Voting in Ontario

Your complete guide to voting.

What is the process?
- An election begins when the Premier of Ontario decides to call an election.
- The Lieutenant Governor signs the writ(s) of election, which officially starts the election.
- Ontario is divided into 124 electoral districts. Candidates in each electoral district register to be on the ballot and begin campaigning.
- People then vote for their local candidate in their electoral district. The candidate with the most votes in each district becomes its Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP).
- The political party with the most elected MPPs usually forms the new provincial government.
- The MPPs meet in the Legislative Assembly of Ontario and make the laws that govern the province.

Who can vote?
To be eligible to vote, you must be:
- At least 18 years of age on election day;
- a Canadian citizen;
- a resident of Ontario.

Am I on the voters list?
- Yes - You will receive a voter information card (VIC) in the mail that will include when and where to vote.
- No - You can add or update your information:
  - online at elections.on.ca;
  - in person at your returning office;
  - in person when you go to vote.
You will need one piece of ID showing your name and residential address. Find examples at elections.on.ca/id-requirements.

How do I vote?
Once an election is called, you will receive your voter information card (VIC) in the mail, telling you when and where to vote. You can vote:
- in person on election day;
- in person at an advance poll;
- in person at your local returning office;
- by mail;
- using assistive voting technology.

What happens when you go to vote?
- Show your VIC to a poll official.
- Receive a ballot with the poll official’s initials.
- Go behind a voting screen and mark your ballot, choosing only one candidate.
- Give your marked ballot to the poll official to be placed in the ballot box or through a tabulator.
Congratulations! You have voted successfully!

What if I’m under 18?
- If you are 16 or 17 years old and a Canadian citizen and a resident of Ontario, you can add yourself to the Ontario Register of Future Voters.
- Once you turn 18, you will automatically be added to the voters list.

Get vote-ready.

Visit elections.on.ca for more information.