



# Elections Ontario

News Release  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Elections Ontario celebrates International Day of Democracy on September 15**

**TORONTO, September 12, 2018** – Elections Ontario is celebrating the International Day of Democracy on September 15 by asking Ontarians why democracy matters to them.

The United Nations introduced International Day of Democracy to raise awareness of democratic values and principles. This year, Elections Ontario will celebrate the day with a message about the importance of staying democratically engaged, and invite Ontarians of all ages to respond with a picture or message on social media using the hashtag **#DemocracyMatters**.

Elections Ontario is also using the International Day of Democracy to remind electors to keep their provincial voter registration information up to date through e-Registration. Youth who are 16 or 17 years old, a resident of Ontario and a Canadian citizen can add themselves to the Ontario Register of Future Voters to be ready for the next provincial election. More information about provincial elections is available on the Elections Ontario website at [elections.on.ca](http://elections.on.ca).

Eligible voters are also encouraged to register to vote with their municipality for the upcoming municipal elections on October 22, 2018, and with Elections Canada for the 2019 federal election. Voters who have questions about the municipal elections, or who want to work in the municipal elections, can contact their municipality for more information. For information about the federal election, contact Elections Canada.

### **Quote**

“The International Day of Democracy reminds us of the importance of staying democratically engaged. Democracy is more than free and fair elections—it’s about the rights and responsibilities we have as members of a community. When I look at our own province, I am extremely encouraged about the future of democracy in Ontario, and I am pleased to celebrate it by asking Ontarians to share what matters most to them about our democratic processes.”

—Greg Essensa, Ontario’s Chief Electoral Officer

### **Quick Facts**

- The United Nations proclaimed September 15 as the International Day of Democracy on November 8, 2007.

- The United Nations theme for this year, [\*Democracy under Strain: Solutions for a Changing World\*](#), looks for ways to invigorate democracy and engage youth in the democratic process.
- Municipal elections are taking place across Ontario on October 22, 2018. Electors can contact their municipality for information about registration, candidates, employment opportunities, and voting.

#### Links

- [e-Registration](#)
- [Ontario Register of Future Voters](#)
- [Learning about Elections](#)
- [Registering for municipal or federal elections](#)

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

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*Aussi disponible en français*

**For further information, please contact**

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