

News Release

Attention: News editors, Legislative Assembly press gallery FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Elections Ontario Receives 2017 Minority Participation Award from the International Electoral Awards

TORONTO, March 21, 2018 - Elections Ontario wins Minority Participation Award from the International Electoral Awards Committee. The Minority Participation Award aims at rewarding Electoral Management Bodies and Electoral Officials, who made extensive efforts to guarantee, strengthen and execute the rights of minorities to cast their vote and actively participate in the democratic process.

Chief Electoral Officer Greg Essensa and Chief Operating Officer Lalitha Flach are attending the 48<sup>th</sup> Highlanders of Canada 2018 Regional Dinner, on March 22, where they will accept the award presented by Jean-Pierre Kingsley, former Chief Electoral Officer of Elections Canada.

Elections Ontario is committed to informing and engaging all electors in Ontario on options to vote. This includes new citizens, students, Indigenous electors, electors without permanent home addresses, and Ontarians with disabilities.

Elections Ontario's outreach team regularly attends public events and gives presentations to provide information and materials about voting in Ontario. For detailed information about Elections Ontario's Outreach initiatives, please visit our website at elections.on.ca, or contact our Education and Outreach team outreach@elections.on.ca.

### Quote

"The Minority Participation Award recognizes the initiatives Elections Ontario has implemented to ensure that all electors are served in a modern, responsive and consistent manner that also ensures the integrity of the democratic process," says Greg Essensa, Elections Ontario's Chief Electoral

### Officer.

## **Quick Facts**

- Elections Ontario advertises with ethno-cultural media across the province, including language/cultural groups such as Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese) Urdu, Punjabi, Italian. It also makes election materials such as the Householder available on our website for download and at the polls in 33 languages.
- Outreach kits will be sent to more than 2,500 organizations across Ontario for the 2018 General Election. Elections Ontario provides a number of different outreach kits to educators, libraries, shelters and food banks, and other organizations that provide resources to voters.

## Links

- <u>elections.on.ca</u>
- International Electoral Awards: http://awards.electoralnetwork.org/index.php

Elections Ontario is the non-partisan agency responsible for administering provincial elections, by-elections and referenda. For more information, visit <u>elections.on.ca</u> or call 1-888-668-8683 (TTY: 1-888-292-2312).

### Links

• <u>elections.on.ca</u>

Aussi disponible en français

For further information, please contact

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