



Office of the
Chief Electoral Officer
of Canada

Report on the 2023 By-elections



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Le directeur général des élections • The Chief Electoral Officer



March 19, 2024

The Honourable Greg Fergus, P.C., M.P.
Speaker of the House of Commons
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
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Dear Mr. Speaker:

I am pleased to provide my report on the by-elections held in 2023 in the following federal electoral districts:

- ▶ On June 19, 2023: Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Quebec), Oxford (Ontario), Winnipeg South Centre (Manitoba) and Portage–Lisgar (Manitoba)
- ▶ On July 24, 2023: Calgary Heritage (Alberta)

I have prepared the report in accordance with subsection 534(2) of the *Canada Elections Act*, S.C. 2000, c. 9. Under section 536 of the Act, the Speaker shall submit this report to the House of Commons without delay. The report is referred to the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs.

The report includes a summary of the official voting results and other information on the by-elections.

For more information, please see the Elections Canada website at elections.ca.

Yours sincerely,

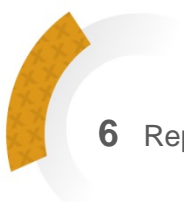
Stéphane Perrault
Chief Electoral Officer



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Foreword

Under the *Canada Elections Act*,ⁱ if one or more by-elections are held in a year, the Chief Electoral Officer must, within 90 days after the end of the year, produce a report that sets out “any matter or event that has arisen or occurred in connection with the administration of the Chief Electoral Officer’s office since the last report and that he or she considers should be brought to the attention of the House of Commons.”

This report therefore discusses the conduct of the five by-elections held in 2023 in the electoral districts of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Quebec), Oxford (Ontario), Winnipeg South Centre (Manitoba), Portage–Lisgar (Manitoba) and Calgary Heritage (Alberta).

With a focus on efficiency and inclusivity, Elections Canada piloted several initiatives during these by-elections. The introduction of a new, right-justified ballot and a redesigned large print list of candidates reflects the agency’s commitment to minimizing rejected ballots, promoting accessibility and aligning with the diverse needs of the Canadian electorate. Piloting these new tools and processes during by-elections provides the agency with valuable insights to inform decisions on service offerings for future general elections.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank the election workers, returning officers, field liaison officers and staff at Elections Canada headquarters who worked to ensure that their fellow Canadians could exercise their democratic rights to vote and run for office in these five by-elections.

Stéphane Perrault
Chief Electoral Officer of Canada



Stéphane Perrault
Chief Electoral Officer of Canada

1. Launching the By-elections

Issue of the writs

Issue of the writs			
By-election date	Electoral district	Reason for vacancy	Writ issue date
June 19, 2023 (36-day election period)	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	Resigned as Member of Parliament (Honourable Marc Garneau, Liberal Party of Canada)	May 14, 2023
	Oxford (Ont.)	Resigned as Member of Parliament (Honourable Dave MacKenzie, Conservative Party of Canada)	
	Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Death of a Member of Parliament (Honourable Jim Carr, Liberal Party of Canada)	
July 24, 2023 (36-day election period)	Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	Resigned as Member of Parliament (Honourable Candice Bergen, Conservative Party of Canada)	June 18, 2023
	Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	Resigned as Member of Parliament (Honourable Bob Benzen, Conservative Party of Canada)	

Opening an Elections Canada office; hiring and training election workers

Under the *Canada Elections Act*,ⁱⁱ returning officers must open local Elections Canada offices without delay after the writs are issued. The Chief Electoral Officer mandated all returning officers to prepare for the by-elections by researching suitable and accessible office space and polling sites and by identifying potential printing services as well as furniture and equipment suppliers.

Number of election workers hired for the 2023 by-elections:

- ▶ Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount: 677, compared with 735 for the 44th general election
- ▶ Oxford: 718, compared with 744 for the 44th general election
- ▶ Winnipeg South Centre: 593, compared with 724 for the 44th general election
- ▶ Portage–Lisgar: 788, compared with 880 for the 44th general election
- ▶ Calgary Heritage: 531, compared with 608 for the 44th general election.

In the Appendix, Table 1 lists the type and number of positions filled for the 2023 by-elections.

As with previous by-elections, Elections Canada continued to provide a wide range of training materials to election workers, including video presentations and manuals that were supplemented by online resources.

Working with political entities

Candidates and registered political parties

At the start of the by-election period, there were 18 political parties that could support candidates in each of the 2023 by-elections (17 registered parties and 1 eligible party).

As stipulated in the *Canada Elections Act*,ⁱⁱⁱ prospective candidates had to file their nomination papers or online nomination form by 2:00 p.m. on the 21st day before election day. For the 2023 by-elections:

- ▶ Ten candidates submitted their forms in person in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount.
- ▶ Six candidates submitted their forms in person and one candidate submitted their form online in Oxford.
- ▶ Seven candidates submitted their forms in person and 45 candidates submitted their forms online in Winnipeg South Centre.
- ▶ Three candidates submitted their forms in person and two candidates submitted their forms online in Portage–Lisgar.
- ▶ All eight candidates submitted their forms in person in Calgary Heritage.

Number of candidates				
Electoral district	Candidate(s) affiliated with a political party	Independent candidate(s)	Unaffiliated candidate(s)	Total number of candidates
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	9	0	1	10
Oxford (Ont.)	6	1	0	7
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	6	42	0	48
Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	5	0	0	5
Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	7	0	1	8

In the 2023 by-elections, four prospective candidates in Winnipeg South Centre had their nomination papers refused. The reasons for the refusals were the following:

- ▶ Two candidates failed to submit financial reports from a previous election.
- ▶ Two candidates did not complete a solemn declaration.

Soon after the close of nominations, the returning officers met with the confirmed candidates and their representatives to describe their obligations and responsibilities under the *Canada Elections Act*.

In the Appendix, Table 2 lists the confirmed candidates in each by-election and their party affiliation at the close of nominations. The average number of candidates per by-election held since 2016 is nine,¹ rounded to the closest whole number.

Election expenses limits

Final election expenses limits are based on the number of names on the preliminary lists of electors or on the revised lists of electors, whichever is greater, and are established in accordance with the *Canada Elections Act*.^{iv} The tables below show the election expenses limits for candidates and political parties.

¹ In two recent by-elections, the number of confirmed candidates was significantly higher than the norm. The December 2022 by-election in Mississauga–Lakeshore (Ontario) had 40 confirmed candidates, and the June 2023 by-election in Winnipeg South Centre (Manitoba) had 48 confirmed candidates. When excluding these two instances, the average number of candidates has remained six since 2016.

Candidate expenses limits		
By-election date	Electoral district	Expenses limit
June 19, 2023	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	\$119,083.62
	Oxford (Ont.)	\$138,261.91
	Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	\$117,731.06
	Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	\$123,654.95
July 24, 2023	Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	\$125,117.21

Registered political party expenses limits		
By-election date	Registered political party	Expenses limit
June 19, 2023	Bloc Québécois	\$89,011.07
	Centrist Party of Canada	\$89,011.07
	Christian Heritage Party of Canada	\$208,499.97
	Conservative Party of Canada	\$377,672.90
	Green Party of Canada	\$377,672.90
	Liberal Party of Canada	\$377,672.90
	New Democratic Party	\$377,672.90
	Parti Rhinocéros Party	\$174,380.64
July 24, 2023	People’s Party of Canada	\$377,672.90
	Christian Heritage Party	\$101,794.10
	Conservative Party of Canada	\$101,794.10
	Green Party of Canada	\$101,794.10
	Liberal Party of Canada	\$101,794.10
	Maverick Party	\$101,794.10
	New Democratic Party	\$101,794.10
	People’s Party of Canada	\$101,794.10

The Act also places spending limits on expenses for third-party election advertising. The spending limits were \$4,971 in each electoral district, though no third parties were registered for the 2023 by-elections.





2. Information Campaign for Electors

Objectives of the campaign

During the by-elections, Elections Canada ran a voter information campaign designed to provide electors with all the information they needed on where, when and the ways to register and vote. The multimedia campaign included paid advertisements in radio, print and digital formats; organic and paid social media; information on elections.ca; a public enquiries unit; direct mail; outreach to specific groups of electors; and media relations.

Multimedia campaign

The multimedia campaign included advertisements on radio stations, in daily and weekly print publications, and through out-of-home elements such as digital billboards, bus shelters and residential screens. The Voter Information Campaign was also highly visible on several digital platforms, including social media and multiple websites.

The campaign had four phases, each with a distinct focus: registration, voter information card awareness, early voting options and election day. It also positioned Elections Canada as the official source of information on registering and voting and directed electors to elections.ca and to the agency's toll-free number for information.

Social media

Elections Canada used social media to share information and digital products about where, when and the ways to register and vote. Through Facebook, X, Instagram and LinkedIn, the agency responded to approximately 143 enquiries related to the June 19 by-elections and 92 enquiries related to the Calgary Heritage by-election of July 24. Popular topics included voter information cards, information about advance polls and a photograph of a marked ballot that was posted on social media.²

In response to this engagement, Elections Canada's corporate social media accounts received approximately 4,726 messages related to the June 19 by-elections and 1,310 messages related to the Calgary Heritage by-election of July 24.

Website

As in past elections, the Elections Canada website prominently featured a by-election section that explained the various ways to vote, offering two online services to help electors find the information they needed to be ready to vote and providing other details about voting.

For the first time, new registration products with a QR code that directed electors to the [Online Voter Registration Service](#)^v were distributed in Oxford and Calgary Heritage as part of a pilot project. Through this initiative, electors were able to quickly access the Online

²The *Canada Elections Act* prohibits taking photographs or videos or making copies of marked ballots.

Voter Registration Service to register or check whether their information was correct; QR code-initiated transactions accounted for approximately 10% of activities. Elections Canada will continue to use these registration products during the next general election to conduct a more thorough evaluation of the effectiveness of QR code usage.

As usual, electors could also enter their postal code into the Voter Information Service to learn who the candidates for their electoral district were; where and when they could vote; and the accessibility features of their polling place. The Voter Information Service also offered a “search by address” page to help electors find their polling station or polling stations that had been merged or split. The website also provided information about voter eligibility, safety measures in place at local offices and voting locations, and identification requirements for voting.

During the by-election periods in 2023:

- ▶ There were 748,810 visits to the website during the Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount, Oxford, Winnipeg South Centre and Portage–Lisgar by-elections. The by-election section received 188,296 visits.
- ▶ There were 477,415 visits to the website during the Calgary Heritage by-election. The by-election section received 24,879 visits.

Live election results were published on the website as ballots were counted. On election night for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount, Oxford, Winnipeg South Centre and Portage–Lisgar, there were 2,826 visits to the Election Night Results application page and 5,653 visits the next day. For Calgary Heritage, there were 47,429 visits to the Election Night Results application page on election night and 77,637 visits the next day.

Enquiries from electors

Elections Canada’s Public Enquiries Unit responds to calls and emails from electors on a variety of topics, such as registration, polling place location, voter information cards and voting procedures. Across all five by-elections, agents in the Public Enquiries Unit at Elections Canada headquarters responded to over 900 enquiries, and local Elections Canada offices in the electoral districts handled over 15,000 enquiries.

The most common topics were related to voter information cards not being received, voting by mail, how to register to vote and employment opportunities.

Direct mail

Elections Canada mailed a voter information card (VIC) to electors whose names appeared on the preliminary lists of electors in each electoral district. The VIC tells electors when and where they can vote at advance polls and on election day, describes other voting options, gives them basic information on the accessibility of their polling place, and points them to the Elections Canada website for more detailed information on accessibility.

Shortly before advance polls opened in each electoral district, Elections Canada also sent all households in the electoral districts a guide to the federal by-election with information about voter eligibility, registration, ways to vote, identification requirements (including information

about accepted pieces of identification), accessibility of polling locations, and voting assistance tools and services available on election day. The guide prompted electors to contact Elections Canada if they had not received a VIC.

Number of VICs and guides sent		
Electoral district	Number of VICs sent	Number of guides sent
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	71,653	46,416
Oxford (Ont.)	97,824	53,444
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	71,663	47,573
Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	68,932	36,958
Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	81,086	43,980

VICs were distributed on May 26, 2023, for the June 19 by-elections and on June 29, 2023, for the Calgary Heritage by-election on July 24.

Modified VICs were sent to the community of Swan Lake in Portage–Lisgar, where advance polls were held on only one day instead of four. As was the case during the 44th general election, electors from each electoral district who resided in long-term care facilities were also sent a modified VIC, which simply stated that they would receive information about the date and time for voting directly from their facility administrators.

Replacement VICs were sent in Portage–Lisgar³ and Winnipeg South Centre⁴ due to a change in polling locations.

Community relations and outreach

As part of Elections Canada’s outreach efforts to groups that most often face barriers to voting, returning officers were asked to determine whether a community relations officer should be appointed based on the demographics and needs in their electoral district.

Each electoral district had at least one⁵ community relations officer to help raise awareness and provide information about where, when and the ways to register and vote, and to liaise with organizations and facilities serving students, seniors, and homeless and ethnocultural electors.

³ There were 112 replacement voter information cards sent in Portage–Lisgar.

⁴ There were 2,076 replacement voter information cards sent in Winnipeg South Centre.

⁵ There were four community relations officers in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount, one in Oxford, seven in Winnipeg South Centre, two in Portage–Lisgar and two in Calgary Heritage.



Media relations

Elections Canada's Media Relations team handled approximately 25 media requests related to the June 19 by-elections and 8 media requests related to the Calgary Heritage by-election on July 24. Most enquiries focused on polling dates, candidate nominations and election results.

The agency issued 14 news releases related to the June 19 by-elections and 13 news releases for the Calgary Heritage by-election on July 24. News releases are an important component of Elections Canada's efforts to reach out to and inform the public through traditional media.



3. Voter Registration Services

National Register of Electors

Elections Canada maintains the National Register of Electors, a database of Canadians who are 18 years or older. The Register is regularly updated between and during elections, using administrative data received through agreements with federal, provincial and territorial agencies. Specifically, agreements are held with the Canada Revenue Agency; Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada; the Canadian Armed Forces; most provincial and territorial agencies responsible for driver licensing and vital statistics; and provincial and territorial electoral management bodies.

When an election is called, the agency uses data from the Register to produce the preliminary lists of electors, which are provided to returning officers and, upon request, to registered and eligible political parties and local confirmed candidates, as required by the *Canada Elections Act*.^{vi} The preliminary lists are also used to produce the VICs and as a basis for the revised lists of electors used at advance polls and the official lists of electors used on election day.

Coverage, currency and accuracy of the Register

The quality of the information held in the Register is key to ensuring that all electors receive a VIC at their current address. It is also important to political parties and candidates wanting to engage with electors. Quality is a function of three factors: coverage, currency and accuracy.

Coverage is the proportion of eligible electors who are registered to vote. Historically, national coverage has varied between 91% and 98%.

Currency is the proportion of eligible electors who are registered at their current address. Historically, the national currency has varied between 82% and 92%.

Accuracy is the proportion of registered electors who are listed at their current address. These electors are correctly registered and can vote without taking extra steps. Accuracy is calculated by dividing the currency estimates by the coverage estimates. Historically, national accuracy has varied between 88% and 95%.

Coverage, currency and accuracy of the preliminary list of electors for the 2023 by-elections

Electoral district	Coverage	Currency	Accuracy
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	98.6%	96.4%	97.8%
Oxford (Ont.)	95.1%	89.3%	93.9%
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	95.2%	91.0%	95.6%
Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	93.7%	90.3%	96.3%
Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	98.3%	96.6%	98.3%

Many factors may affect the quality of the lists, including demographic changes and the timely availability of data. The occurrence of these factors varies by region. However, revision activities carried out by returning officers and through online registration in the weeks before election day aim to improve the quality of the lists.

Revision period

- ▶ The revision period for the Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount, Oxford, Winnipeg South Centre and Portage–Lisgar by-elections began on May 15, 2023, and ended at 6:00 p.m. on June 13, 2023.
- ▶ The revision period for the Calgary Heritage by-election began on June 19, 2023, and ended at 6:00 p.m. on July 18, 2023.

In accordance with the *Canada Elections Act*,^{vii} no elector was entitled to vote in the by-elections unless their place of ordinary residence was located in the electoral district from the start of the revision period until election day.

The table below details the number of electors on the preliminary lists of electors and the changes made to the lists during the revision periods for the 2023 by-elections.

Voter registration statistics								
Electoral district	Electors on preliminary lists (incl. those registered under the Special Voting Rules)	Electors added ¹	Inter-electoral district address changes ²	Moves within electoral district ³	Other corrections ⁴	Electors removed ⁵	Special Voting Rules, Group 1 updates ⁶	Electors on final lists ⁷
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	72,635	402	429	293	419	229	6	73,243
Oxford (Ont.)	97,238	754	864	1,318	1,158	240	-1 ⁸	98,615
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	69,554	477	651	450	248	199	0	70,483
Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	68,454	1,047	293	991	826	270	3	69,527
Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	81,076	859	2,168	889	347	310	6	83,799

¹ Electors who did not appear on any lists of electors at the beginning of the by-election and were added during the by-election period.

² Electors who were listed in a different electoral district but relocated to the electoral district during the by-election.

³ Electors who appeared on the lists of electors for each electoral district at the beginning of the by-election and changed their address during the by-election period because of a move to another polling division in the same electoral district. These figures also include administrative changes that the returning officer made to elector records during the by-election.

⁴ Electors who appeared on a list of electors and requested a correction to an error in their name or mailing address during the by-election period.

⁵ Electors who appeared on a list of electors but were removed for one of the following reasons: the elector is deceased, the elector requested to be removed, the elector was no longer resident at that address or was not qualified to be on the list (for example, less than 18 years old or a non-citizen). Figures also reflect elector records removed because of a move to another electoral district during the by-election period and duplicate records removed during the by-election period, including during the preparation of the final lists of electors.

⁶ This row indicates a change in the number of Group 1 electors registered under the Special Voting Rules (Canadian electors residing outside Canada, electors temporarily outside their riding, Canadian Forces electors and incarcerated electors) during the by-election period.

⁷ The total number of electors on the final lists is the sum of electors on the preliminary lists of electors, electors added, electors with inter-electoral district address changes and updates to Special Voting Rules, Group 1, minus removed records.

⁸ During the by-election period, more electors were removed from the list of international electors than were added to it.



4. Voting Services

Electors can vote at their assigned polling station on advance polling days, at their assigned polling station on election day or by special ballot, either at a local Elections Canada office or by mail. Other voting methods are also available, such as those for residents of long-term care facilities and seniors' residences and those for incarcerated electors.



Polling places

For the June 19 by-elections, the returning officers established 74 polling stations at 41 polling places for the advance polls and 757 polling stations at 143 polling places on election day. For the Calgary Heritage by-election on July 24, the returning officer established 17 polling stations at 3 polling places for the advance polls and 163 polling stations at 22 polling places on election day.

In the 2023 by-elections, 98% of the polling places used met all 15 of the mandatory accessibility criteria.

Number of mobile polling stations used in each electoral district:

- ▶ 15 polling stations in Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount at 12 establishments.
- ▶ 21 polling stations in Oxford at 20 establishments.
- ▶ 13 polling stations in Winnipeg South Centre at 13 establishments.
- ▶ 44 polling stations in Portage–Lisgar at 44 establishments.
- ▶ 11 polling stations in Calgary Heritage at 10 establishments.

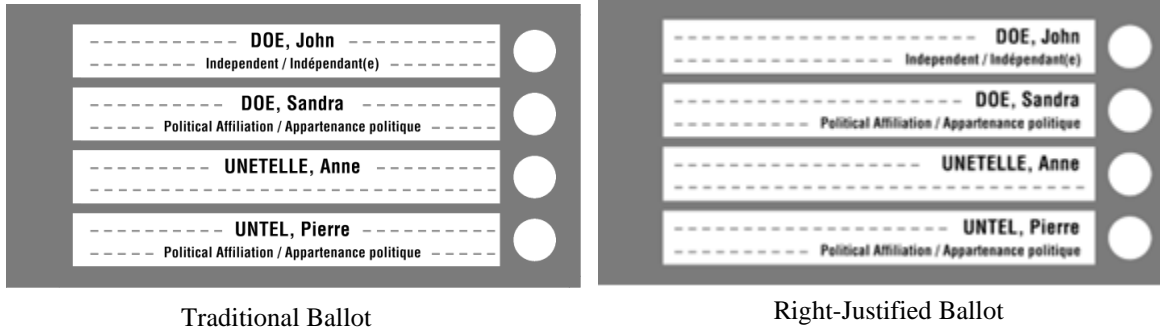
Polling stations and polling places					
Electoral district	Election day polling stations	Election day polling places	Advance polling stations	Advance polling places	Mobile polling stations
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	172	26	18	9	15
Oxford (Ont.)	221	26	23	11	21
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	169	33	14	10	13
Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	195	58	19	11	44
Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	163	22	17	3	11

Voting

Pilot projects

During the 2023 by-elections, Elections Canada piloted several administrative initiatives to enhance services for electors:

- ▶ **New format for large print lists of candidates:** Following consultations initiated in the lead-up to the 2022 by-election in Mississauga–Lakeshore (Ontario), the [Canadian National Institute for the Blind](#)^{viii} recommended that the previous format, which resembled a 250% magnification of the ballot, be replaced with a numbered list of candidate names and their parties in a large, easily readable font. This revised format was first piloted in Mississauga–Lakeshore and then in all five of the 2023 by-elections. To date, no feedback, either positive or negative, has been received from electors. Options are currently being considered that would enable the deployment of this new format in a general election. In the interim, Elections Canada will continue to gather feedback on this alternative format in any upcoming by-elections.
- ▶ **Right-justified ballots:** To test whether a format change would have an impact on the number of rejected ballots, candidate and party names were right-justified next to the circle, as opposed to being centred, on ballots used in four electoral districts: Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount, Oxford, Portage–Lisgar and Calgary Heritage. While initial findings indicate that this change had no effect on the rejection rates, this pilot will be repeated in a 2024 by-election.



Voting at assigned advance and election day polling places

In the 2023 by-elections, the majority of voters (more than 66%) cast their ballot at their polling station on election day. Approximately 32% voted at the advance polls. These turnout numbers help confirm a continuing trend of electors choosing to vote in advance of election day.

Voting by special ballot (by mail or at a local Elections Canada office)

Under the provisions for Special Voting Rules in the *Canada Elections Act*,^{ix} electors residing in Canada who are within or temporarily outside their electoral district during an election can cast their vote using a special ballot. This can be done either in person, at a local Elections Canada office or by mail. Electors in acute care facilities are also eligible for special ballot voting, with an election worker offering assistance at their bedside.⁶

Canadians residing abroad can apply online to have a special ballot voting kit sent to them by mail.

For every by-election, Elections Canada communicates with its partners in the Canadian Armed Forces, at Correctional Service Canada and at Global Affairs Canada to disseminate information and registration materials to Canadian Forces electors, incarcerated electors and electors residing outside Canada whose address of ordinary residence is in the electoral district.

In the 2023 by-elections, a total of 3,411 electors voted by special ballot. This represents 2.39% of the electors who voted, compared with 4.2% of the electors who voted in the Mississauga–Lakeshore by-election in 2022.

⁶ If the election worker is unable to connect with them, a pamphlet is left, guiding the elector to contact the local Elections Canada office.

The table below breaks down the vote by category.

Ballots cast for the 2023 by-elections						
Electoral district	Ballots at election day polls	Ballots at advance polls	Voting by special ballot	Total valid ballots	Total rejected ballots	Total ballots cast
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	13,653	7,676	562	21,726	165	21,891
Oxford (Ont.)	26,953	11,239	931	38,880	243	39,123
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	22,793	8,078	497	31,180	188	31,368
Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	16,050	9,153	655	25,733	125	25,858
Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	14,605	8,842	766	24,156	57	24,213

The table below breaks down special ballot voting.

Ballots cast under the Special Voting Rules								
	Electoral district	Ballots issued by mail	Ballots issued in person	Valid ballots	Rejected ballots	Ballots cast	Late ballots⁴	Ballots returned¹
Group 1 (international, incarcerated and national²)	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	491	0	194	6	200	52	40.7%
	Oxford (Ont.)	81	0	38	0	38	13	46.9%
	Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	240	0	116	1	117	21	48.8%
	Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	52	0	23	0	23	6	44.2%
	Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	265	0	92	3	95	34	35.8%
Subtotals		1,129	0	463	10	473	126	41.9%
Group 2 (local³)	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	176	235	358	4	362	25	88.1%
	Oxford (Ont.)	264	709	874	19	893	39	91.8%

Ballots cast under the Special Voting Rules

Electoral district	Ballots issued by mail	Ballots issued in person	Valid ballots	Rejected ballots	Ballots cast	Late ballots ⁴	Ballots returned ¹
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	221	369	537	1	538	23	91.2%
Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	81	423	473	1	474	0	94.0%
Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	187	501	669	2	671	12	97.5%
Subtotals	929	2,237	2,911	27	2,938	99	92.8%
Totals	2,058	2,237	3,374	37	3,411	225	79.4%

¹ Total ballots cast divided by ballots issued.

² Electors whose applications were processed and whose ballots were counted at Elections Canada headquarters in Ottawa.

³ Electors whose applications were processed and whose ballots were counted at the local Elections Canada office. This includes electors who registered to vote in acute care facilities.

⁴ Totals as of July 27, 2023, for Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount, Oxford, Winnipeg South Centre and Portage–Lisgar, and as of September 5, 2023, for Calgary Heritage.

The following table presents a comprehensive overview of ballots cast under the Special Voting Rules during the 44th and 43rd general elections. Recognizing the unique circumstances surrounding the 44th general election, notably the COVID-19 pandemic, the inclusion of data from the 43rd general election serves as a valuable comparative reference.

Ballots cast under the Special Voting Rules for each electoral district in the 43rd general election (GE 43) and 44th general election (GE 44)															
Electoral district	Ballots issued by mail		Ballots issued in person		Valid ballots		Rejected ballots		Ballots cast		Late ballots		Ballots returned ³		
	GE 44	GE 43	GE 44	GE 43	GE 44	GE 43	GE 44	GE 43	GE 44	GE 43	GE 44 ¹	GE 43 ²	GE 44	GE 43	
Group 1 (international, incarcerated and national⁴)	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	1,238	1,071	0	0	751	409	39	16	790	425	195	93	63.8%	39.7%
	Oxford (Ont.)	482	290	0	0	301	94	20	11	321	105	65	14	66.6%	36.2%
	Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	1,107	938	0	0	786	330	35	16	821	346	136	53	74.2%	36.9%
	Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	361	389	0	0	255	106	14	11	269	117	27	4	74.5%	30.1%
	Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	1,203	1,145	0	0	798	197	51	17	849	214	158	43	70.6%	18.7%
Subtotals	4,391	3,833	0	0	2,891	1,136	159	71	3,050	1,207	581	207	69.5%	31.5%	

Ballots cast under the Special Voting Rules for each electoral district in the 43rd general election (GE 43) and 44th general election (GE 44)

Electoral district	Ballots issued by mail		Ballots issued in person		Valid ballots		Rejected ballots		Ballots cast		Late ballots		Ballots returned ³		
	GE 44	GE 43	GE 44	GE 43	GE 44	GE 43	GE 44	GE 43	GE 44	GE 43	GE 44 ¹	GE 43 ²	GE 44	GE 43	
Group 2 (local⁵)	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	2,314	0 ⁶	583	2,118	2,442	2,088	55	24	2,497	2,112	197	N/A ⁷	86.2%	99.7%
	Oxford (Ont.)	1,178	0 ⁶	1,153	841	1,910	834	70	5	1,980	839	217	N/A ⁷	84.9%	99.8%
	Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	2,502	0 ⁶	2,223	1,316	4,388	1,300	92	14	4,480	1,314	108	N/A ⁷	94.8%	99.8%
	Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	575	0 ⁶	2,021	925	2,431	914	70	10	2,501	924	55	N/A ⁷	96.3%	99.9%
	Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	1,943	0 ⁶	698	1,181	2,220	1,170	94	10	2,314	1,180	216	N/A ⁷	87.6%	99.9%
Subtotals	8,512	0⁶	6,678	6,381	13,391	6,306	381	63	13,772	6,369	793	N/A⁷	90.7%	99.8%	
Totals	12,903	3,833	6,678	6,381	16,282	7,442	540	134	16,822	7,576	1,374	207	85.9%	74.2%	

¹ Totals as December 9, 2021.

² Totals as of December 5, 2019.

³ Total ballots cast divided by ballots issued.

⁴ Electors whose applications were processed and whose ballots were counted at Elections Canada headquarters in Ottawa.

⁵ Electors whose applications were processed and whose ballots were counted at the local Elections Canada office. This includes electors who registered to vote in acute care facilities.

⁶ Group 2 ballots issued by mail were not recorded separately during the 43rd general election. During the 44th general election, technology was introduced that enabled electors to register online to vote by mail. This significantly increased the number of ballots issued by mail to local electors and initiated a practice within the agency to track this data separately.

⁷ Late ballots were not recorded separately during the 43rd general election. At the time of the event, these results were integrated with data from other categories.

Voter turnout

For the 2023 by-elections, the turnout rates were generally higher than for other by-elections. The average turnout for all by-elections since 2016 is approximately 30.7%.

The table below shows turnout and compares turnout rates with those for the 44th general election.

Ballots cast in the 2021 general election and 2023 by-elections				
Electoral district	2021 general election		2023 by-elections	
	Ballots cast	Turnout	Ballots cast	Turnout
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	46,037	62.6%	21,891	29.9%
Oxford (Ont.)	62,327	64.9%	39,123	39.7%
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	45,697	66.2%	31,368	36.7%
Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	49,135	69.6%	25,858	45.1%
Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	53,855	66.2%	24,213	28.9%



5. Maintaining Security and Integrity

Elections Canada's role in electoral security

There is no one simple solution that eliminates threats to an election while maintaining an accessible, fair and transparent electoral process. These threats are complex—ranging from criminal acts, terrorism and cyberattacks to foreign interference and attempts at sharing inaccurate information—and reach beyond Canada's borders and the realm of election management. Elections Canada pays careful attention to these threats to democracy. For the 2023 by-elections, the agency continued efforts to limit their impact, working within the bounds of its legal mandate and with the assistance of government departments and agencies. Elections Canada also coordinated with other federal organizations.⁷

No criminal activity, cybersecurity incident, or inaccurate information campaign disrupted the administration of the 2023 by-elections. Nevertheless, it is important to remain vigilant to emerging threats. Canadians can count on Elections Canada to make registration and voting as accessible, convenient and secure as possible.

Role of the Commissioner of Canada Elections

The Commissioner of Canada Elections is the independent officer responsible for ensuring that the *Canada Elections Act*^x is complied with and enforced. The Commissioner is appointed by the Chief Electoral Officer, after consultation with the Director of Public Prosecutions. Under the *Canada Elections Act*, the Chief Electoral Officer and the Commissioner each have a specific statutory mandate that provides expressly for their appointment and the exercise or performance of particular powers, duties and functions in relation to federal elections. The Commissioner of Canada Elections reports annually on the activities of the Commissioner's office.

⁷ Communications Security Establishment, Canadian Centre for Cyber Security, Canadian Security Intelligence Service, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Public Safety Canada and Global Affairs Canada.

6. Concluding the By-elections

Election results

- ▶ The candidate endorsed by the Liberal Party of Canada, Anna Gainey, was elected in the Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Quebec) by-election.
- ▶ The candidate endorsed by the Conservative Party of Canada, Arpan Khanna, was elected in the Oxford (Ontario) by-election.
- ▶ The candidate endorsed by the Liberal Party of Canada, Ben Carr, was elected in the Winnipeg South Centre (Manitoba) by-election.
- ▶ The candidate endorsed by the Conservative Party of Canada, Branden Leslie, was elected in the Portage–Lisgar (Manitoba) by-election.
- ▶ The candidate endorsed by the Conservative Party, Shuvaloy Majumdar, was elected in the Calgary Heritage (Alberta) by-election.

Validation of results and return of writs

- ▶ The returning officer in the electoral district of Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Quebec) validated the results of the by-election on June 21, 2023.
- ▶ The returning officer in the electoral district of Oxford (Ontario) validated the results of the by-election on June 23, 2023.
- ▶ The returning officer in the electoral district of Winnipeg South Centre (Manitoba) validated the results of the by-election on June 22, 2023.
- ▶ The returning officer in the electoral district of Portage–Lisgar (Manitoba) validated the results of the by-election on June 23, 2023.
- ▶ The returning officer in the electoral district of Calgary Heritage (Alberta) validated the results of the by-election on July 27, 2023.

Once validation was completed, the returning officers issued a certificate showing the number of votes cast for each candidate.

Returning officers must hold the writ for six days after the validation of the results to allow time for candidates and electors to request a judicial recount. If there is no recount, returning officers declare the candidate who received the most votes elected and return the writ to the Chief Electoral Officer.

There were no judicial recounts initiated in any of the 2023 by-elections.

In the Appendix, Table 3 lists the number of valid votes obtained by each candidate.

The [official voting results](#)^{xi} were published on the Elections Canada website.

Complaints

During and after general elections or by-elections, Elections Canada receives, reviews and responds to complaints from Canadians.⁸ Complaints may relate to a wide range of issues, such as long lines, campaign financing irregularities or accessibility problems at polling places. Electors can register complaints by phone, mail, email or by using an [online form](#).^{xii} They can also do so at a local Elections Canada office or at their polling place.

Elections Canada received 166 complaints related to the 2023 by-elections. The complaints were related to polling place accessibility, long lines, distance to the polls, service to electors and electors posting a photograph of themselves with their marked ballot to social media.⁹ During the June 19 by-elections, the agency received an increased amount of accessibility complaints related to signage, parking and level-access to entrances and ramps.

The volume of complaints for the 2023 by-elections was slightly lower than that for previous by-elections, while the types of complaints were consistent with those for previous by-elections.

Elections Canada follows up on all complaints received and analyzes them to improve the agency's services. Complaints that may impact an elector's right to vote are given the highest priority. Those that are related to a potential offence under the *Canada Elections Act*^{xiii} are referred to the Commissioner of Canada Elections for possible investigation. For the 2023 by-elections, 29 complaints were referred to the Commissioner.

To ensure electors were served in both official languages, Elections Canada implemented a process to address official languages complaints in collaboration with the Office of the Commissioner of Official Languages. Elections Canada received one complaint related to the June 19 by-election in the electoral district of Winnipeg-South-Centre through the Commissioner of Official Languages.

Reporting obligations after election day

Candidates and third parties must file their campaign return with Elections Canada by no later than four months after election day.

- ▶ For the June 19 by-elections, the filing deadline was October 19, 2023.
- ▶ For the Calgary Heritage by-election on July 24, the filing deadline was November 24, 2023.

Candidates who were elected or who received at least 10% of the valid votes cast were eligible to receive a partial reimbursement of their electoral campaign expenses.

- ▶ Initial instalments were paid to four eligible candidates in the total amount of \$71,450.16 for the Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Quebec) by-election.

⁸ The agency defines a complaint as an expression of dissatisfaction with the products or services provided by Elections Canada, the way in which services were provided by Elections Canada, or the conduct of a person or group during the electoral process.

⁹ The *Canada Elections Act* prohibits taking photographs, videos or copies of marked ballots.

- ▶ Initial instalments were paid to three eligible candidates in the total amount of \$62,217.87 for the Oxford (Ontario) by-election.
- ▶ Initial instalments were paid to three eligible candidates in the total amount of \$52,978.98 for the Winnipeg South Centre (Manitoba) by-election.
- ▶ Initial instalments were paid to two eligible candidates in the total amount of \$37,096.48 for the Portage–Lisgar (Manitoba) by-election.
- ▶ Initial instalments were paid to three eligible candidates in the total amount of \$56,302.74 for the Calgary Heritage (Alberta) by-election.

Cost of the by-elections

As of December 31, 2023, the total estimated cost for the five 2023 by-elections is \$6.4 million, including \$483,000 that is projected to be paid to candidates for the partial reimbursement of their election expenses and the subsidies to candidates' auditors. The cost per registered elector is estimated at \$16.21, which is 15% higher than the historical average of \$14.04.¹⁰ This increase is mainly due to inflation. The following table provides the estimated cost of the by-elections.

Estimated cost of the 2023 by-elections (in thousands of dollars)			
Activity	June 19 by-elections ¹	July 24 by-election ²	Total
Conducting the by-elections			
Includes expenses for the fees and allowances of returning officers and election workers, printing ballots and lists of electors, leasing local offices and polling places, shipping election materials, running communication campaigns, hiring temporary staff and deploying IT infrastructure and telecommunications	4,756	1,173	5,929
Reimbursing election expenses to candidates and subsidies to candidates' auditors	424	59	483
Total estimated costs	5,180	1,232	6,412

¹ In Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount, Oxford, Winnipeg South Centre and Portage–Lisgar.

² In Calgary Heritage.

¹⁰ The historical average is based on actual expenditures of previous by-elections held between April 2017 and December 2022 in 20 electoral districts.

Compliance with procedures

The *Canada Elections Act*^{xiv} requires Elections Canada to arrange for an independent audit of the performance of election officers at each general election and by-election. Since 2015, these audits have been conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC).

The full audit reports are published on [Elections Canada's Official Reports](#) web page.^{xv}

Surveys

Further information and feedback on the 2023 by-elections can be found in the report on the Survey of Electors conducted following the by-elections, which will be published on Elections Canada's [Post-election Evaluations](#) web page^{xvi} once it is available.



Appendix

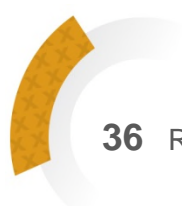
Registered political parties during the 2023 by-elections

- ▶ Animal Protection Party of Canada^{xvii}
- ▶ Bloc Québécois^{xviii}
- ▶ Centrist Party^{xix}
- ▶ Christian Heritage Party of Canada^{xx}
- ▶ Communist Party of Canada^{xxi}
- ▶ Conservative Party of Canada^{xxii}
- ▶ Direct Democracy Party of Canada^{11 xxiii}
- ▶ Free Party Canada^{xxiv}
- ▶ Green Party of Canada^{xxv}
- ▶ Liberal Party of Canada^{xxvi}
- ▶ Libertarian Party of Canada^{xxvii}
- ▶ Marijuana Party^{xxviii}
- ▶ Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada^{xxix}
- ▶ Maverick Party^{xxx}
- ▶ New Democratic Party^{xxxi}
- ▶ Parti Rhinocéros Party^{xxxii}
- ▶ People's Party of Canada^{xxxiii}

¹¹ The Direct Democracy Party of Canada was deregistered on June 27, 2023.

Table 1 – Type and number of positions filled, by electoral district

Type and number of positions filled,* by electoral district					
	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	Oxford (Ont.)	Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	Calgary Heritage (Alta.)
Position	Number of positions				
Poll workers					
Central poll supervisor	126	116	118	194	102
Deputy returning officer	228	307	201	247	225
Information officer	138	168	139	181	106
Poll clerk	53	0	0	0	2
Registration officer	72	84	45	103	50
Interpreter Language	0	0	0	0	0
Witness valid of results	1	0	14	2	0
Subtotal	618	675	517	727	485
Other election workers					
Additional assistant returning officer	1	1	1	0	1
Assistant automation coordinator	1	1	1	1	1
Recruitment officer	6	2	2	2	2



Type and number of positions filled,* by electoral district						
	Notre-Dame- de-Grâce- Westmount (Que.)	Oxford (Ont.)	Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Portage- Lisgar (Man.)	Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	
Position	Number of positions					
Other election workers						
Assistant returning officer	1	1	1	1	1	1
Automation coordinator	1	1	1	1	1	1
Community relations officer	4	1	7	2	2	2
Assistant service point supervisor	1	0	2	0	0	0
Inventory clerk/ Electoral material coordinator	2	2	1	2	1	1
Financial officer	2	1	2	1	1	1
Poll operations manager	1	2	2	1	2	2
Support officer/Office clerk	12	2	13	21	13	13
Office coordinator	1	2	1	1	2	2
Office messenger	1	1	8	3	0	0
Receptionist	5	2	4	2	1	1
Recruitment supervisor	2	1	1	1	1	1
Revision centre clerk	0	0	0	0	3	3
Returning officer	1	1	1	1	1	1

Type and number of positions filled,* by electoral district					
	Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	Oxford (Ont.)	Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	Calgary Heritage (Alta.)
Position	Number of positions				
Other election workers					
Service agent	10	15	23	8	7
Service point supervisor	2	2	2	2	2
Training officer	3	3	2	3	2
Special Voting Rules Expansion – Special ballot coordinator	2	2	1	8	2
Subtotal	59	43	76	61	46
Total	677	718	593	788	531

*Includes individuals on standby. Excludes trainees not retained.

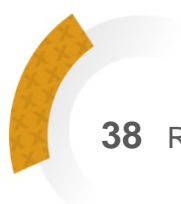


Table 2 – Confirmed candidates, by electoral district

Confirmed candidates, by electoral district		
Electoral district	Candidate name	Affiliation
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	Sean Carson	Parti Rhinocéros Party
	Jean-François Filion	New Democratic Party
	Anna Gainey	Liberal Party of Canada
	Yves Gilbert	Christian Heritage Party of Canada
	Mathew Kaminski	Conservative Party of Canada
	Laurence Massey	Bloc Québécois
	Alex Trainman Montagano	Centrist Party of Canada
	Tiny Olinga	People’s Party of Canada
	Jonathan Pedneault	Green Party of Canada
Félix Vincent Ardea	No affiliation	
Oxford (Ont.)	Cheryle Baker	Green Party of Canada
	Cody Groat	New Democratic Party
	David Hilderley	Liberal Party of Canada
	Arpan Khanna	Conservative Party of Canada
	John Markus	Christian Heritage Party of Canada
	Wendy Martin	People’s Party of Canada
	John The Engineer Turmel	Independent
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Tylor Baer	People’s Party of Canada
	Myriam Beaulieu	Independent
	Line Bélanger	Independent
	Alain Bourgault	Independent
	Ben Carr	Liberal Party of Canada
	Jevin David Carroll	Independent

Confirmed candidates, by electoral district

Electoral district	Candidate name	Affiliation
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Jaël Champagne Gareau	Independent
	Christopher Clacio	Independent
	Sébastien CoRhino	Parti Rhinocéros Party
	John Dale	Independent
	Mark Dejewski	Independent
	Manon Marie Lili Desbiens	Independent
	Gerrit Dogger	Independent
	Ysack Émile Dupont	Independent
	Donovan Eckstrom	Independent
	Alexandra Engering	Independent
	Dji-Pé Frazer	Independent
	Daniel Gagnon	Independent
	Stella Galas	Independent
	Anthony Hamel	Independent
	Douglas Hemmerling	Green Party of Canada
	Ryan Huard	Independent
	Martin “Acetaria Caesar” Jubinville	Independent
	Demetrios Karavas	Independent
	Andrew Kozakewich	Independent
	Krzysztof Krzywinski	Independent
Alain Lamontagne	Independent	
Marie-Hélène LeBel	Independent	
Connie Lukawski	Independent	
Glen MacDonald	Independent	
Yusuf Nasihi	Independent	

Confirmed candidates, by electoral district

Electoral district	Candidate name	Affiliation
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Tait Palsson	Independent
	Lorant Polya	Independent
	Julia Riddell	New Democratic Party
	Spencer Rocchi	Independent
	Eliana Rosenblum	Independent
	Roger Sherwood	Independent
	Julie St-Amand	Independent
	Pascal St-Amand	Independent
	Paul Stewart	Independent
	Damir Stipanovic	Conservative Party of Canada
	Mário Stocco	Independent
	Patrick Strzalkowski	Independent
	Benjamin Teichman	Independent
	Darcy Justin Vanderwater	Independent
	Gavin Vanderwater	Independent
Saleh Waziruddin	Independent	
Jordan Wong	Independent	
Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	Max Bernier	People's Party of Canada
	Nicolas Geddert	Green Party of Canada
	Branden Leslie	Conservative Party of Canada
	Kerry Smith	Liberal Party of Canada
	Lisa Tessier-Burch	New Democratic Party

Confirmed candidates, by electoral district

Electoral district	Candidate name	Affiliation
Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	Gurmit Bhachu	New Democratic Party
	Ravenmoon Crocker	Green Party of Canada
	Donovan Eckstrom	No affiliation
	Larry R. Heather	Christian Heritage Party of Canada
	Dan Irving	Maverick Party
	Kelly Lorencz	People's Party of Canada
	Shuv Majumdar	Conservative Party of Canada
	Elliot Weinstein	Liberal Party of Canada

Table 3 – Valid votes obtained, by candidate

Valid votes obtained, by candidate						
Electoral district	Candidate name	Affiliation	Place of residence	Occupation	Valid votes obtained	Percentage of valid votes
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.)	Anna Gainey	Liberal Party of Canada	Westmount, Que.	Mother	11,051	50.9%
	Jean-François Filion	New Democratic Party	Montréal, Que.	Teacher	3,001	13.8%
	Mathew Kaminski	Conservative Party of Canada	Côte-Saint-Luc, Que.	Senior Client Accountant	2,936	13.5%
	Jonathan Pedneault	Green Party of Canada	Ottawa, Ont.	Deputy Chief	2,922	13.4%
	Laurence Massey	Bloc Québécois	Rosemère, Que.	Communications Assistant	985	4.5%
	Alex Trainman Montagano	Centrist Party of Canada	Montréal, Que.	General Contractor	510	2.3%
	Tiny Olinga	People’s Party of Canada	Saint-Lambert, Que.	Self-Employed	141	0.6%
	Sean Carson	Parti Rhinocéros Party	Montréal, Que.	Comedian	97	0.4%
	Yves Gilbert	Christian Heritage Party of Canada	Val-Alain, Que.	Merchant Navy Officer	65	0.3%
	Félix Vincent Ardea	No affiliation	Montréal, Que.	Conductor	18	0.1%
Oxford (Ont.)	Arpan Khanna	Conservative Party of Canada	Woodstock, Ont.	Lawyer	16,688	42.9%
	David Hilderley	Liberal Party of Canada	Woodstock, Ont.	Realtor	14,164	36.4%
	Cody Groat	New Democratic Party	Ingersoll, Ont.	Assistant Professor	4,053	10.4%

Valid votes obtained, by candidate

Electoral district	Candidate name	Affiliation	Place of residence	Occupation	Valid votes obtained	Percentage of valid votes
Oxford (Ont.)	John Markus	Christian Heritage Party of Canada	Beachville, Ont.	Farm Owner/Operator	1,672	4.3%
	Wendy Martin	People's Party of Canada	Norwich, Ont.	Life Insurance Agent	1,278	3.3%
	Cheryle Baker	Green Party of Canada	Elmira, Ont.	Designer-Toolmaker-Engineering	854	2.2%
	John The Engineer Turnel	Independent	Brantford, Ont.	Banking Systems Engineer	171	0.4%
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Ben Carr	Liberal Party of Canada	Winnipeg, Man.	Consultant	14,278	55.5%
	Damir Stipanovic	Conservative Party of Canada	Winnipeg, Man.	Retired Air Traffic Controller	6,100	23.7%
	Julia Riddell	New Democratic Party	Winnipeg, Man.	Psychologist	3,778	14.7%
	Douglas Hemmerling	Green Party of Canada	Winnipeg, Man.	Teacher	698	2.7%
	Tylor Baer	People's Party of Canada	Brandon, Man.	Tele Fundraiser	324	1.3%
	Sébastien CoRhino	Parti Rhinocéros Party	Rimouski, Que.	Chef and Dealer	55	0.2%
	Tait Palsson	Independent	Winnipeg, Man.	Student	52	0.2%
	Jevin David Carroll	Independent	Burlington, Ont.	Accountant	36	0.1%
	John Dale	Independent	Guelph, Ont.	Student	29	0.1%
	Glen MacDonald	Independent	Toronto, Ont.	Retired	27	0.1%
Connie Lukawski	Independent	Toronto, Ont.	Software Developer	24	0.1%	

Valid votes obtained, by candidate

Electoral district	Candidate name	Affiliation	Place of residence	Occupation	Valid votes obtained	Percentage of valid votes
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Paul Stewart	Independent	Toronto, Ont.	Self-employed	22	0.1%
	Patrick Strzalkowski	Independent	Waterloo, Ont.	Ecologist	19	0.1%
	Mark Dejewski	Independent	Calgary, Alta.	Student	18	0.1%
	Demetrios Karavas	Independent	Winnipeg, Man.	IT Manager	16	0.1%
	Stella Galas	Independent	Edmonton, Alta.	Student	16	0.1%
	Myriam Beaulieu	Independent	Melbourne, Que.	Farmer	14	0.1%
	Christopher Clacio	Independent	Winnipeg, Man.	Natural Values Clerk	14	0.1%
	Krzysztof Krzywinski	Independent	Mississauga, Ont.	Unemployed	13	0.1%
	Alain Bourgault	Independent	Montréal, Que.	Retired (Available)	13	0.1%
	Martin "Acetaria Caesar" Jubinville	Independent	Mandeville, Que.	Group Development Advisor	13	0.1%
	Jordan Wong	Independent	Mississauga, Ont.	Automotive Service Technician	11	0%
	Marie-Hélène LeBel	Independent	Lac-Drolet, Que.	Teacher	11	0%
	Alain Lamontagne	Independent	Sainte-Thérèse, Que.	Retired	11	0%
Andrew Kozakewich	Independent	Sherwood Park, Alta.	Hardware Store Cashier	10	0%	
Eliana Rosenblum	Independent	Waterloo, Ont.	Teacher	10	0%	

Valid votes obtained, by candidate

Electoral district	Candidate name	Affiliation	Place of residence	Occupation	Valid votes obtained	Percentage of valid votes
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Line Bélanger	Independent	Saguenay, Que.	Quality Assurance Officer	10	0%
	Julie St-Amand	Independent	Rimouski, Que.	Telecom Employee	9	0%
	Gerrit Dogger	Independent	Québec, Que.	Project Manager	9	0%
	Alexandra Engering	Independent	Mississauga, Ont.	Outdoor Educator	8	0%
	Darcy Justin Vanderwater	Independent	Burnaby, BC	Tech Service Representative	8	0%
	Anthony Hamel	Independent	Mirabel, Que.	Student	8	0%
	Roger Sherwood	Independent	Grand Forks, BC	Cemetery Groundskeeper	7	0%
	Pascal St-Amand	Independent	Saint-Moïse, Que.	Professional-Municipal	7	0%
	Mário Stocco	Independent	Waterloo, Ont.	Teacher	6	0%
	Daniel Gagnon	Independent	Québec, Que.	IT Professional	6	0%
	Dji-Pé Frazer	Independent	Shawinigan, Que.	Retired	6	0%
	Spencer Rocchi	Independent	Hamilton, Ont.	Teacher	6	0%
	Manon Marie Lili Desbiens	Independent	Rimouski, Que.	Communications Officer	5	0%
	Ysack Émile Dupont	Independent	Saint-Colomban, Que.	Tim Hortons Supervisor	5	0%
	Yusuf Nasihi	Independent	Surrey, BC	Pharmacist	5	0%
Jaël Champagne Gareau	Independent	Montréal, Que.	Student	4	0%	
Donovan Eckstrom	Independent	Sexsmith, Alta.	Paranormal Investigator	3	0%	

Valid votes obtained, by candidate						
Electoral district	Candidate name	Affiliation	Place of residence	Occupation	Valid votes obtained	Percentage of valid votes
Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Gavin Vanderwater	Independent	Toronto, Ont.	Student	2	0%
	Ryan Huard	Independent	Vancouver, BC	Security Firmware Developer	2	0%
	Lorant Polya	Independent	Vancouver, BC	Software Developer	2	0%
	Benjamin Teichman	Independent	Toronto, Ont.	Software Engineer	2	0%
	Saleh Waziruddin	Independent	St. Catharines, Ont.	Self-Employed	1	0%
Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	Branden Leslie	Conservative Party of Canada	Portage la Prairie, Man.	Agricultural Advocate	20,250	64.9%
	Max Bernier	People's Party of Canada	Verdun, Que.	Politician	5,352	17.2%
	Kerry Smith	Liberal Party of Canada	Tyndall, Man.	Senior Program Director	2,666	8.6%
	Lisa Tessier-Burch	New Democratic Party	Portage la Prairie, Man.	Teacher	2,208	7.1%
	Nicolas Geddert	Green Party of Canada	Winnipeg, Man.	Heavy Equipment Operator	704	2.3%
Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	Shuv Majumdar	Conservative Party of Canada	Calgary, Alta.	Consultant	15,853	65.6%
	Elliot Weinstein	Liberal Party of Canada	Calgary, Alta.	Business Owner	3,465	14.3%
	Gurmit Bhachu	New Democratic Party	Calgary, Alta.	Teacher	3,429	14.2%
	Kelly Lorencz	People's Party of Canada	Red Deer, Alta.	Self-Employed	656	2.7%

Valid votes obtained, by candidate

Electoral district	Candidate name	Affiliation	Place of residence	Occupation	Valid votes obtained	Percentage of valid votes
Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	Ravenmoon Crocker	Green Party of Canada	Calgary, Alta.	Quality Assurance and Compliance Officer	407	1.7%
	Larry R. Heather	Christian Heritage Party of Canada	Calgary, Alta.	Retired	144	0.6%
	Dan Irving	Maverick Party	Foothills, Alta.	Landscaper	131	0.5%
	Donovan Eckstrom	No affiliation	Sexsmith, Alta.	Paranormal Investigator	71	0.3%

Table 4 – Adaptations made pursuant to subsection 17(1) of the *Canada Elections Act*

Subsection 17(1) of the *Canada Elections Act* authorizes the Chief Electoral Officer to adapt any provision of the Act during an election period or within 30 days after the election. To exercise this authority, the Chief Electoral Officer must be satisfied that the adaptation is necessary because of an emergency, an unusual or unforeseen circumstance, or an error. This power of adaptation may be used only for the purpose of enabling electors to exercise their right to vote or enabling the counting of votes.

Adaptations made pursuant to subsection 17(1) of the <i>Canada Elections Act</i>		
Electoral district	Statutory provisions	Explanatory notes
June 19, 2023 Notre-Dame-de-Grâce–Westmount (Que.), Oxford (Ont.), Winnipeg South Centre (Man.) and Portage–Lisgar (Man.)	Sections 95, 125, 140 and 158, paragraph 127(a), and subsection 538(5)	<p>Purpose: To allow the offering of adapted voting services to electors residing in a long-term care institution.</p> <p>Explanation: Electors residing in long-term care institutions often face barriers when it comes to exercising their right to vote. To alleviate these barriers, the Act allows electors in long-term care institutions to vote on polling day at a mobile polling station visiting their institution. However, the Act also requires that such mobile polling stations visit at least two long-term care institutions on polling day. Control measures in long-term care institutions to address COVID-19 limit the ability of Elections Canada to operate mobile polls in that way.</p> <p>The adaptation allowed electors residing in long-term care institutions to be served by a polling station visiting a single institution or part of an institution. It also allowed flexibility in the scheduling of these polling stations, while safeguarding the right to vote of residents who were not able to vote at their institution.</p>
June 19, 2023 Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Sections 119, 140, subsections 151(2) and 152(2), paragraphs 284(1)(b) and 284(1)(d), and Form 3 of Schedule 1	<p>Purpose: To ensure that the names of all candidates could appear on the ballot and to bring related amendments to voting procedures and counting votes.</p> <p>Explanation: The Act is very specific regarding the template and format of the ballot as well as the paper on which the ballot is printed. The Chief Electoral Officer procures a specific type of paper, the look, weight and opacity of which contribute to mitigating risks to the integrity of the electoral process. The printing of ballots in the form prescribed in the Act on the paper procured by the Chief Electoral Officer limits to 26 the number of candidates who can appear on the ballot. Because there were 48 confirmed candidates for this by-election, the template and the format of the ballot needed to be adapted.</p>

Adaptations made pursuant to subsection 17(1) of the *Canada Elections Act*

Electoral district	Statutory provisions	Explanatory notes
July 24, 2023 Calgary Heritage (Alta.)	Sections 95, 125, 140 and 158, paragraph 127(a), and subsection 538(5)	<p>The adaptation allowed for the names of the 48 candidates to appear on the ballot by replacing the one-column ballot prescribed by the Act with a two-column ballot that maintained all existing integrity features. It also allowed the font size of the ordinary ballot to be maintained, minimizing barriers for electors. Other related adaptations were made to adjust operations to the unusual format of the ballot. The adaptation also allowed for the rules governing the counting of the votes to be aligned with the adapted two-column ballot.</p> <hr/> <p>Purpose: To allow the offering of adapted voting services to electors residing in a long-term care institution.</p> <p>Explanation: Electors residing in long-term care institutions often face barriers when it comes to exercising their right to vote. To alleviate these barriers, the Act allows electors in long-term care institutions to vote on polling day at a mobile polling station visiting their institution. However, the Act also requires that such mobile polling stations visit at least two long-term care institutions on polling day. Owing to concerns that the operation of mobile polling stations could pose a potential risk to the health of residents for whom COVID-19 remains a great concern, Elections Canada was unable to operate mobile polls in the way prescribed in the Act.</p> <p>The adaptation allowed electors residing in long-term care institutions to be served by a polling station visiting a single institution or part of an institution. It also allowed flexibility in the scheduling of these polling stations, while safeguarding the right to vote of residents who were not able to vote at their institution.</p>

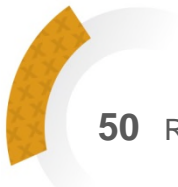


Table 5 – Instructions issued pursuant to subsection 178(2) of the *Canada Elections Act* and section 179 of the *Special Voting Rules as Adapted for the Purposes of a By-election*

Subsection 178(1) of the *Canada Elections Act* (the Act) provides that the Special Voting Rules set out in Part 11 of the Act apply to general elections only. However, subsection 178(2) stipulates that the Chief Electoral Officer may, by instructions, adapt Part 11 so that any or all of its provisions apply to a by-election. The *Special Voting Rules as Adapted for the Purposes of a By-election* (the Rules for by-elections) constitute such instructions. The Rules for by-elections currently in force were made by the Chief Electoral Officer on September 21, 2020.

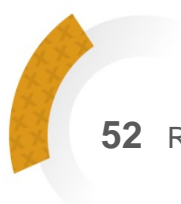
The Chief Electoral Officer may, pursuant to section 179 of the Rules for by-elections, issue instructions to execute their intent in a particular circumstance. In general, instructions address issues with the Special Voting Rules process that are not contemplated by the Act or the Rules for by-elections, or fill gaps that would prevent electors who are otherwise qualified to vote from casting their ballot. These instructions can be made applicable for the purposes of a particular by-election only, or they can be made to continue to apply for future by-elections until rescinded by the Chief Electoral Officer or superseded by legislative changes or new instructions.

Instructions issued pursuant to subsection 178(2) of the *Canada Elections Act* and section 179 of the *Special Voting Rules as Adapted for the Purposes of a By-election*

Electoral district	Statutory provisions	Explanatory notes
June 19, 2023 Winnipeg South Centre (Man.)	Section 241 (Instructions issued for the purpose of this by-election only)	<p>Purpose: To allow electors voting at the office of the returning officer to vote using a special ballot even after the regular ballots had been printed.</p> <p>Explanation: The Rules for by-elections provide that an elector who applies in person at the office of the returning officer for their electoral district for registration and special ballot after the regular ballots have been printed shall vote with a regular ballot, place the ballot in the inner envelope and seal the envelope, sign the declaration prescribed by the Chief Electoral Officer, and place the inner envelope and the declaration—if it is not on the outer envelope—in the outer envelope and seal the envelope.</p> <p>Due to the unusual format of the ballot, which was adapted in order to include the large number of candidates confirmed in this by-election, it would be difficult—if not impossible—for the elector to insert the regular ballot into the inner envelope and seal the envelope.</p>

Instructions issued pursuant to subsection 178(2) of the *Canada Elections Act* and section 179 of the *Special Voting Rules as Adapted for the Purposes of a By-election*

Electoral district	Statutory provisions	Explanatory notes
		<p>As the envelopes used for special ballots are not compatible with the adapted ballot and to ensure that electors voting at the office of the returning officer had an opportunity to vote in a way that respected the integrity of the voting procedure, the instructions allowed the returning officer to deliver a special ballot to those electors even after the regular ballots had been printed.</p>





Endnotes

- i *Canada Elections Act*,
<https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-2.01/index.html>
- ii *Canada Elections Act*,
<https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-2.01/index.html>
- iii *Canada Elections Act*,
<https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-2.01/index.html>
- iv *Canada Elections Act*,
<https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-2.01/index.html>
- v Online Voter Registration Service,
<https://ereg.elections.ca/CWelcome.aspx?lang=e>
- vi *Canada Elections Act*,
<https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-2.01/index.html>
- vii *Canada Elections Act*,
<https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-2.01/index.html>
- viii Canadian National Institute for the Blind,
<https://www.cnib.ca/en?region=on>
- ix *Canada Elections Act*,
<https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-2.01/index.html>
- x *Canada Elections Act*,
<https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-2.01/index.html>
- xi Official voting results in the 2023 by-elections,
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rep/off&document=index&lang=e#jul2023>
- xii Online complaints form,
<https://csep-pesc.elections.ca/en-CA/intake/>
- xiii *Canada Elections Act*,
<https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-2.01/index.html>
- xiv *Canada Elections Act*,
<https://laws.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-2.01/index.html>

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- xv Elections Canada's Official Reports,
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rep/off&document=index&lang=e>
- xvi Post-election Evaluations,
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=rec/eval&document=index&lang=e>
- xvii Animal Protection Party of Canada,
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#AACEV>
- xviii Bloc Québécois,
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#Bloc>
- xix Centrist Party,
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#centrist>
- xx Christian Heritage Party of Canada,
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#CHP>
- xxi Communist Party of Canada,
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#Communist>
- xxii Conservative Party of Canada,
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#conservative>
- xxiii Direct Democracy Party of Canada (was Canada's Fourth Front),
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#cff>
- xxiv Free Party Canada,
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#free>
- xxv Green Party of Canada,
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#Green>

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- xxvi **Liberal Party of Canada,**
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#Liberal>
- xxvii **Libertarian Party of Canada,**
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#libert>
- xxviii **Marijuana Party,**
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#Marijuana>
- xxix **Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada,**
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#Marxist>
- xxx **Maverick Party,**
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#maverick>
- xxxi **New Democratic Party,**
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#NDP>
- xxxii **Parti Rhinocéros Party,**
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e>
- xxxiii **People’s Party of Canada,**
<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=pol&document=index&dir=par&lang=e#ppc2>