

SIX WAYS YOU CAN BE INVOLVED IN THE PROVINCIAL ELECTION

Manitoba's provincial election is on October 3rd and post-secondary education needs to be on the minds of voters. Government has a significant impact on how universities are funded and governed. Universities should be:

- affordable and accessible,
- provided with stable,
- multi-year funding, independent from the government.

You can ensure these remain as high priority issues throughout the election:

1. **Vote.**

Know who your local candidates are and what they stand for – will they work to ensure Universities are provided with stable, multi-year funding? Will they ensure the independence of universities? Will they ensure that a university education is affordable and accessible?

[Visit Elections Manitoba](#) to ensure you are eligible to vote, and make a plan for when and where you are going to vote.

If you have kids, take them with you to the polls to show them what democracy looks like, and instill in them the importance of voting.

If you are not a Canadian citizen or are new to Manitoba and not yet eligible to vote, there are still many ways to be involved. The results of this election affect all of our teaching, research, and service environments.

2. **Participate in the post-secondary education leafleting campaign.**

On September 10, 16, and 24, join your colleagues to distribute information about the importance of post-secondary education in the provincial election. [Fill out this short form](#) to sign up for your 3-hour shift.

3. **Display UMFA's posters to raise awareness of university education as an election issue.**

Posters are available for you to display on the door of your office and your home, highlighting that Manitoba's universities should be: affordable and accessible; provided with stable, multi-year funding; independent from the government. You can pick up posters at the UMFA office and at Bannatyne Campus. Watch for the dates when UMFA members will be distributing these posters on the Fort Garry campus.

4. Get involved in the campaign of your favourite candidate(s).

There are many ways to be involved in the campaigns of your favourite candidate(s): Make sure they know what issues are important to you and ask them to commit to achieving those goals: display their sign on your lawn, donate money to their campaign, go door-knocking with them, make phone calls, volunteer in their campaign office, attend or host their fundraising events, be a scrutineer on election day, follow them on social media, and so much more. All candidates running in the election are listed on Elections Manitoba's website. Each political party's website lists the contact information.

5. Communicate with the candidates in your riding.

Whether in-person when they knock on your door, on social media, or by email, ask them pointed questions about their stance on publicly funded university education, such as:

- How will you ensure all Manitobans have access to affordable and high quality post-secondary education?
- Will you increase operating grants and research funds for Manitoba's universities, and commit to long-term funding to ensure stability in universities budgets?
- Will your government commit to a hands-off approach when it comes to university's programs of study and collective bargaining?

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6. Talk to your friends, family, and neighbours about universities as an election issue and about other issues that are important to you.

High quality and affordable post-secondary education benefits all Manitobans and you can help get others talking about it. Six years of funding cuts has made it difficult for students to complete degrees, faculty to conduct research, and departments to retain educators. Stable, multi-year funding is needed to ensure Manitoba's universities remain places of world class learning and research.

Through your collective action, keep the government accountable, and make sure that your voice is heard this election.