all registered electors
November 18	Day 21 (2:00 p.m.)	Nomination of candidates close
November 19	Day 20	Reminder cards are distributed in Berthier—Montcalm
November 28	Day 11	Revised lists of electors distributed
November 29, 30 and December 2	Days 10, 9 and 7	Advance polls
December 3	Day 6 (6:00 p.m.)	Revision and special ballot registration end for those voting by special ballot
December 6	Day 3	Official lists of electors distributed
December 9	Day 0	Advertising blackout in effect; election day
December 10	Day -1	Validation of the results performed
December 17	Day -8	Writs returned

Communicating with electors

An important part of Elections Canada’s work during a by-election, as in all electoral events, is to generate awareness of the by-election and the key dates in the election period among the general public, political parties, candidates, and the news media.

One of the principal means of communicating with the general public during the May by-elections was the householder, a pamphlet distributed to each

residence within days of the issue of the writ. The householder provided the name, address and phone number of the returning officer and details of how to have names added to, or corrected on, the lists of electors. It also gave information on deadlines for voting by special ballot, the dates of advance polls, and the residency requirements for voting in a by-election. The pamphlet alerted electors that they

would shortly receive a voter information card, and emphasized the importance of keeping the card until election day.

The voter information cards were individually addressed to electors whose names appeared on the preliminary lists of electors. Arriving immediately after the householder, they provided details of where and when electors could vote, including several alternative ways of voting for electors who did not wish to go to their polling stations on election day.

To see whether we could increase the effectiveness of the voter information card, in one of the December by-elections we undertook a pilot project involving a redesigned voter information card and a new reminder card. To provide a basis for comparison, in Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay we sent out information to electors in the same way as in the past: the householder, followed by the redesigned voter information card. In Berthier—Montcalm, however, we first sent out the redesigned voter information card, following it a week later with a reminder card. The card reminds the elector to act without delay if he or she has not received a voter information card in his or her name, and gives the address and telephone number of the returning officer. Feedback from the returning officer for Berthier—Montcalm and the results of telephone surveys conducted during the by-election indicate that the reminder card performed very well in its clarity, language and timeliness. We measured the extent to which electors remembered the reminder card or the householder, the action that electors took, and the perceived importance of keeping the document. When the Berthier—Montcalm results are compared to the results of the surveys conducted in Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay, where the householder was used, the reminder card appeared to outperform the householder.

Elections Canada uses census data to find out whether there are ethnocultural or Aboriginal communities within an electoral district, of a size that would warrant translating information into other languages. Although translation was not necessary in any of the nine electoral districts, we sent information kits to ethnocultural associations and Friendship

Centres. We made essential information available on request to special-needs organizations in alternative formats, including Braille, large print, and audio-cassette, but we received no requests for the material.

During the by-elections, we used radio and print advertisements on several occasions. The arrival of the voter information card was supported by print ads in daily and weekly newspapers and by radio ads broadcast several times on stations serving listeners in the electoral districts. As election day approached, we ran print and drive-to-work radio ads to remind electors to check their voter information cards for the location of their polling stations, and to let them know that they could register to vote on election day, with proper identification.

We also provided information to the media to make sure that electors had the information necessary to vote. For each by-election, we distributed a media information kit with the news release launching the election period, a profile of the electoral district, a calendar of important dates, and background information on topics ranging from the electoral process and the role of Elections Canada to the Special Voting Rules, the National Register of Electors, and election expenses and contributions guidelines for candidates and parties.

Over the course of each campaign, we issued 18 news releases highlighting key dates, election day reminders, and clarification of what the media could and could not report on election day. We also posted all news releases in the media folder on our Web site.

On our Web site, we set up a special by-election section where electors could find information specific to their ridings, including the lists of official candidates, the electoral district maps, the addresses and telephone numbers of the returning officers, and general information on the voting process and voting by special ballot. On election night, we posted results on the Web site as they became available.

Throughout the election periods, bilingual staff of our Enquiries Unit were available through our toll-free telephone line, our toll-free TTY line for persons who are deaf or hard of hearing, and on the Web to answer questions and send out information about the electoral process.

Communicating with candidates, official agents and auditors

For each by-election, the returning officer provided all election documentation and maps to the candidates and their official agents and auditors.

We also asked each returning officer to hold discussions with the various representatives of the political parties — including candidates and campaign chairs — to make sure that everyone received the same information. We believe that these meetings are important because they encourage discussion and explanations of the various procedures by which electors can vote, the rules to follow on election day, and the election officer positions for which the candidates or political parties may recommend applicants. Informal evaluations after the by-elections indicated that the meetings were well received by the political parties.

Revising the lists of electors

Elections Canada used the National Register of Electors to produce the preliminary lists of electors for the returning officers in the nine by-elections. The returning officers reported a total of 15 424 additions, 10 931 moves within the electoral districts, 8 492 removals and 10 289 corrections, including persons voting under the Special Voting Rules who

were added to the lists. This represents 7.2 percent of the 623 802 voters on the preliminary lists.

For the two December 9 by-elections, we conducted a pilot project in targeted revision. New wording on the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency's (CCRA) income-tax form allows electors to consent to have their names added to the Register. The information we received from the agency indicated that 8 200 persons in both ridings gave their consent. To confirm that they were eligible to vote, before adding them to the Register, we contacted them either by mail or by sending revising agents to visit their homes. We were able to add 25 percent of the names received from the CCRA to the Register as a result of the mailing, and a further 12 percent through the targeted revision, suggesting that the combined approach is relatively effective in confirming potential new electors.

Of the 45 136 revisions performed during the by-elections in all the electoral districts, including voters using the Special Voting Rules, 35 942 took place during the actual revision period. Election officials performed an additional 9 194 revisions as a result of registrations at the polls on election day. The following tables show the details of the revision transactions.

Table 3
Lists of Electors – revision transactions
Berthier—Montcalm*

Revision transactions ¹	Day 33 to Day 11	Day 10 to Day 6	Election day
	<i>Preliminary lists 95 391</i>	<i>Revised lists 97 157</i>	<i>Official lists 97 871</i>
Additions	1 954	2 717	3 273
Corrections	1 826	2 053	2 315
Removals	188	237	258
Moves	952	1 320	1 564
Total	4 920	6 327	7 410
Final lists 98 406			

¹ Includes electors registered to vote under the Special Voting Rules (members of the Canadian Forces, incarcerated electors, electors temporarily residing outside Canada).

*Information printed in burgundy throughout the report pertains to the December 9, 2002 by-elections.

Table 3 (continued)
Lists of Electors – revision transactions
Bonavista—Trinity—Conception

Revision transactions ¹	Day 33 to Day 11	Day 10 to Day 6	Election day
	<i>Preliminary lists 64 769</i>	<i>Revised lists 64 759</i>	<i>Official lists 64 887</i>
Additions	231	372	1 210
Corrections	769	799	1 059
Removals	241	254	292
Moves	1 772	1 799	2 338
Total	3 012	3 224	4 899
<i>Final lists 65 687</i>			

Calgary Southwest

Revision transactions ¹	Day 33 to Day 11	Day 10 to Day 6	Election day
	<i>Preliminary lists 80 232</i>	<i>Revised lists 79 654</i>	<i>Official lists 79 703</i>
Additions	934	1 071	1 770
Corrections	1 091	1 164	1 271
Removals	1 512	1 600	1 642
Moves	308	361	531
Total	3 845	4 196	5 214
<i>Final lists 80 360</i>			

Gander—Grand Falls

Revision transactions ¹	Day 33 to Day 11	Day 10 to Day 6	Election day
	<i>Preliminary lists 54 556</i>	<i>Revised lists 54 503</i>	<i>Official lists 54 522</i>
Additions	388	460	1 213
Corrections	502	534	819
Removals	441	494	509
Moves	546	588	1 097
Total	1 877	2 076	3 638
<i>Final lists 55 260</i>			

Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay*

Revision transactions ¹	Day 33 to Day 11	Day 10 to Day 6	Election day
	<i>Preliminary lists 51 641</i>	<i>Revised lists 52 548</i>	<i>Official lists 52 648</i>
Additions	1 271	1 477	1 792
Corrections	485	516	536
Removals	364	470	470
Moves	1 590	1 616	1 714
Total	3 710	4 079	4 512
<i>Final lists 52 963</i>			

¹ Includes electors registered to vote under the Special Voting Rules (members of the Canadian Forces, incarcerated electors, electors temporarily residing outside Canada).

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Table 3 (continued)**Lists of Electors – revision transactions****Saint Boniface**

Revision transactions¹	Day 33 to Day 11	Day 10 to Day 6	Election day
	<i>Preliminary lists 58 019</i>	<i>Revised lists 58 103</i>	<i>Official lists 58 175</i>
Additions	732	885	1 363
Corrections	470	513	593
Removals	648	729	729
Moves	1 062	1 111	1 265
Total	2 912	3 238	3 950
<i>Final lists 58 653</i>			

Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel

Revision transactions¹	Day 33 to Day 11	Day 10 to Day 6	Election day
	<i>Preliminary lists 75 137</i>	<i>Revised lists 74 344</i>	<i>Official lists 74 339</i>
Additions	402	459	636
Corrections	490	696	696
Removals	1 195	1 257	1 308
Moves	415	427	427
Total	2 502	2 839	3 067
<i>Final lists 74 465</i>			

Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles

Revision transactions¹	Day 33 to Day 11	Day 10 to Day 6	Election day
	<i>Preliminary lists 68 617</i>	<i>Revised lists 68 054</i>	<i>Official lists 67 956</i>
Additions	1 083	1 207	1 453
Corrections	1 105	1 144	1 172
Removals	1 646	1 868	1 955
Moves	807	858	917
Total	4 641	5 077	5 497
<i>Final lists 68 115</i>			

Windsor West

Revision transactions¹	Day 33 to Day 11	Day 10 to Day 6	Election day
	<i>Preliminary lists 75 440</i>	<i>Revised lists 75 388</i>	<i>Official lists 75 534</i>
Additions	1 132	1 325	2 716
Corrections	1 532	1 586	1 828
Removals	1 184	1 231	1 331
Moves	708	744	1 078
Total	4 556	4 886	6 953
<i>Final lists 76 825</i>			

¹ Includes electors registered to vote under the Special Voting Rules (members of the Canadian Forces, incarcerated electors, electors temporarily residing outside Canada).

*Information printed in burgundy throughout the report pertains to the December 9, 2002 by-elections.

Voting in the by-elections

In the nine by-elections, 198 064 of the 630 834 electors cast their ballots, for an average turnout of 31.4 percent.

For those unable to vote on election day in the May by-elections, advance polls were held on May 3, 4 and 6 from noon until 8:00 p.m. Most people voted on election day, May 13, at one of the 1 437 polling stations located throughout the electoral districts. All polling stations in Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel, Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles and Windsor West were open for 12 hours, from 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. The polling stations in Bonavista—Trinity—Conception, Gander—Grand Falls and Saint Boniface were open for 12 hours from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., local time. The polling stations in Calgary Southwest were open for the 12 hours from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., local time.

In the December by-elections, advance polls were held from noon to 8:00 p.m. on November 29 and 30 and December 2. Most voted on election day, December 9, at one of 424 polling stations. In accordance with section 131 of the *Canada Elections Act*, the hours of voting were from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. because both by-elections were held on the same day and in the same time zone. All polling stations in the two electoral districts were open for 12 hours on election day.

Each of the 589 polling sites in the nine by-elections provided level access. Table 4 shows the details of the polling station sites for both sets of by-elections, and table 5 shows how many and what kind of polling stations were available in each electoral district. In total, the returning officers maintained 1 954 polling stations at the 589 sites.

Table 4
Location of polling sites

Place	Berthier—Montcalm		Bonavista—Trinity—Conception		Calgary Southwest		Gander—Grand Falls		Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay		Saint Boniface		Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel		Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles		Windsor West		Totals	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Seniors' Residence	10	17.24	14	8.48	7	17.95	0	0.00	20	28.57	12	27.91	2	8.70	7	21.88	12	18.18	84	14.26
Community Centre	18	31.03	68	41.21	0	0.00	29	30.85	16	22.86	4	9.30	0	0.00	11	34.38	8	12.12	154	26.15
Church Hall	1	1.72	51	30.91	2	5.13	14	14.89	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	8	12.12	76	12.90
Recreation Centre	2	3.45	8	4.85	0	0.00	6	6.38	3	4.29	0	0.00	1	4.35	0	0.00	0	0.00	20	3.40
Commercial Site	2	3.45	1	0.61	0	0.00	1	1.06	4	5.71	1	2.33	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	1.52	10	1.70
Educational	4	6.90	1	0.61	27	69.23	7	7.45	0	0.00	24	55.81	19	82.61	3	9.38	18	27.27	103	17.49
Fire Hall	0	0.00	7	4.24	0	0.00	13	13.83	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	20	3.40
Hospital	1	1.72	0	0.00	1	2.56	1	1.06	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	6.25	2	3.03	7	1.19
Royal Canadian Legion	0	0.00	2	1.21	0	0.00	1	1.06	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	3.13	1	1.52	5	0.85
Municipal or Township Hall	17	29.31	10	6.06	0	0.00	18	19.15	11	15.71	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	3.03	58	9.85
Private Home	0	0.00	1	0.61	0	0.00	2	2.13	0	0.00	2	4.65	1	4.35	8	25.00	14	21.21	28	4.73
Apartment Building	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	17.14	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	2.04
Other	3	5.17	2	1.21	2	5.13	2	2.13	3	4.29	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	12	2.04
Total	58	100	165	100	39	100	94	100	70	100	43	100	23	100	32	100	66	100	589	100

Table 5
Types of polling stations

Electoral district	Ordinary		Advance	Total
	Stationary	Mobile		
Berthier—Montcalm	273	4	12	289
Bonavista—Trinity—Conception	257	7	16	280
Calgary Southwest	214	3	9	226
Gander—Grand Falls	168	4	12	184
Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay	142	5	10	157
Saint Boniface	168	0	7	175
Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel	191	0	8	199
Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles	194	3	10	207
Windsor West	224	4	9	237

Table 6
Polling station accessibility

Electoral district	Total number of polling stations	Accessible polling stations	Percentage
Berthier—Montcalm	289	289	100%
Bonavista—Trinity—Conception	280	280	100%
Calgary Southwest	226	226	100%
Gander—Grand Falls	184	184	100%
Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay	157	157	100%
Saint Boniface	175	175	100%
Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel	199	199	100%
Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul— Pointe Saint-Charles	207	207	100%
Windsor West	237	237	100%

Special Voting Rules

As is always the case during elections or by-elections, residents of the electoral districts who did not wish to vote at the advance polls or ordinary polls, and residents travelling or temporarily residing outside Canada, could vote by mail-in ballot under the Special Voting Rules. Canadians abroad could obtain information about how to cast their ballots from the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, through its diplomatic missions and consular posts. Members of the Canadian Forces, whether based in Canada or elsewhere, were informed of their voting rights by the Department of National Defence.

Persons in institutions, including those in hospitals and incarcerated electors, could also vote in the by-elections under the Special Voting Rules. Registration and voting in acute-care hospitals took place on May 6 and 7, and on December 2 and 3.

In the May by-elections, only incarcerated electors serving sentences of less than two years in correctional facilities could register and vote. During these by-elections, provincial correctional workers across Ontario were in a labour stoppage situation; voting information and materials could not be disseminated in correctional institutions through a liaison officer, as they would normally have been. The Elizabeth Fry and John Howard Societies provided assistance by distributing information to

incarcerated electors when their staff were able to enter correctional institutions.

On October 31, 2002, the Supreme Court of Canada rendered its decision in *Sauvé v. Canada (Chief Electoral Officer)* that s. 51(e) of the *Canada Elections Act*, now s. 4(c), which limited voting rights for inmates, was in breach of s. 3 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, thus allowing all incarcerated electors to vote in federal elections, by-elections and referendums regardless of the term of their sentences. This meant that for the two December by-elections all eligible electors who were incarcerated could vote.

Table 7 shows the number of registrations for voting by special ballot in each electoral district. The three lists of electors registered under group 1 of the Special Voting Rules are separate from the lists that are revised by the returning officer during an event. The electors registered under group 2 of the Special Voting Rules are also entered on the lists of electors.

Table 7
Registrations under the Special Voting Rules

Categories of electors asking to vote under the Special Voting Rules	Number of ballots requested									
	Berthier—Montcalm	Bonavista—Trinity—Conception	Calgary Southwest	Gander—Grand Falls	Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay	Saint Boniface	Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel	Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles	Windsor West	Total
Group 1¹										
Members of the Canadian Forces	175	524	128	473	221	106	76	65	119	1 887
Incarcerated electors*	1	2	0	1	2	0	0	1	2	9
Electors temporarily residing outside Canada	12	7	87	6	2	17	12	37	46	236
Group 1 subtotal	188	533	215	480	225	123	88	103	167	2 122
Group 2²										
Electors temporarily outside their electoral districts	36	26	4	12	18	26	3	4	2	131
Electors voting in their electoral districts	88	282	205	153	300	331	88	275	191	1 913
Group 2 subtotal	124	308	209	165	318	357	91	279	193	2 044
Total number of registrations for people voting by special ballot	312	841	424	645	543	480	179	382	360	4 166

¹ The three categories of electors registered under group 1 of the Special Voting Rules are separate from the lists that are revised by the returning officer during an event.

² The categories of electors registered under group 2 of the Special Voting Rules are included on the local lists of electors.

*During the May 13, 2002 by-elections, only those otherwise eligible inmates who were serving a sentence of less than two years were permitted to vote. As a result of the Supreme Court of Canada decision of October 31, 2002 in *Sauvé v. Canada (Chief Electoral Officer)*, all otherwise eligible incarcerated individuals were permitted to vote in the December 9 by-elections.

Ballots cast and elector turnout

Table 8 gives statistics on the number of ballots cast in each electoral district, and table 9 compares the

elector turnout in the by-elections with that in the November 27, 2000, general election.

Table 8

Statistics on the number of ballots cast and elector turnout in the by-elections

Electoral district	Number of electors on final lists	Ordinary polls	Advance polls	Special Voting Rules	Total votes cast	Rejected ballots	Total valid votes	Elector turnout %
Berthier—Montcalm	98 406	25 847	2 169	143	28 159	716	27 443	28.6
Bonavista—Trinity—Conception	65 687	23 821	956	352	25 129	184	24 945	38.2
Calgary Southwest	80 360	17 406	873	240	18 519	98	18 421	23.0
Gander—Grand Falls	55 260	18 191	797	222	19 220	90	19 120	34.8
Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay	52 963	17 201	1 286	344	18 831	335	18 496	35.6
Saint Boniface	58 653	19 216	1 188	371	20 775	82	20 693	35.4
Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel	74 465	15 615	1 350	97	17 062	213	16 849	22.9
Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles	68 115	15 078	1 960	295	17 333	280	17 053	25.4
Windsor West	76 825	30 829	2 005	212	33 046	200	32 846	43.0

Table 9

Elector turnout in the by-elections and the 2000 general election

Electoral district	By-election %	General election %
Berthier—Montcalm	28.6	61.1
Bonavista—Trinity—Conception	38.2	61.2
Calgary Southwest	23.0	62.9
Gander—Grand Falls	34.8	50.8
Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay	35.6	62.8
Saint Boniface	35.4	64.2
Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel	22.9	63.6
Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles	25.4	59.0
Windsor West	43.0	50.0

The candidates and by-election results

The deadline for nominating candidates for the May 13 by-elections was 2:00 p.m. on April 22.

The deadline for withdrawal or making corrections to the candidate's name, address or occupation set out on the nomination papers was 5:00 p.m. on the same day. Those deadlines for the December 9 by-elections occurred at the same hours on November 18.

Table 10 below identifies the political affiliation of each candidate, the number of valid votes obtained by each candidate, and the proportion of valid votes

that the candidate received. An *asterisk by the name of a candidate indicates that he or she was elected.

We posted candidates' names on our Web site as they were confirmed, and posted the official lists once nominations closed. We also transmitted the lists of official candidates to Canadian diplomatic missions and consular posts through the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and to Canadian Forces bases through the Department of National Defence.

Table 10
Statistics on valid votes obtained, by candidate

Candidate	Political affiliation	Valid votes obtained	Percentage of valid votes
Berthier—Montcalm			
Roger Gaudet*	Bloc Québécois	13 747	50.09
Richard Giroux	Liberal Party of Canada	11 646	42.43
Richard Lafleur	Progressive Conservative Party of Canada	598	2.17
Réal Naud	Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance	475	1.73
François Rivest	New Democratic Party	977	3.56
Total		27 443	99.98
Bonavista—Trinity—Conception			
Christopher John Bradshaw	The Green Party of Canada	139	0.55
Michelle Brazil	Progressive Conservative Party of Canada	5 281	21.17
John R. Efford*	Liberal Party of Canada	18 665	74.82
Jim Gill	New Democratic Party	588	2.35
Brent Rockwood	No Affiliation	106	0.42
David Tulett	Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance	166	0.66
Total		24 945	99.97
Calgary Southwest			
Gordon Barrett	Independent	428	2.32
Ron Gray	Christian Heritage Party	320	1.73
Stephen Joseph Harper*	Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance	13 200	71.65
James S. Kohut	The Green Party of Canada	660	3.58
Bill Phipps	New Democratic Party	3 813	20.69
Total		18 421	99.97
Gander—Grand Falls			
Rex Barnes*	Progressive Conservative Party of Canada	9 273	48.49
Garry Hartle	Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance	422	2.20
John Lannon	New Democratic Party	873	4.56
Beaton Tulk	Liberal Party of Canada	8 552	44.72
Total		19 120	99.97
Lac-Saint-Jean—Saguenay			
Yanick Auer	New Democratic Party	267	1.44
Alcide Boudreault	Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance	290	1.56
Sébastien Gagnon*	Bloc Québécois	8 912	48.18
Clermont Gauthier	Progressive Conservative Party of Canada	434	2.34
Richard Harvey	Independent	467	2.52
Gilles Lavoie	No Affiliation	532	2.87
Gilbert Tremblay	Liberal Party of Canada	7 594	41.05
Total		18 496	99.96

Table 10 (continued)**Statistics on valid votes obtained, by candidate**

Candidate	Political affiliation	Valid votes obtained	Percentage of valid votes
Saint Boniface			
Chris Buors	Marijuana Party	435	2.10
Jean-Paul Kabashiki	Christian Heritage Party	210	1.01
John Edmund Parry	New Democratic Party	3 106	15.00
Mike Reilly	Progressive Conservative Party of Canada	3 583	17.31
Denis Simard	Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance	4 497	21.73
Raymond Simard*	Liberal Party of Canada	8 862	42.82
Total		20 693	99.97
Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel			
Normand Caplette	New Democratic Party	447	2.65
Antonio Cordeiro	Progressive Conservative Party of Canada	634	3.76
Umberto Di Genova	Bloc Québécois	1 495	8.87
Massimo Pacetti*	Liberal Party of Canada	14 076	83.54
Marc-Boris St-Maurice	Marijuana Party	197	1.16
Total		16 849	99.98
Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles			
Bernard Côté	Progressive Conservative Party of Canada	735	4.31
Joe De Santis	Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance	241	1.41
Liza Frulla*	Liberal Party of Canada	10 897	63.90
Sonia Goulet	Bloc Québécois	4 432	25.98
Robert Lindblad	No Affiliation	113	0.66
Matthew McLaughlin	New Democratic Party	635	3.72
Total		17 053	99.98
Windsor West			
Rick Fuschi	Canadian Reform Conservative Alliance	5 420	16.50
Chris Holt	The Green Party of Canada	655	1.99
Allan James	Christian Heritage Party	249	0.75
Brian Masse*	New Democratic Party	14 021	42.68
Richard Pollock	Liberal Party of Canada	11 544	35.14
Ian West	Progressive Conservative Party of Canada	957	2.91
Total		32 846	99.97

On election night, each returning officer's Event Results System was linked to our central computer. As votes were counted locally, the numbers were transmitted to the computer server in Ottawa for posting on the Web site. Ballots cast at the by-elections under the Special Voting Rules by incarcerated and Canadian Forces electors, and other Canadians voting from outside their ridings, were counted at Elections Canada headquarters during the week before election day and on election night. In the past, we sent Special Voting Rules results by fax to the appropriate returning officer, who had the figures typed into his or her local computer system. In the May by-elections, for the first time we sent the results to each returning officer electronically. The results then automatically became part of the Event Results System, allowing their release with all other results already received

from local polling stations. We used the same system in the December by-elections.

Party standings after the by-elections

Table 11 shows the House of Commons representation by province, with 297 members of registered political parties and three independent members, as of December 31, 2002. After the December by-elections, one seat in the House of Commons remained vacant following the resignation on October 11, 2002, of John Richardson, the Liberal Party member for Perth—Middlesex. By December 31, 2002, the Governor in Council had not yet decided on a date for a by-election.

Table 11
Standing of parties in the House of Commons, December 31, 2002

Province	Bloc Québécois	Canadian Alliance	Liberal	N.D.P.	Progressive Conservative	Independent	Vacant	Total
British Columbia		26	6	2				34
Alberta		23	2		1			26
Saskatchewan		9	2	2		1		14
Manitoba		3	5	4	2			14
Ontario		2	98	2			1	103
Quebec	37		35		1	2		75
New Brunswick			6	1	3			10
Nova Scotia			4	3	4			11
Prince Edward Island			4					4
Newfoundland and Labrador			4		3			7
Yukon			1					1
Northwest Territories			1					1
Nunavut			1					1
Total	37	63	169	14	14	3	1	301

Special adaptations

The *Canada Elections Act* allows the Chief Electoral Officer to adapt any provision of the Act during an election period if an emergency, an unusual or unforeseen circumstance or an error makes it necessary. During the by-elections, the Chief Electoral Officer used his authority four times to adapt the Act:

- In Windsor West, the returning officer was unable to secure a polling site with level access for four polling stations. He selected St. Patrick's Catholic Church, because there was no other polling site available in the area. To provide level access to electors who needed it, the returning officer installed a polling station in the church's garage. The purpose of the adaptation was to authorize the central poll supervisor to issue transfer certificates on election day on behalf of the returning officer. These certificates were for the electors from the three non-accessible polling stations in the church who required level access to cast their votes.
- In Berthier—Montcalm, the returning officer requested an information officer in each advance poll because of the anticipated traffic.
- Also in Berthier—Montcalm, the returning officer was authorized to issue transfer certificates for electors of specific polling divisions whose voter information cards had inaccurate polling station information.

- For the December 9 by-elections, the Chief Electoral Officer made an adaptation to put the Supreme Court decision in *Sauvé v. Canada* into effect, allowing prisoners in federal penitentiaries to vote pursuant to the Special Voting Rules.

Enforcement

The Commissioner of Canada Elections received 18 complaints after the by-elections on May 13 (of which 15 have been resolved and three are still being investigated), and one complaint after the by-elections of December 9, which has been resolved. Although some offences occurred during the election period, others can occur months after a by-election. The Commissioner may receive additional complaints following the deadline for submitting candidates' and third parties' financial returns, four months after election day.

Election financing

Candidates' election expenses

Under the *Canada Elections Act*, candidates are required to file an election expenses return within four months of election day. Elections Canada examines the returns for compliance purposes, and to determine the amount of reimbursement owed to qualified candidates. By the end of the year, we finished reviewing financial returns from the 38 candidates who ran for office in the seven May 13 by-elections. We will review the returns from candidates in the two December 9 by-elections following the deadline for filing the returns.