# Voting in Provincial Elections

YOUR VOTE COUNTS







# **PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS**

In New Brunswick, provincial elections are held every four years on the third Monday of October to elect Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA). People vote by marking their choice for the MLA in their riding on a ballot. The candidate with the most votes is declared the elected MLA.

## **QUALIFICATIONS TO VOTE**

A person is qualified to vote in a provincial election if they are:

- a Canadian citizen
- eighteen years old by Election Day
- a resident of the Province at least 40 days before the election; and
- living in the riding on Election Day.

### **HOW TO VOTE**

Casting your ballot is easy.

- If you are a first-time voter, get added to the voters list
- If you are on the voters list, confirm your name and address with a poll worker.
- If changes are needed, update your name and address.
- Receive your voting token and get your ballot from a poll worker.
- Go behind the secrecy screen and mark the circle for a candidate on your ballot.
- Deposit your ballot into the tabulation machine.

### **VOTERS LIST**

If you have voted in previous provincial elections in NB, you may already be on the voters list. To get added to the voters list, you must meet the qualifications and provide one or more pieces of ID that in combination show your name, current address and signature.

A New Brunswick driver's license contains all three and is the ideal piece of identification.

Other options include:

- lease agreements, utility bills, student IDs, Indian Status Card, other documentation that provides the above three requirements;
- having a friend already on the voters list vouch for your residency.

If you need to add your name, or correct or update your personal information, you may contact the local returning office, or you can make the change when you go to vote. You can also call Elections NB, at any time to update your personal information.

Everyone who is on the voters list is mailed a Voter Information Card (VIC). The VIC will tell you where you can vote and the dates and times of advance and Election Day voting.





# **STUDENT VOTERS**

Students have the choice to vote for a candidate in their "home" riding or for a candidate in the riding where they live while going to school. Students still only get one vote. They must have lived in the province 40 days before Election Day and must meet the other qualifications to vote.

# **ACCESSIBILITY**

Elections NB strives to ensure the buildings we use during elections are accessible and can accommodate the needs of voters with various challenges. We provide various supports at our Returning Offices and voting places to assist voters.

The tools and technology include:

- Audio Vote with Braille, paddles and sip & puff options
- Sign language interpretation
- Magnifiers
- Braille ballots
- Curbside voting

# **SPECIAL BALLOTS**

Special ballots are a way for voters to cast a ballot if they are unable to vote during the advance polls or on Election Day. Special Voting Officers can bring ballots to those voters who are unable to vote in person due to illness or incapacity.

Special Ballots are used for electors who are in nursing homes, special care homes, federal or provincial correctional facilities, acute care patients in the hospital. You can also vote for your home riding at any returning office in the province using a special ballot.

A voter may also request a mail-in ballot in their home riding by making an application to the returning office in their riding. Voters who wish to vote by mail include NB students studying outside the Province and snowbirds.

Visit our website **electionsnb.ca** for more information or contact us:

Elections NB

Toll free: 1-888-858-8683 (VOTE)

Fax: 1-506-457-4926 info@electionsnb.ca



