Civic Education and Youth Engagement in Canada

Ms. Karine Morin
Chief of Staff

Voter Education for Inclusive, Informed & Ethical Participation
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Civic Education and Youth Engagement in Canada

Presentation Overview

• Mandate of Elections Canada
• Youth Voter turnout
• Teaching democracy
• Recommendations to Parliament
• Conclusion
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Youth Voter Turnout

Voter Turnout 2011–2015

In the 42nd general election, voting increased across all age groups, with the largest increase among youth 18-24.

2015:
- 18–24: 57.1%
- 25–34: 57.4%
- 35–44: 61.9%
- 45–54: 66.6%
- 55–64: 73.7%
- 65–74: 78.8%
- 75+: 67.4%

2011:
- 18–24: 38.8%
- 25–34: 45.1%
- 35–44: 54.5%
- 45–54: 64.5%
- 55–64: 71.5%
- 65–74: 75.1%
- 75+: 60.3%
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Teaching Democracy

• Educators as civic influencers in the classroom
• Hands-on civic education programs in the classroom
  – Increased political knowledge
  – Inculcation of voting as a learned habit
  – A higher likelihood of voting
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Classroom Tools & Resources
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- Hands-on Program
- Classroom Activities
- School-wide event
- Sense of Civic Duty
- Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Student Vote</th>
<th>General Election</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vote %</td>
<td>Seat Count</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberal</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NDP</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Green Party of Canada</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bloc Quebecois</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Student Vote 2015
NATIONAL SUMMARY

The future of Canadian Democracy
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Three Key Recommendations to Parliament

• Allow pre-registration of new, young electors.

• Allow Voter Information Card as documentary evidence of address.

• Allow young people to work as election workers.
Renewal of Civic Education Program

Questions?