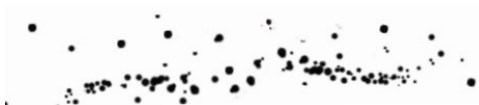


ArtsVote Niagara 2007

**Notes on Voting in the Provincial
Election and Referendum on**

Wednesday 10 October



Why should I bother to vote?

*In art and in politics,
each and every voice can make a difference.*



What is ArtsVote Niagara?

ArtsVote Niagara is a cross-disciplinary, non-partisan network of volunteers that encourages artists, arts supporters and arts, culture and heritage workers to vote.

How do I know I am eligible to vote?

You are eligible to vote if you are a Canadian citizen; at least 18 years old; residing in Ontario; and you are on the Voters List and have a voter registration card. You may be added to the Voters List if you bring proof of identity and residence to your local polling station on election day.

There are new identification rules: you must take proof of your identity and residence to your local polling station when you go to vote. If you have a voter registration card, take it with you as well.

To answer other questions voter eligibility, for instance if you are homeless with no permanent address, you are a student living away from home, or you are considering proxy voting, please contact www.elections.on.ca or call 1-888-ONT.VOTE.

Where do I go to vote?

To determine the location of your polling station, check the back of your Voter Registration card, your local newspaper, call Election Ontario or visit their web site and click on Where do I vote?

How did ArtsVote evaluate Provincial candidates?

For the 2007 provincial election, rather than grading individual candidates, ArtsVote Niagara is encouraging you to read the results of an arts survey of provincial political parties undertaken by a consortium of provincial cultural organizations at http://theatreontario.org/download/pub_artselects07.pdf, as well as party platforms related to arts, heritage and cultural issues posted on their websites.

Where do I go to find out about the party positions on cultural matters?

Parties Fielding Candidates in the Provincial Election	Responded to Artselect '07 Survey* (as of Wednesday 3 October 2007)	Cultural Policy on Website?
Family Coalition Party of Ontario www.familycoalitionparty.com	Yes	No
Freedom Party of Ontario www.freedomparty.on.ca	Yes	No
Green Party of Ontario www.gpo.ca/policy/home	No	No
New Democratic Party of Ontario www.ontariondp.com/commitments	Yes	No
Ontario Communist Party www.comunist-party.ca	No	No
Ontario Liberal Party www.ontarioliberal.ca/en/Platformhtml.aspx?id=2	Yes	Yes
Ontario Libertarian Party www.libertarian.on.ca	Yes	Yes
Ontario Provincial Confederation of Regions Party http://home.mountaincable.net/~galloway/cor/policies.htm	No	No
Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario www.ontariopc.com/documents/plan_for_ontario's_future_060907.pdf#pg19	Yes	Yes

* Results change daily.

Please visit Theatre Ontario's website for survey answers.

http://theatreontario.org/download/pub_artselects07.pdf



What is the referendum about?

You will get two ballots at the polling station. One ballot is for choosing a candidate in the election. The other ballot is for choosing an electoral system. For more information on the question of electoral systems, please look for details and discussions at:

www.yourbigdecision.ca

Who is behind ArtsVote Niagara?

ArtsVote Niagara 2006 is governed by an Executive Committee of five volunteers from the cultural sector: Janis Barlow, Colleen Blake, Steve Remus, Virginia Hatch Stewart and Debbie Slade. The Executive Committee are grateful for the support and expertise of Sara Palmieri, Natasha Pedros and Joe Lapinski.

What can I do to support ArtsVote Niagara?

As an artist, arts supporter or arts, culture or heritage worker, you can:

- Vote on Wednesday, October 10, 2007
- Encourage your friends and family to vote
- Tell your colleagues to check out www.artsvoteniagara.ca on line
- Volunteer to help ArtsVote Niagara
- Contribute to ArtsVote Niagara

To learn more about ArtsVote Niagara and the ways in which you can become involved future elections, go to **www.artsvoteniagara.ca** for more information.