



Appearance of the Chief Electoral Officer on the 44th General Election

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Binder prepared for the appearance of the Chief Electoral Officer before the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on the 44th General Election on February 17, 2022.

Foreign interference

Key Messages

- We work with Government of Canada intelligence and security agencies to understand and mitigate foreign interference in federal elections. Each has a distinct role to play.
- Our mandate is to identify and address misinformation and disinformation on the voting process, whether the source of disinformation is domestic or foreign.
- There are also rules in the *Canada Elections Act* that prohibit the use of foreign funds for partisan activities. Cases of suspected wrongdoing are referred to the Commissioner of Canada Elections.

Facts

Role of Elections Canada

- Elections Canada coordinates with other departments and agencies that contribute to election security, including the Communications Security Establishment (CSE), the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), and Global Affairs Canada's Rapid Response Mechanism (RRM), among others. We meet regularly to share information; discuss roles, responsibilities and protocols under potential scenarios; plan communications; and detect and respond to threats.
- With the support of national security and intelligence agencies, Elections Canada can focus on its top priority: administering elections and making sure Canadians can exercise their democratic rights to register, vote and be a candidate.

Canada Elections Act (CEA)

- There are a number of provisions that prohibit activities and spending by foreign entities in Canadian elections. Among them:
 - Only individual Canadian citizens or permanent residents may contribute to parties, candidates, electoral district associations and leadership and nomination contestants (363(1)).
 - Foreign entities may not incur regulated expenses as a third party (s. 351.1).
 - Third parties may not use foreign funds for regulated activities (including advertising or partisan activities at any time) (s. 349.02).
 - During an election period, it is illegal for any foreign person or entity to unduly influence an elector to vote or refrain from voting for a particular candidate or registered party including by incurring expenses to promote a party or candidate or committing an offence under a federal or provincial law (s. 282.4(2)).
 - Despite the above prohibition the Act provides that certain actions are not illegal undue influence, including expressing an opinion about the outcome or desired



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- outcome of the election, encouraging electors to vote for someone at the election, or engaging in media activities at the election such as interviews, columns or news.
- Foreign broadcasting stations may not be used to influence a person to vote or refrain from voting per se or to vote for or against a particular candidate or party (s. 330).

Role of the Commissioner of Canada Elections (CCE)

- Allegations of foreign interference can be directed to the Commissioner of Canada Elections (CCE), whose office is responsible for ensuring that the *Canada Elections Act* is complied with and enforced.
- Anyone who thinks that someone may have committed an offence under the *Canada Elections Act*, can contact the CCE to make a complaint. If a complaint falls within their mandate, the Commissioner can investigate and, if required, take compliance or enforcement action.
- Anyone with concerns about foreign interference in the democratic process can contact local law enforcement or CSIS.

Social media monitoring

Key Messages

- Since the 2015 General Election (GE), Elections Canada (EC) has been monitoring the information environment in order to observe inaccurate narratives about the federal electoral process as they developed, both before and during a general election.
- EC's objectives are to detect, assess and deter the spread of inaccurate information, and to be the official source of information of the federal electoral process.

Facts

- EC's monitoring function uses key word searches to uncover information being shared about the federal electoral process. We do not follow individual accounts or individuals.
- EC's monitoring function does not filter information based on its origin (foreign or domestic).
- 20 employees were assigned to the monitoring function during GE44 (compared to 19 in 2019).
- During GE44, EC monitored the environment in **15 languages** (English, French, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Cantonese, Portuguese, Arabic, Hindi, Punjabi, Korean, Somali, Japanese, Kirundi, and Kinyarwanda). During GE43, EC monitored in 21 languages, this experience allowed EC to narrow down the number of languages to focus on languages used most often to share content about Canadian federal elections.
- During GE44, EC monitored content on the following platforms:
 - **Mainstream platforms:**
 - Facebook, Twitter, Reddit, YouTube, TikTok, news websites, LinkedIn.
 - **Niche / alternative platforms:**
 - 4Chan, Gab, Bitchute, and more (changes occur frequently, use specific language and culture).
 - **Additional language platforms:**
 - WeChat, Douyin, VK, Naver, expat forums.
- **Examples of content captured during GE44:**
 - Inaccurate/misleading information about when, where, how to register or vote (**significant levels of inaccurate information about special ballot voting**).
 - Inaccurate/misleading information about EC's mandate or operations (**significant levels of inaccurate information about vaccine requirements**).
 - Reports of incidents or threats that could impact EC's operations.



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Fact Sheet / Fiche d'information

- Impersonation of EC.

Voter Information Cards (content; replacement VICs)

Key Messages

- Difficulties in confirming polling locations, as well as landlords cancelling confirmed polling places, resulted in delays in sending voter information cards (VICs). In most places, VICs arrived just a few days before advance polls.
- Three electoral districts (EDs) experienced notable issues with the production and/or distribution of VICs, negatively impacting advance or Election Day voting opportunities for a sizable number of voters.
- In one case, in Toronto-Danforth, some replacement VICs that were sent due to a cancelled polling place arrived in households before the original VIC, causing some confusion.
- In all cases, as soon as issues were discovered, Elections Canada (EC) took proactive measures such as media ads or local signage to disseminate polling place information to electors of impacted EDs.

Facts

- In the previous election, the vast majority of VICs were sent to every elector whose name appeared on preliminary lists of electors by Day 24 of the electoral calendar.
- In the 44th general election (GE), VICs were mailed past the statutory deadline of Day 24 owing to difficulties in confirming polling sites.
- Vast majority of VICs were received on time for the opening of advance polls (Day 10), except in a few exceptional cases.

Gatineau (24027)

- The VICs for approximately 30,000 electors in this ED showed "Unconfirmed" instead of the polling place's name and address for advance polling days, polling day or both.
- The issue was due to an internal system anomaly following a polling place loss. As such, these VICs were still showing as approved/completed in our reporting.
- Data shows that there were no significant impacts on voter turnout for both advance polling days and ordinary polling day.

Brampton East (35009)

- Following a polling place loss, VICs for approximately 55,000 electors in this ED needed to be regenerated with new polling place information.
- The regeneration process was not completed properly by the field office, VICs were therefore not received by electors in time for advance polling days.

Fact Sheet

- Voter turnout saw an important drop in the first two days of advance polls compared to the previous GE, but increased in the last two days. Overall, the turnout in this ED for the 44th general election is consistent with that of surrounding EDs.

Toronto-Danforth (35109)

- Replacement VICs were printed for 4,273 electors whose polling place had changed mid-way through the election. Anecdotal evidence suggests that for an unknown number of electors, the incorrect initial VIC was delivered after the replacement VIC that had the new polling place address.
- Assuming the second VIC being the correct one, the electors showed up to vote at the wrong address on Election Day.
- Given the anecdotal nature of the report, and without tracking mechanism on VICs it is not possible to know which polling division(s), or how many voters were affected by the late delivery of the original VIC, nor the root cause of the problem.

PROC's recommendations and Election Canada's election activities

Key Messages

- The delivery of the 44th general election (GE) aligned closely with most of the recommendations in the final report of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC) study on conducting an election during the pandemic.
- This includes updated health and safety measures for electors and elections workers, consultations with long-term care facilities, vote-by-mail service, and an extended public communications and Voter Information Campaign.
- In two instances, election delivery did not align with PROC's recommendations. These included their recommendations to offer a vote-by-phone option and to offer in-person registration for special ballots at Canada Post outlets. The recommendations were not pursued for legal and operational reasons.

Facts

EC's election activities¹

1. Health and safety measures:

- The agency's overarching priority was to ensure that Canadians would feel safe participating in the election, whatever their role. EC developed safety measures in consultation with federal, provincial and territorial public health authorities, as well as with provincial and international electoral management bodies that were themselves preparing for pandemic elections.
- The agency also updated or created new reference materials to guide election workers on how to implement changes to operations in the field. To comply with physical distancing measures, EC developed a model for providing in-person voting services using a single poll worker, replacing the two-person model traditionally used in elections. Training guides and staffing instructions were revised accordingly.

2. Voting in long-term care facilities:

- Given the varying and evolving circumstances at each long-term care facility across the country, it was necessary to implement a range of alternatives to the traditional mobile poll. As part of their readiness activities, returning officers were instructed to consult the administrators of long-term care facilities in their electoral districts (EDs) to determine which voting options could be offered to residents.

¹ Report on the 44th General Election of September 20, 2021

3. Vote-by-mail services:

- EC developed a system that allowed electors to request their special ballot kit online and upload the required proof of identity and address. EC also added a feature that enabled electors to check the status of their special ballot kit request. In addition, if an elector provided an e-mail address during the application process, they would receive a confirmation when their completed special ballot was received at the local office.
- EC used every opportunity to explain the range of safeguards in place to ensure the integrity of special ballot process. That voting process was featured in the agency's first ever digital electoral safeguards campaign, which included paid and organic messaging intended to preserve trust in the electoral process and address false narratives being observed in the information environment. This campaign included infographics, videos, and website site content explaining the special ballot process and the integrity checks built into it. The agency launched a special ballot tracker, which was updated throughout the election period to provide increased transparency, held technical briefings with political parties and the media, and invited observers to watch the count of special ballots at the agency's processing centre in Ottawa and at local offices. The agency also reviewed its business processes and augmented its capacity to respond to enquiries from electors.
- Drop boxes designated to receive special ballots were added to polling places on election day.

4. Public communications and the Voter Information Campaign:

- The agency expanded its Voter Information Campaign to address several key strategic objectives. The first was to make sure that electors who preferred to vote in person at their assigned polling station would be confident that they could do so safely. The second was to promote the option of voting by mail to electors who could not, or did not want to, vote in person. The third was to explain, well in advance of election day, why results in some EDs might not be known on election night.

PROC's Recommendations

PROC's final report *[Protecting Public Health and Democracy during a Possible Pandemic Election](#)*, tabled on February 26, 2021, included 13 categories of recommendations from the committee, as well as a number of supplementary recommendations from the Conservative Party (CPC), the Bloc Québécois (BQ), and the New Democratic Party (NDP). PROC's categories of recommendations include:

- 1. Health and safety:** That EC recognize and consider COVID-19 in its planning and operationalizing of an election during the pandemic, including making efforts to ensure contact tracing in all EDs, and a requirement for political parties to publish a pandemic preparedness plan.

- 2. Duration of the election period:** The committee did not make a recommendation with respect to the length of the election period.

 - However, the CPC and BQ included supplementary recommendations that the government set the maximum allowable election period.
- 3. Electoral advisory body:** That the Advisory Committee of Political Parties (ACPP) consult and receive guidance from federal, provincial and territorial public health authorities on running an election during the pandemic, and that a broader stakeholder advisory group consult and gain input on individuals who are disproportionately at risk of negative health outcomes due to COVID-19. It was also recommended to work with the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) and public health authorities to determine how best to support these individuals in voting.
- 4. Administering the vote to electors facing barriers:** The committee made a number of recommendations related to Indigenous electors, persons with disabilities, Canadians living in poverty, and new Canadians. The recommendations focussed on access to alternative voting methods, consultation with communities and stakeholder groups to provide information and increase access, and communication about voting options. In the report, PROC noted that it did not wish to make recommendations related to students at this time.

 - In its supplementary recommendations, the NDP supported and reiterated recommendations related to outreach and planning with Indigenous communities, as well as with disability stakeholder organizations, in order to help overcome long-standing barriers and those created by the pandemic.
 - The NDP also reiterated its recommendation from the interim report that EC should maintain the Vote on Campus Program.
- 5. Voting by mail:** The committee made several recommendations related to voting by mail. It advised EC to prepare for a potential influx of mail-in ballots, including by developing an online application system, offering easier methods for electors to prove their identity, and offering access to drop boxes. The committee also made recommendations related to tracking and reconciling special ballots distributed and received.

 - The NDP reiterated its supplementary recommendation that EC create an online application process and that it partner with Canada Post for in-person registration for special ballots at postal outlets.
- 6. Campaigning:** That the ACPP consult and receive guidance from federal, provincial and territorial public health authorities and stakeholder groups representing populations who face a high risk of COVID-19 to establish guidelines for campaigning.

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- 7. Communication with the public and stakeholders:** That EC clarify the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders and offer clear messaging to electors, particularly to Indigenous electors and others who face barriers, about voting methods, health and safety measures at polling places, and instructions for those self-isolating or who have tested positive for COVID-19.
- 8. Voting under quarantine:** That EC develop a plan on how voters required to quarantine within two weeks of election day will be able to vote.
- 9. Voting by phone:** That EC explore options for establishing a vote-by-phone option.
 - In their supplementary recommendations, the CPC and BQ noted their disagreement with this recommendation.
- 10. Election workers:** That EC develop a recruitment strategy that considers the need for more workers and contemplates scheduling changes, shorter shifts, and health and safety protocols.
- 11. Conduct of the election:** The committee listed a number of recommendations relating to health and safety of polling sites, including set-up, cleaning, health protocols like physical distancing and use of PPE, and training on health and safety protocols. It also recommended that the government make rapid testing available and amend the *Canada Elections Act* to allow for the electronic collection of signatures for candidates' nominations.
- 12. Royal prerogative of dissolution:** That the government commit to not calling an election during the pandemic unless defeated on a non-confidence motion.
- 13. Miscellaneous recommendations:** That EC increase resources to respond to voter inquiries and ensure a heightened effort to combat disinformation about elections.

Additional supplementary recommendations from the parties included:

- **Long-term care:**
 - The CPC recommended that EC consult extensively with long-term care homes to determine safe ways to conduct the election, including consideration of how rapid testing of election workers could increase the safety of residents. The CPC also recommended that the length of time spent with long-term care residents and the amount of time spent in facilities by election workers be kept to a minimum.
 - The BQ reiterated that the CEO be authorized to determine when and how the voting will take place in long-term care facilities.
- **Other:**



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- The BQ noted that Bill C-19 does not prohibit the release of new polls or election advertising during the entire ordinary voting period, which the bill increased to three consecutive days.
- The BQ also reiterated its recommendation that polling day be replaced by a two-day polling period, on Saturday and Sunday, with 16 hours spread over two days.
- The CPC suggested that measures in PROC's report or in resulting legislation expire once the pandemic is deemed over, or after two years, whichever is sooner.

Cost of the 44th General Election

Key Messages

- The estimated cost of the 44th general election (GE) is \$630 million, or approximately \$22.90 for each registered elector.
- Most of the cost will be incurred in this fiscal year with over 80% having been incurred at January 31, 2022, but will continue for two more years (e.g. reimbursements to parties and candidates).

Facts

- Elections Canada had paid all of the 195,000 election workers in the four weeks after polling day and has been resolving exceptional cases swiftly since that time.
- Cost breakdown of the 44thGE:

	(\$ M)
Estimated Cost of GE44	\$630.0
Field Delivery in 338 Electoral Districts	\$267.2
ECHQ Support to Field, Public & Political Entities, and Voter Info Campaign	\$153.3
Readiness Activities at ECHQ and in the Field	\$120.2
Reimbursements to Political Entities	\$66.7
Employee Benefits Plan (EBP)	\$22.6

- GE44 cost \$129.2 million more than GE43 (\$115.7 million in constant dollars):

	(\$ M)
Cost of GE43	\$500.8
Field Offices and Personnel, incl. Increased Rates of Pay for Field Workers (Tariff changes, incl. overtime and statutory holiday, Changes to Staffing Model, Offices & Polls Operations & Maintenance)	\$44.7
Pandemic Measures (Personal Protective Equipment, Vote by Mail, Voter Information Campaign, Supplement to Electoral Administrators, Office & Poll Leases)	\$42.0
Inflation (from 2019 to 2021)	\$13.9
IT Infrastructure (upgrades to IT equipment, systems and web hosting)	\$12.8
Readiness cost due to timing of election (incremental cost due to minority government)	\$11.4
Elections Canada HQ (Personnel for Field Services Network, Distribution Centre, Recruitment & Compensation, GE44 Audit, and other support personnel across the Agency)	\$11.2
Length of election period (from 40 at GE43 to 36-Day at GE44, Early opening GE43)	(\$6.8)
Estimated Cost of GE44	\$630.0

Cost for pandemic measures

Key Messages

- Estimated cost of pandemic measures is \$42.0M
- Includes Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and other safety material, adjustments to the vote-by-mail services, the voter information safety campaign, extra costs for field offices and polling stations leases, and supplement payment to electoral administrators*.

Facts

- The net reduction of \$8.2M from the previous estimate of \$50.2M is due mostly to the *Special Ballot Vote-by-Mail Services* volume lower than expected (reduced by \$23.0M), the addition of the *Supplement for Electoral Administrators* (\$4.5M) and increase costs for *Field Offices and Polling Places Leases* and Others, including web hosting (\$10.3M).

Items (Qty)	Estimated Cost (\$M)
Physical Barriers for Voting (125 thousand)	\$ 3.4
Masks (18.5 million)	\$ 3.2
Headsets (11 thousand)	\$ 1.9
Face shields (411 thousand)	\$ 0.6
Gloves (4.1 million)	\$ 0.5
Bottle of 160 Wipes (40 thousand)	\$ 0.4
Pencils (16 million regular, 4 million large)	\$ 0.4
Transparent Face Masks (290 thousand)	\$ 0.3
Other (incl. PPE Preparing and Shipping)	\$ 4.0
Material	\$ 14.8
Mail-out of ballot kits and pre-paid returns	\$ 3.3
IT Adaptive Measures (incl. RO Office computers)	\$ 2.9
Envelopes	\$ 1.1
Special Ballot Vote by Mail Services	\$ 7.2
Field Offices and Polling Places Lease	\$ 7.1
Voter Information Campaign (incl. Vote by Mail)	\$ 4.0
Supplement for Electoral Administrators	\$ 4.5
Other IT Adaptive Measures	\$ 4.4
Total	\$ 42.0



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* Electoral Administrators include returning officers, assistant returning officers, additional assistant returning officers and field liaison officers.

Communications campaign overview and cost

Key Messages

- To ensure that Canadians can exercise their democratic right to vote, Elections Canada (EC) conducts Voter Information Campaigns before and during federal elections to provide Canadians with all the information they need on when, where and the ways to register and vote in a federal election.
- The estimated media placement cost of these campaigns for the 44th general election (GE) is \$17.4M (versus \$13M for GE43).
- This amount includes the media placements for the main Voter Information Campaign, as well as an enhanced recruitment campaign, a Health and Safety campaign and an electoral safeguards campaign.
- The Health and Safety Campaign was developed to inform electors at large as well as vulnerable populations of the measures and voting options in place to ensure they could register and cast their vote safely; as well as raise awareness on the health and safety measures in place for election workers.
- An enhanced recruitment was developed to address ongoing recruitment issues and anticipated recruitment challenges in the context of the pandemic.

Facts

- The national multimedia campaign provides Canadians with all the information they need on when, where and the ways to register and vote in a federal election. It also positions EC as the official source of information on the electoral process.
- The \$17.4M does not include the \$1.6M costs related to the development of the campaign (planning and creative).
- The Voter Information Campaign, delivered through a series of products with consistent messages and look and feel, primarily targets the general population as well as groups who face higher-than-average barriers to participating in elections: [youth](#), [new Canadian citizens](#), [Indigenous electors](#), and [electors with disabilities](#).
- The Voter Information Campaign is rolled out in four phases:
 - Phase I: Registration (Days 33–22).
 - Phase 2: Voter Information Card (Days 21-15).
 - Phase 3: Early Voting Options (Days 23-15 digital only & Days 14–8).
 - Phase 4: Election Day (Days 7–0).

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- The recruitment campaign aimed at raising awareness on paid working opportunities on advance polls and election day and encouraging potential workers to apply online. The budget for this campaign was four times higher than in 2019 (\$475K vs \$100K) to address anticipated recruitment challenges in the context of the pandemic.
- The Health and Safety campaign aimed at informing electors of the safety measures in place and voting options including:
 - **Enhanced Early Voting Options phase:** two weeks instead of one week as previous elections.
 - **Campaign targeting senior citizens:** to ensure more vulnerable electors were aware of the vote by mail option.
 - **Campaign targeting students living away from home:** to ensure these students knew how they could vote (vote at a local EC office or by mail).
 - **Campaign on campuses across Canada:** digital screens promoting the various voting options (as Voting on campus was not offered).
- Electoral Safeguards campaign to raise the level of public knowledge about safeguards in place to ensure electoral security and integrity.
- The complimentary campaigns used the same branding that was developed for the Voter Information Campaign. The Health and Safety campaign used a different color palette to make it stand out while being consistent with the other campaigns.

Budget

Item	Regular (\$M)	Pandemic (\$M)	Total (\$M)
Voter Information Campaign	\$ 12.9		\$ 12.9
Safety Campaign (excl. Early Voting Options)		\$ 3.1	\$ 3.1
Early Voting Options (incl. Vote by Mail)		\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5
Recruitment	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.5
Integrity Campaign	\$ 0.3		\$ 0.3
Advertising Campaign on Campuses	\$ 0.2		\$ 0.2
Total Campaign	\$ 13.6	\$ 3.7	\$ 17.4
Campaign Development	\$ 1.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 1.6
Total	\$ 15.0	\$ 4.0	\$ 19.0



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Channels used to deploy the voter information campaign:

EC's mandate is to reach all Canadians. EC has used all the traditional channels such as TV, radio, newspapers, out-of-home, as well as digital and social media platforms.

Targeted audiences:

All eligible Canadian electors as well as youth, students, people aged 60+, Indigenous electors and people with disabilities, as they are audiences who face barriers to registering and voting.

Special Ballot Communications – timeline for the 44th general election campaign

Key Messages

- During the 44th general election, Elections Canada (EC) communicated widely and clearly about the various aspects of the special ballot process throughout the election period.
- The goal was to ensure Canadians were aware of their options to vote by special ballot, and of the associated requirements and deadlines. Our post election surveys indicate that unaided awareness of the vote by mail option went from 23% in GE43 to 70% in GE44.
- The communications campaign around special ballot voting was dynamic and changed throughout the election period in order to give Canadians the most pertinent information at the most relevant time.

Facts

- Throughout the election period, EC published several social media posts and reached out proactively to hundreds of media outlets to communicate information about:
 - The options to vote by special ballot.
 - The requirements and ways to apply for a special ballot.
 - The deadlines associated with the special ballot process.
 - The safeguards built into the special ballot process.
- The Inspire Democracy program sent numerous emails to its network of stakeholder organizations (approximately 600 addresses at the time of the election) which explained the vote-by-mail process. This included an email devoted exclusively to information about vote-by-mail, as well as several others emails which explained the vote-by-mail process in the context of all the options electors have to vote.
- Inspire Democracy's toolkit on registration and voting was updated before the election to expand its information on voting by mail, including the addition of explainer videos on the process.
- Community Leader Handbooks (for Indigenous electors, youth, new Canadians, and electors with disabilities) were updated with more information on voting by mail.
- A total of 9 student-focused presentations were made in which vote-by-mail was featured.
- The Assembly of First Nations promoted vote-by-mail across all their platforms, as a safe option to vote during the pandemic.
- Ilinniapii Skills Development Centre (iSDC), which works throughout the North, promoted vote by mail as an option for remote communities.

Fact Sheet

- Here is a timeline for key special ballot communications throughout the 44th General Election period.

Week 1

Election Calendar	Date (2021)	Communications product	Notes
Day 36	Aug.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> News Release (NR) - Federal General Election Under Way GE website launches 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> News Release mentions special ballot options and deadlines. Dedicated web pages for vote by mail (featured on EC's homepage with icon ... was never done before) and on special ballot.
Day 35	Aug.16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New explainer video on Voting by Mail launches on social media and on EC's website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains the vote-by-mail process, including deadlines and requirements.
Day 34	Aug. 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NR – There Are Several Ways to Vote in the Federal Election 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentions special ballot options and deadlines.
Day 34	Aug. 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NR – Voting Rules for Electors Living Outside of Canada 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mentions special ballot options and deadlines for international electors.
Day 33	Aug. 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CEO Press Conference and EC technical Briefing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two media events at which special voting rules were discussed and media questions answered.
Day 30	Aug.21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New explainer video on voting at an Elections Canada office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains the process for voting by special ballot at a local office.

Week 2

Election Calendar day	Date (2021)	Communications product	Notes
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Day 23	Aug. 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital advertising campaign for early voting options begins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains early special ballot voting options, including deadlines. Campaign runs until Sept. 5 (day 15), then multimedia campaign begins. This is one week earlier than has been done in past GEs.
Day 23	Aug. 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertising campaign for Students and Seniors begins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains voting options, including special ballot voting options. This was a new campaign for this election.
Day 23	Aug. 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vote by mail safeguards campaign launch – video, webpage, social media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campaign explains the various safeguards in place to protect the integrity of the vote-by-mail process.

Week 4

Election Calendar	Date (2021)	Communications product	Notes
Day 14	Sep. 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multimedia advertising campaign for early voting options begins 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explains early special ballot voting options, including deadlines. Runs across multiple channels, nationally (TV, Radio, out-of-home, digital and social media advertisements). This was the normal campaign run in past elections with special ballot voting more predominantly featured.
Day 14	Sep. 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Guide to the Federal election</i> mailed to each household 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distributed to all Canadian households. Includes information on special ballot voting options, requirements and deadlines.
Day 11	Sep. 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NR - Deadline Approaches To Apply To Vote by Mail or at an Elections Canada Office 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Included details about requirements and deadlines for student special ballot voting. Pitched to dozens of outlets.

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Day 11	Sep. 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New special ballot FAQs added to website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Can I request a replacement voting kit?” and “what safeguards are in place to make voting by mail secure?”
Week 5			
Election Calendar	Date (2021)	Communications product	Notes
Day 8	Sep. 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End of advertising campaign for early voting options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertising campaign ends in advance of the Day 6 deadline to apply to vote by special ballot.
Day 5	Sep. 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All special ballot web content updated to reflect that deadline to apply has passed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All relevant pages and FAQs updated to reflect the passed deadline. Messages remind Canadians of the options to drop off their special ballot on election day, or to request it be canceled so they may vote in person (status certificate).
Day 5	Sep. 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NR - Electors Can Drop Off their Special Ballot in Person 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New NR that Explains the special ballot drop off option as well as the option to request the special ballot be canceled so the elector may vote in person (status certificate).
Day 0	Sept. 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New FAQ added to series on special ballot drop off points 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “Will I have to wait in line with voters who are voting in person?”
Day 0	Sept. 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NR – Election Day Reminders for Electors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reminds electors they have the option to drop off their special ballot in person.

Threats/violence towards election workers, candidates

Key Messages

- Throughout the election period, Elections Canada worked closely with national and local authorities to ensure the security and safety of electors, its workers and polling places.
- There was in this election a level of tension that we have never experienced before. They seemed to be primarily due to frustration around pandemic-related sanitary measures.
- Out of 78 incidents of disruptive behaviour at the polls where police were called, three included physical aggression to the poll workers.

Facts

- Elections Canada worked closely with federal security and intelligence agencies aligning our practices with their expert advice and benefiting from the continuous monitoring provided by Government of Canada agencies.
- Returning Officers are trained in all areas of election management including handling of a security incident.
- Returning Officers engaged security firms to ensure situations were handled professionally and quickly to limit the impact on voters and poll workers safety.
- During the GE44 Election Period, 102 incidents of disruptive behaviour at the polls were reported to ECHQ, 78 of which included police involvement, 3 of which included physical aggression to the poll workers were reported.
- Most of the incidents where police were involved were not violent and did not result in injury.

Security Preparedness

Key Messages

- The security of the electoral process both from a physical security standpoint and cybersecurity, is a priority concern for the agency.
- No cybersecurity incident disrupted services to Canadians or the administration of the electoral process in either the 43rd or 44th General Election; however, the agency remains vigilant to emerging threats and works closely with the Canadian Centre for Cyber Security and other security partners to remain proactive in security activities.

Facts

- Elections Canada has put in place an integrated security program that includes personnel security, physical security and cyber security. These programs work together to ensure the security of the agencies staff, assets and information.
- Prior to the last election, the agency took several measures to strengthen its security posture, notably through enhanced planning and preparation with security partners, improved information technology infrastructure and security awareness training.
- Elections Canada worked closely with federal security and intelligence agencies aligning our practices with their expert advice and benefiting from the continuous monitoring provided by Government of Canada agencies in all areas of security.
- All agency staff and key field election administrator positions undergo security screening and must achieve the appropriate security clearance to access agency infrastructure and information.
- Elections Canada has a comprehensive security awareness program that is mandatory for all staff and includes online training with instructional videos, simulated phishing exercises, ongoing communications and simulated exercises using various scenarios.

Offer of services in Indigenous languages

Key Messages

- Elections Canada (EC) has been working for many years to make the federal electoral process more accessible to Métis, Inuit and First Nations voters, for example by providing information on voting and voter identification in 16 Indigenous languages during the last general election.
- In order to reduce barriers to the participation of Indigenous voters, EC is currently re-examining how it provides services to them, particularly by reviewing the role of Indigenous languages in the federal electoral process and looking into the possibility of translating ballots.
- EC is ready to work with the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs on the role of Indigenous languages in the federal electoral process.

Facts

Removing barriers:

- EC has collected data showing that Indigenous voters tend to vote less than the general population of Canada does. Although this data is not sufficient to determine the impact of language barriers on the participation of Indigenous people, EC recognizes that these barriers are real.
- EC has been working for many years to make the federal electoral process more accessible to Indigenous voters, particularly by hiring community relations officers for these voters. The agency also works with several Indigenous bodies to reach Indigenous voters more effectively and, during the 44th general election, information products and electoral services were offered in 16 Indigenous languages.
- For Inuit voters, EC provided products in Inuktitut, including the *Guide to the Federal Election* and the list of accepted ID. The voter information campaign in Nunavut is also available in this language. Each voter registered in Nunavut receives two voter information cards (including one in Inuktitut) informing them where and when to vote. In addition, a large number of poll workers in polling stations outside Iqaluit can offer services in Inuktitut.
- During the 44th general election, electoral services in Inuktitut in Nunavut were improved with the creation of a new sign showing the name and political affiliation of candidates in Inuktitut.

Improving electoral services in Indigenous languages:

- Following the 2021 general election, EC received comments on the accessibility of electoral services in Inuktitut in Nunavut. Many of them noted that the lack of signage and ballots translated into Inuktitut created significant barriers to the participation of Inuit voters.
- EC is reassessing how to provide services to and collaborate with Indigenous voters. This in-depth review aims to reduce barriers to the participation of Indigenous voters and is part of reconciliation efforts with Indigenous people. However, a number of legal and operational aspects need to be considered.
- In particular, EC wishes to ensure that the improvement of electoral services is consistent with the principles of the *Indigenous Languages Act*, the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, and the regulations and policies that will be adopted upon the implementation of these laws.
- Furthermore, EC wishes to work with all institutions involved in the implementation of Indigenous language rights, particularly the federal Office of the Commissioner of Indigenous Languages.

Translating ballots into Indigenous languages:

- The possibility of providing ballots in Indigenous languages in some regions of the country is part of the reflection process, but it involves many complexities that must be analyzed thoroughly to find solutions that are acceptable to all stakeholders.
- The experience and lessons learned from other jurisdictions (e.g., Nunavut, the United States, Alaska) in this domain must be considered. Three Indigenous language ballot formats are possible: (1) multilingual ballots; (2) translated official ballots provided upon request; (3) facsimiles of ballots reproducing official ballots in local languages.
- Each option has pros and cons and a rigorous analysis must be conducted to choose the best solution. The US Election Assistance Commission has published guidelines on this matter.
- In Canada, a legislative amendment would be required to allow ballots in Indigenous languages. The use of facsimiles is the only exception, which is why Elections Canada explored their use during the 44th general election, by putting up posters with a reproduction of the ballot in Inuktitut next to voting screens in all polling stations in Nunavut.

Effectiveness of Drop Boxes

Key Messages

- Some 118k special ballot kits were issued to “local” voters on or after Monday Sept 12th, leaving only 5 workdays for a round trip over mail between the elector’s home and the local Returning Officer (RO) office. Voters could take their ballot back to the RO office anytime during the week or to their polling station on Election Day.
- Drop boxes were deployed in most polling places across Canada during the 44th General Election with the exception of 242 communities, in twelve electoral districts, where field administrators could not guarantee the safe and timely return to the local returning officer office.
- Extrapolating from reports received so far, we estimate that some 30,500 special ballots were returned in a drop box on Election Day.

Facts

- Drop boxes were deployed across the country with some exceptions. This additional channel allowed electors to simply bring their special ballot to their assigned polling place or any other polling place within their electoral district (ED) before close of polls on polling day. Field administrators were instructed to deploy one drop box per polling place. In addition, as per previous elections, electors also had the option of bringing the special ballot to their local returning officer office before close of polls.
- The drop box had a similar look and feel to the regular ballot box with the exception of a pink sticker to differentiate it. In addition, a poll official was responsible for ensuring its safekeeping at the polling place. The service was available to electors voting by special ballot from within their ED.
- On polling day, if an elector, candidate or one of their representatives returned multiple envelopes on behalf of other electors, central poll supervisors were instructed to document the situation and fill out an incident report prior to allowing the deposit of the special ballots in the drop box.
- On polling night, field personnel were required to complete a log (Log of Outer Envelopes Returned from Drop Boxes) indicating the number of special ballots found in drop boxes for each polling place. The purpose of this log was to ensure that the number of special ballots reported was equal to the number of special ballots returned to the RO office. They were also required to send a copy of their completed log separately to Elections Canada Headquarters (ECHQ). A total of 161 ROs did so. The remainder of ROs sent their logs to



Appearance of the Chief Electoral Officer on the 44th General Election

Fact Sheet

the Elections Canada Distribution Center with the other election returns. They have not been examined yet.

- Of the 161 EDs that sent a copy of their log back directly to ECHQ, a total of 14,566 special ballots were found in drop boxes. This figure can be extrapolated to 30,500 across the country.
- On the day after polling day, once all special ballots from drop boxes had been returned to the RO office, those special ballots were cross-referenced against the electors' information in our systems and also against voting status certificates from the polling places. In cases of potential double voting, the outer envelopes were set aside before the counting began. Once this verification process was completed, the special ballots were mixed-in with other special ballots prior to the count to ensure secrecy of the vote. They were not counted separately.
- For the first time during the October 2020 provincial election, Elections British Columbia (BC) also deployed drop boxes in voting places across the province. In past elections, Elections BC leveraged additional channels such as Service BC locations and district electoral offices for electors to return their vote-by-mail kits.

Fact Sheet

Legislative analysis of Bill C-246

Key Messages

- As independent commissions have already begun their work, any legislative amendment that Parliament wishes to make to the *Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act* process must be made as soon as possible.
- As currently drafted, Bill C-246 does not include any transitional provisions to allow providing a new calculation to independent commissions already in operation.

Facts

- Bill C-246, introduced by Member of Parliament Martin Champoux (Bloc Québécois, Drummond), proposes an amendment to the *Constitution Act, 1867* to ensure that the total number of members of Parliament for Quebec is not less than 25% of the total number of members in the House of Commons.
- If adopted as proposed, Bill C-246 will not modify the CEO's calculation for the ongoing redistribution process, as it does not include any transitory provisions. As required by the *Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act*, the chief electoral officer has already calculated the number of seats per province.

Census update and information

Key Messages

- The CEO does not have any discretionary authority regarding the use of July 1 population estimates for calculating seats during the redistribution process.
- The CEO is not required to explain the gap between the July 1 population estimates and the population figures from the decennial census. This is Statistics Canada's responsibility.

Facts

Use of population estimates for the calculation of House of Commons seats

- Quarterly (January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1), Statistics Canada publishes population estimates for Canada and the provinces.
- These demographic estimates are based on a wide set of federal and provincial administrative data sources and consider births, deaths, immigration, emigration and interprovincial migration.
- Wayne Smith, Canada's Chief Statistician from 2010 to 2016, appeared before PROC on November 17, 2011, as part of the review of Bill C-20, the *Fair Representation Act*. According to Mr. Smith, population estimates are more accurate, as they compensate for the undercounting (generally 2% to 3%) in a population census.
- In December 2011, the *Fair Representation Act* (la "Loi sur la représentation équitable") changed the data source used for calculating House of Commons seats. The July 1 population estimate from the decennial census is now used in this calculation instead of the population figures from the decennial census, as was previously the case.
- The July 1, 2021 population estimates were published by Statistics Canada on September 29, 2021. The CEO calculated seats according to the formula set out in section 51(1) of the *Constitution Act, 1867* and published the results in the *Canada Gazette* on October 15, 2021.
- The CEO has no discretionary authority regarding how the formula for calculating seats is applied or how population estimates are used in this calculation.

Use of population figures from the decennial census

- Each commission calculates the electoral quotient (population of the province divided by the number of seats) from these figures. This electoral quotient represents the population figure that each electoral district will reach when electoral boundaries are readjusted.
- The commissions use census data to establish subprovincial population distribution (by administrative region, municipality, sector and census block).
- The commissions do not receive any guidelines from the CEO on whether census undercounting (including that involving First Nations reserves) should be considered.
- Statistics Canada published population figures from the May 2021 census on February 9, 2022. In accordance with section 13(2) of the *Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act* (EBRA), the Chief Statistician sent a copy of the return showing the population of each of the provinces and electoral districts to the CEO, who then forwarded it to each of the ten commissions.
- The detailed population distribution data is integrated into the Commission Redistricting Tool developed by EC and will be available to the commissions via their electoral geography technicians the week of February 14, 2022.

Gap between quarterly population estimates and decennial census population figures

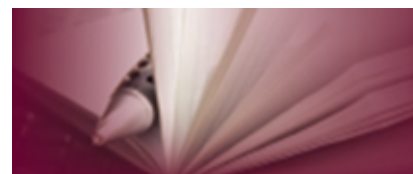
- The July 1, 2021, estimate is 3.37% higher than the May 2021 census population for all 10 provinces, which amounts to 1,244,394 people. At the provincial level, the gap varies from 1.21% (Quebec) to 6.47% (P.E.I.). In 2011, the gap between the July 1 estimate and the census for the total population of the 10 provinces was slightly lower (3.00%).
- In 2011, the calculation of seats with July 1 population estimates after the *Fair Representation Act* was adopted did not raise any significant concerns.
- The chart on the next page shows the gaps between July 1 population estimates and the decennial census for the years 2011 and 2021.

Fact Sheet

Comparison of population gaps between decennial census data and July 1 estimates for 2011 and 2021

PROV.	2022 REDISTRIBUTION				2012 REDISTRIBUTION			
	POPULATION		GAP		POPULATION		GAP	
	Estimates for July 1, 2021	May 2021 census	Number	%	Estimates for July 1, 2011	May 2011 census	Number	%
N.L.	520,553	510,550	10,003	1.96%	510,578	514,536	-3,958	-0.77%
P.E.I.	164,318	154,331	9,987	6.47%	145,855	140,204	5,651	4.03%
N.S.	992,055	969,383	22,672	2.34%	945,437	921,727	23,710	2.57%
N.B.	789,225	775,610	13,615	1.76%	755,455	751,171	4,284	0.57%
Que.	8,604,495	8,501,833	102,662	1.21%	7,979,663	7,903,001	76,662	0.97%
Ont.	14,826,276	14,223,942	602,334	4.23%	13,372,996	12,851,821	521,175	4.06%
Man.	1,383,765	1,342,153	41,612	3.10%	1,250,574	1,208,268	42,306	3.50%
Sask.	1,179,844	1,132,505	47,339	4.18%	1,057,884	1,033,381	24,503	2.37%
Alta.	4,442,879	4,262,635	180,244	4.23%	3,779,353	3,645,257	134,096	3.68%
B.C.	5,214,805	5,000,879	213,926	4.28%	4,573,321	4,400,057	173,264	3.94%
Total	38,118,215	36,873,821	1,244,394	3.37%	34,371,116	33,369,423	1,001,693	3.00%

Trust in Elections Canada in the 44th GE Preliminary Public Opinion Research Results



PACE Research, December 2021

This research fact sheet presents preliminary results from the 2021 National Elector Study (NES) (39,568 respondents in the post-election survey) as well as the Survey of Candidates (1075 respondents) for selected measures related to general trust in Elections Canada and the conduct of the 44th general election.

Considerations

- Results are weighted so that the characteristics of respondents correspond to their respective populations.
- All 2021 data are currently being reviewed and may be revised before publication.
- Percentages may not sum to 100 due to rounding or omission of “prefer not to answer” responses.
- Results from 2019 are included as a point of comparison; however, no statistical testing has been conducted and any observable differences in results may not be statistically significant.
- The final survey reports will provide a narrative account of the results including any interactions with other variables that may help contextualize the results. Reports are expected to be available for internal dissemination in early March 2022.

Table 1: Selected measures from the National Electors Study

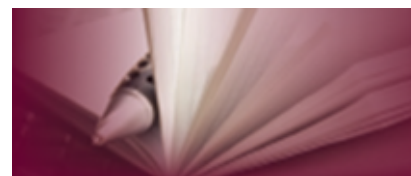
Electors	2021		2019
	Start of GE (W1a, n=8,371)	Post-GE (W2, n=39,568)	Post-GE (W3, n=21,435)
Overall, how much confidence do you have in Elections Canada?			
A fair amount or a great deal of confidence	86%	91%	92%
Not much or no confidence	13%	7%	6%
Don't know	2%	2%	3%
How strongly do you agree or disagree that Elections Canada is the most trusted source of information about the electoral process?			
Somewhat or strongly agree	89%	93%	91%
Somewhat or strongly disagree	8%	4%	5%
Don't know	3%	3%	4%
How fairly would you say Elections Canada ran the election?			
Somewhat or very fairly	--	87%	90%
Somewhat or very unfairly	--	7%	5%
Don't know	--	6%	6%
What level of trust do you have in the accuracy of the election results in your riding?			
Somewhat or very high trust	--	91%	89%
Somewhat or very low trust	--	7%	6%
Don't know	--	2%	4%



Table 2: Selected measures from the Survey of Candidates

Candidates	2021 Post-GE (n=1,075)	2019 Post-GE (n=1,172)
How fairly would you say Elections Canada ran the election?		
Somewhat or very fairly	76%	81%
Somewhat or very unfairly	20%	13%
Don't know	4%	6%
What level of trust do you have in the accuracy of the election results in your riding?		
Somewhat or very high trust	83%	86%
Somewhat or very low trust	13%	10%
Don't know	3%	4%

Preliminary Survey Results from NES GE44: Elector Knowledge, Expectations, and Experience of the Voting Process



PACE Research, February 2022

This research fact sheet presents preliminary results from the 2021 National Elector Study (NES) for selected measures related to electors' expectations, knowledge and experience of the voting process, with a focus on how informed and safe electors felt about the ways to vote in the election given the COVID-19 pandemic, and on how easy it was to vote in those ways.

Considerations

- Electors' expectations of the voting process were measured throughout the election period survey (53,731 respondents). All other results were measured in the post-election survey (39,568 respondents).
- Results are weighted so that the characteristics of respondents correspond to their respective populations.
- All 2021 data are currently being reviewed and may be revised before publication.
- Results from the previous GE(s) are included as a point of comparison; however, no statistical testing has been conducted and any minor differences in results may not be statistically significant.
- The final survey reports will provide a narrative account of the results including any interactions with other variables that may help contextualize the results. Reports are expected to be available for internal dissemination in early March 2022.

Observations

- During the election period, electors expected it would be easier to vote in person (96%) than by mail (67%). They also expected that they would feel safe voting in person (90%).
- After the election, 89% of electors said they felt informed about the health and safety measures in place at the polls for COVID-19; 96% said they felt informed about when, where and the way to vote in the election.
- Electors' awareness of the option to vote by mail was much higher for the 44th GE (70%) than for any previous GE (e.g. 23% in 2019).
- Voters reported that on average it took 5 to 6 minutes longer to vote at both ordinary polls and advance polls in 2021 than it did in 2019. Compared with the 2015 GE, election day voting times in 2021 were on average 3 minutes longer while advance voting times were 7 minutes shorter.
- Regardless of whether voters voted on election day, at advance polls, or by mail, the vast majority (>95%) said they found it was easy to vote, they were satisfied with their overall voting experience, and those who voted in person said they felt safe.

Elector expectations of the voting process during the election period	2021	2019
Electors who expected it would be easy to vote by mail	67%	-
Electors who expected it would be easy to vote at the polling place in person	96%	98%
Electors who expected they would feel safe voting in person, given COVID-19 health and safety measures in place at the polls	90%	-

Elector knowledge of the voting process after the election	2021	2019
Electors who felt informed about when, where and the ways to vote in the election	96%	-
Electors who felt informed about the health and safety measures for COVID-19 that were in place at the polls for the election	89%	-
Electors who knew unaided about the option to vote by mail in the election	70%	23%

Time it took to vote in person	2021	2019	2015
Average time it took to vote in person in minutes	13	8	12
At a polling place on election day	12	7	9
At advance polls	14	8	21

Ease of and satisfaction with the voting experience	2021	2019
Voters who said it was easy to vote (all methods)	98%	98%
At a polling place on election day	98%	98%
At advance polls	98%	98%
By mail	97%	90%
Voters satisfied with their overall voting experience (all methods)	96%	97%
At a polling place on election day	96%	97%
At advance polls	96%	97%
By mail	95%	95%
Voters who felt safe when they voted in person, given COVID-19 health and safety measures that were in place at the polls	95%	-

Forthcoming Survey Results

February 16

- **Results from the Labour Force Survey**
 - Non-voters' reasons for not voting

Q1 2022-23

- **Additional results from the National Electors Study**
 - Knowledge and ease of various aspects of the electoral process: registration, voter identification, accessibility
 - Opinions on the distance to and suitability of polling places
 - Awareness and evaluation of the Voter Information Campaign
 - Perceptions of the integrity of the election including vote by mail, the impact of disinformation and foreign interference/influence

- **Results from the survey of election officers**
 - Poll workers' observations on how smoothly the voting process went at the polling place
 - How safe poll workers felt when working with the safety measures in place for Covid-19
 - Difficulties of working the polls due to Covid-19 safety measures
 - Views on the quality of the working conditions
- **Results from the survey of recruitment officers**
 - Ease/difficulty of recruiting people to work the polls, reasons it was difficult
 - How often people were hesitant to work due to Covid-19 or the related conditions of employment
 - Ease/difficulty of hiring bilingual poll staff
- **Results from the survey of candidates**
 - Use and satisfaction with Elections Canada's products and services
 - Ease/difficulty of the nomination process
 - Satisfaction with Elections Canada's administration of the election in their riding
- All surveys: analysis of differences in results by subgroup – e.g. age, gender, region, youth, First Nations, persons with a disability, etc.

Offer of services and participation in long-term care facilities

A) Offer of services

Data source: According to data collected from returning officers via STAT, and by using voting status data from the list of electors, the known service plans for residential and long-term care centres were:

- **Number of residential and long-term care centres for which plans are known: 5,166**
- **On-site polling stations: 3,989 (77%); of which:**
 - September 20: 494 (12%)
 - September 7–19: 3,495 (88%)
- **Votes by mail assisted by EC staff: 990 (19%).** Of these voters, we know that 46% requested to vote by mail.
- **Votes by mail not assisted by EC staff: (4%).** Of these voters, we know that 34% requested to vote by mail.

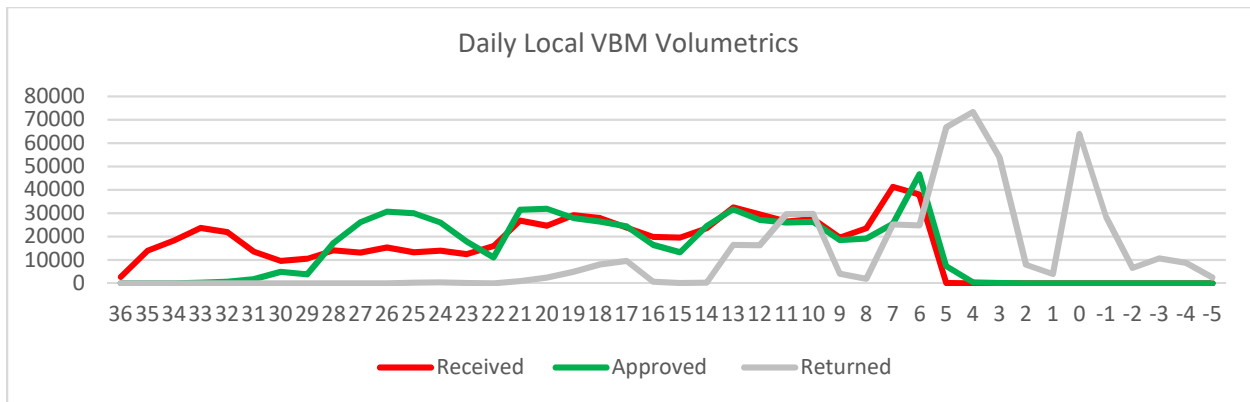
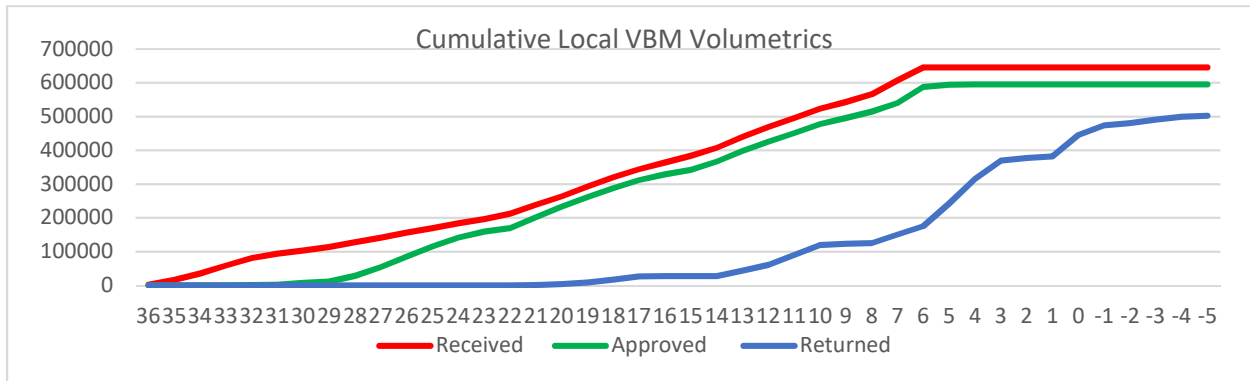
B) Results

Data source: According to validated results for 500 polling stations in 2019 and 2021.

Voter turnout decreased by 2.2 percentage points in 2021 compared to 4.4 nationwide for all voters.

	LTC/Retirement Residences			
	GE 44		GE 43	
Voted at LTC (7–20 Sept)	145,366	77.9%	174,750	94.5%
Voted SVR (local or absentee)	32,061	17.2%	2,866	1.5%
Voted at an advance poll	9,312	5.0%	7,362	4.0%
Total Poll Votes/SVR applications	186,739	100%	184,978	100%
Electors on the list	324,038		309,450	
Turnout	57.6%		59.8%	

Local Vote-By-Mail Volumetrics



Key Milestones	Day	Applications Received		Ballots Approved		Ballots Returned	
		Volume	Percent	Volume	Percent	Volume	Percent
By end of 1st Week of Election	30	103,000	15.9%	2,500	0.4%	2	0.0%
When Candidates lists are closed	19	293,000	45.4%	262,000	44.0%	8,900	1.8%
Before Advance polls opened	11	496,000	76.8%	451,000	75.8%	90,000	17.9%
By close of Revision	6	646,000	100.0%	587,000	98.7%	176,000	35.0%
By Election Day	0	646,000	100.0%	595,000	100.0%	446,000	88.7%
By Close of Data Entry	-5	646,000	100.0%	595,000	100.0%	503,000	100.0%
Comparison with 2020 BC election		Ballots Approved					
		Canada					
		BC					
When Candidates lists are closed		44%	68%				

Glossary

Application Received: Elector has submitted an application online

Ballot Approved: Application approved and Voting Kit is ready for mailout to the voter

Ballot returned: Voted ballots received by Elections Canada and recorded as “received on time”. This includes ballots placed in drop boxes and later returned to the RO office.

Source: Operations Monitoring Data (STAT)

Interpretation: These charts were built from preliminary data and must be quoted as being “approximate”. In case of any discrepancy with the Statutory Election Report or SVR Report, or with the upcoming Official Voting Results, the latter reports prevail.