

# 2024 BC Election

*Information and Participation Guide*



# YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE

If you have a question about voting  
you can contact Elections BC:

Toll Free: 1-800-661-8683

TTY: 1-888-456-5448

Email: [electionsbc@elections.bc.ca](mailto:electionsbc@elections.bc.ca)

On the web: [www.elections.bc.ca](http://www.elections.bc.ca)

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# Introduction to Voting

This fall there will be a Provincial Election for the Government of BC. The election will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2024.

During the election, each **political party** can put forward a candidate in every voting region or area (called Ridings).

You vote for the candidate you want.

The candidate that gets the most votes becomes a **Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA)**. That MLA represents the people in your Riding. The party that gets the most MLA's elected forms the Government. The party with the second most MLAs elected forms the Opposition.

*Voting allows you to choose who you think will best represent you and your community.*



*Your choice helps  
decide who will form  
the government in BC.*



This package gives you some ideas about how to get involved in the election. It explains some things about how an election works.

This package has:

- Written information in plain language and large print
- A small poster that you can take a picture with. Post your pictures online with **#IAmVoting** to spread the word about voting in the 2024 Provincial Election.

Please share this information with your friends.

Voting for the first time can be a little scary because often people do not know what to expect. This guide will help you understand what voting is about and why it is important.

We hope this information will help make your voting experience a good one!

# Questions & Answers About Voting



## Who can vote?

Every person who is a Canadian citizen, is 18 years or older on voting day, and has lived in BC for the last six months has the right to vote in this election if they are on the voters list. You also have to live in the riding where you are voting.

## How do I get on the voters list?

If you are already on the voters list, you will receive a voting card in the mail. If you are not on the voters list, you will need to register to vote, and you will be added to the list.

To do this, you can:

- Call Elections BC at 1-800-661-8683 and they will tell you how to register and be added to the voters' list.
- You can also register to vote online at <https://eregister.electionsbc.gov.bc.ca>

## Can I Vote by Mail?

Yes! Anyone who wants to and is registered to vote can vote by mail.

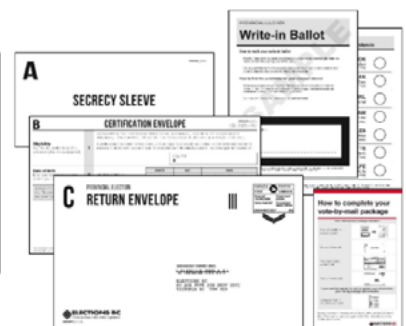
## How do I get a Vote-by-Mail Package?

Contact Elections BC as soon as possible to get your voting package:

- Visit this website and update your voting preference to "Vote by Mail": <https://eregister.electionsbc.gov.bc.ca>
- Or call Elections BC at 1-800-661-8683



This is what the vote-by-mail package will look like



Vote-by-mail package contents

## Where do I return my voting package?

You can return your vote-by-mail package in person at district electoral offices, voting locations, and certain Service BC locations.

You can also return your voting package by mail. All packages include a paid return envelope. But remember, for it to be returned to Elections BC by 8 pm on the final Voting Day – October 19th, 2024, you will need to put it in the mail earlier.

You can find more information about voting by mail and other ways to vote here: <https://elections.bc.ca/2024-provincial-election/ways-to-vote/>

## Can I Vote by Phone?

You can vote by phone if you are not able to vote on your own another way.

To vote by phone, you may have to show Elections BC proof that you have a visual impairment, a disability or a health condition that means you can't vote on your own, or that you are self-isolating during the last week before the election.

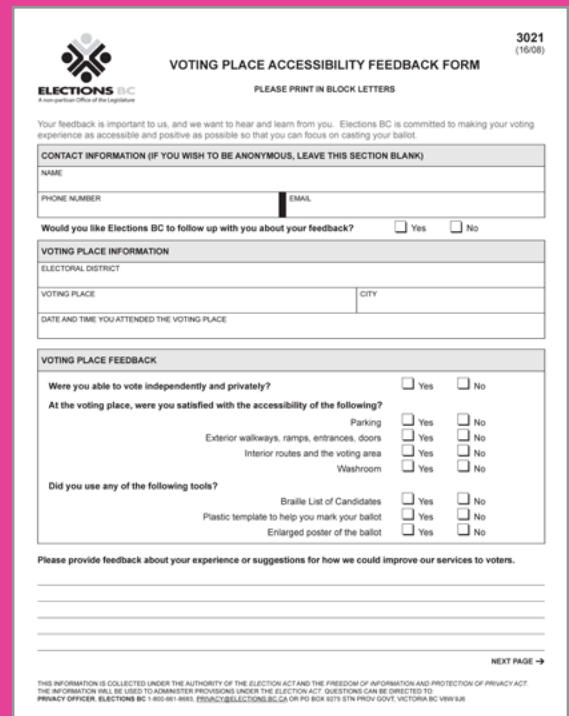
If you want to vote by phone, you need to make sure that your voter information is up to date.

You can make sure that it is by visiting this web page: <https://eregister.electionsbc.gov.bc.ca/ovr/welcome.aspx#>

To see if you can vote by phone, call Elections BC at 1-800-661-8683

There will be feedback forms available at voting places and online so that you can let Elections BC know how they are doing.

You can also find more information about how Elections BC is trying to make the election process more accessible at: <https://elections.bc.ca/2024-provincial-election/outreach-and-education/voting-accessibility/>



The image shows a 'VOTING PLACE ACCESSIBILITY FEEDBACK FORM' from Elections BC. The form is titled '3021 (16/08)' and 'PLEASE PRINT IN BLOCK LETTERS'. It includes sections for 'CONTACT INFORMATION', 'VOTING PLACE INFORMATION', and 'VOTING PLACE FEEDBACK'. The feedback section asks about accessibility of various features like parking, walkways, and restrooms, and whether voters used specific tools like Braille lists or templates. At the bottom, there are lines for providing additional feedback and a 'NEXT PAGE' arrow.

## If I am not on the voters' list on Election Day, can I still vote?

Yes. If you do not get on the voters' list before the election, you can register to vote at the polling station when you vote. However, there will likely be line-ups and you will need two pieces of I.D. with your name, address, and signature. They will accept BC Services cards, bank statements, utility bills, etc.

Check this link to see the list of acceptable documents:  
<https://elections.bc.ca/2024-provincial-election/voter-id/>

## Can I vote on any other days?

Yes. There will be 6 days of advance voting in this election, from October 10th – 13th and October 15th and 16th.

Advance voting places are open from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM

## Where do I vote on Election Day?

On Election Day there will be many different voting places available. These can be schools, town halls, or other places in your community where people gather. If you receive a voting card in the mail, it should have information about voting places close to you.

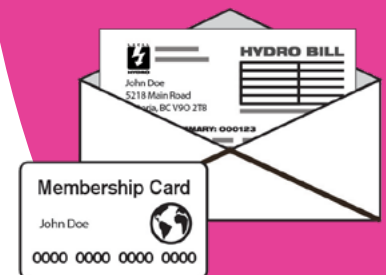
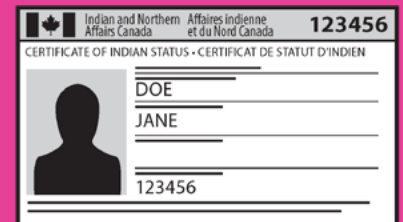
If you don't get this information, call your Elections BC office, and ask them where you can vote, or visit the Elections BC website.

## What if I live in a hospital or group home?

All eligible voters who live in hospitals or group homes have the right to vote. Sometimes they send a "mobile voting place" to places like group homes and hospitals. Ask the staff if this is going to happen where you live.

## What if I need a ride?

- Ask a friend or person you trust to take you.





## How do I vote at the voting place?

1. Take your I.D. or your voter's card to the polling station. You can bring either one piece of I.D. issued by the Government that has your name, photo and address OR you can bring two documents that have your name on them. One of those has to have your address too.

Check this link to see the list of acceptable documents:  
<https://elections.bc.ca/2024-provincial-election/voter-id/>.

2. Someone will give you a piece of paper with the names of all the people you can vote for. This is called a "ballot".
3. Pick one person you want to vote for and put a mark (X) inside the circle beside their name. If you are blind or have a visual impairment, all voting places have Braille ballot templates, large print ballot posters, and a list of candidates in Braille. If you need help marking the ballot, an election official can help you, or you can bring someone with you to help you vote.
4. After you mark your ballot, put it in the box. Remember, you can only vote for one person. If you put more than one (X) on your ballot, it will not count.

Year Election Title

Electoral District Name

BIO Initials

To vote, mark an X or fill in the circle next to the candidate of your choice.

Bill CHAN Registered Political Party	<input type="radio"/>
Lis JOHAL	<input type="radio"/>
George William STILES Independent	<input type="radio"/>
Mary STILES Registered Political Party	<input type="radio"/>

EDC



## What if I need help when I vote?

**You can bring someone you trust to help you vote, or ask one of the staff at the polling station to help you.**

You can bring someone you trust with you to help you vote. The person you choose has to sign a declaration that they are there to assist the voter with a disability, or you can ask one of the staff at the polling station to help you. This person can read you the candidates' names or help you mark your ballot.

## How do I get voting information?

Phone Elections BC at 1-800-661-8683 and ask them to send you information. Tell them if you want: LARGE PRINT or digital information.

Visit the Elections BC website:  
[www.elections.bc.ca](http://www.elections.bc.ca)

If you have a visual impairment, you can request a "Braille Template" at any voting location (a special cardboard with holes on it to make voting easier for you) at any voting place.

Also, you can get information on TV by watching the news. If you are deaf or hard of hearing, phone TDD/ TTY: 1-888-456-5448

Elections BC is also on Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/ElectionsBC/>

# Political Parties & their Leaders

In this election, people vote for the person they want to speak for them in the Government of BC. This person usually belongs to a political party.

BC NDP

Green Party of BC

BC Conservative Party

Every political party has a Leader, but the Leader's name is not on the ballot. The ballot only has the name of the local person who is a candidate in your area and the name of the political party they are with.

There are many political parties registered in BC, but only four of those parties run candidates in almost every riding. There are also many candidates running as an independent, which means they don't belong to any political party. Phone Elections BC at 1-800-661-8683 or visit their website at <https://elections.bc.ca/> to find out which parties have candidates in your riding.

If you want to know more about the candidates who are running for election in your community, visit their campaign offices or go to an all-candidates meeting. Each party also has a website. These websites will have information on each party's platform. A platform talks about what the party believes and what they say they will do if they are elected.

# Participating in the Election

There are lots of ways to learn about voting and how the election works. Here are some ideas you can do on your own or with a group.

1. You can talk to a friend you trust about how voting works.
2. Pay attention to the local TV news, radio stations, newspapers and Internet. They will have updates on the election campaign. They will also have regular election specials.
3. You and your friends can attend an "All Candidates Forum" in your area to meet the candidates and ask questions on issues that are important to you.
4. You can practice voting by role-playing with pretend ballots.
5. You can phone or email your candidates and ask them questions.
6. You can visit all the candidates' offices in your area to see how they are running their campaigns.
7. If you know who you want to vote for, you can volunteer to help them at their campaign office.
8. You can check out where your polling place is before Election Day.
9. You can write letters to candidates and newspapers about the issues that are important to you.
10. The Elections BC website has lots of information for voters and tips on how to make sure you are getting information that is accurate

<https://elections.bc.ca/2024-provincial-election/election-integrity/resources-for-voters/>



# Rights & Responsibilities

## Your Rights

1. You have the right to get on the voters' list.
2. You have the right to vote.
3. You have the right to choose who you vote for.
4. You don't have to tell anyone who you vote for if you don't want to.
5. You have the right to talk to the candidates, ask them questions, and get answers in a way you understand.
6. You have the right to put a sign on your lawn or window for the candidate of your choice.

## Your Responsibilities

1. Get your name on the voters' list.
2. Find out who the candidates are.
3. Get the information you need to know the issues.
4. Make plans to vote by mail or to get to the polling station.
5. Bring your voter's card (or I.D.) with you when you go to vote.
6. If you need it, bring a friend you trust to help you vote.
7. Stay informed after the election is over. Find out if the person who got elected in your area is keeping the promises they made during the election.

## *WHY SHOULD YOU VOTE?*

Your right to vote is one of the most important rights you have. It is the way you help choose who will represent you in B.C.'s government. When you vote you are participating as a full citizen in Canadian society.

# What does it mean?

There are a lot of words that are specific to voting that might need some explaining. Here are some of them:

## **All Candidates Meeting:**

A meeting where all the people who want to be elected come together to talk about the issues.

## **Ballot:**

The piece of paper with the names of all the people who are trying to get elected in your area.

## **Candidate:**

A person who is trying to get elected.

## **Declaration:**

A document making something official.

## **General Voting Day:**

The day most people go to vote. Also known as polling day.

## **MLA:**

Member of the Legislative Assembly: the person who represents your Riding.

## **Platform:**

What the party believes and the things that they promise to do if they are elected.

## **Political Party:**

An organization which has certain ideas about how to run the province. A candidate usually belongs to a political party. For example, NDP, Green, Conservative, etc.

## **Polling Station:**

The place where you go to vote on Election Day. This is also known as a voting place.

## **Provincial Election:**

Voting for the Government of B.C.

## **Provincial Government:**

The people who are elected to manage the province of B.C.

## **Returning Officer:**

The person in your community who is in charge of making sure the election is fair and everyone gets to vote.

## **Riding:**

The area you live and vote in.

## **Voting:**

Choosing the person you want to speak for you in the Government.

The last page is a small poster for you take a picture with.

Post your pictures online with **#IAmVoting** to spread the word about voting in the 2024 Provincial Election.



# I AM Noting