

# news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sept. 20, 2016

## **ELECTIONS MANITOBA REPORTS ON THE 41<sup>ST</sup> GENERAL ELECTION: STATEMENT OF VOTES AND SURVEY OF VOTERS AND NON-VOTERS RELEASED**

Two reports released today by Elections Manitoba provide Manitobans with detailed results of the recent provincial election and findings of a post-election survey of voters and non-voters.

“Information, consultation and analysis help Elections Manitoba continue to find ways to reach voters and run free and fair elections,” said Chief Electoral Officer Shipra Verma. “The detailed results and review of processes provide valuable information for our organization and other interested groups.”

The *Statement of Votes* provides statistics on the use of each voting method, as well as summaries of results and votes cast, detailed results by voting area, and maps of each electoral division. Also included are historical results and an overview of electoral changes, from 1870 to the present.

Election day was April 19, 2016, with 443,861 Manitobans, or 57.43% of registered voters, casting their vote. Voters used a variety of methods, including advance, absentee, homebound, institutional and regular voting on election day.

*Voter Turnout in the 2016 Provincial Election* is a survey that examines the characteristics of voters and non-voters, the reasons why they did or did not vote in the election, their attitudes towards voting, and what factors would motivate them to vote. The survey was conducted from May 29 to July 12, 2016 and included 400 voters and 400 non-voters.

Reasons for not voting fall into three categories normally used in voting research: distracted (42%), disassociated (41%) and displaced (11%). Among the reasons considered distractions were not having time, being away or sick, or forgetting to vote. Among those classified as ‘disassociation’ were distrust in or dislike of the candidates, not knowing who to vote for, or not being interested. ‘Displaced’ refers to those reasons that are administrative in nature, such as not being on the voters list, not having identification, not knowing where to vote, or finding it inconvenient to vote.

The survey found that 9 in 10 voters and 7 in 10 non-voters believe that it is important to vote. The 2016 survey reinforces past findings: Although non-voters think that it is very important for people in general to vote, they consider it less important that they personally do so.

Both the *Statement of Votes* and *Turnout in the 2016 Provincial Election* are available on the Elections Manitoba website at <http://www.electionsmanitoba.ca/en/Resources/Publications>.

*Elections Manitoba is the independent office of the Legislative Assembly responsible for running provincial elections and by-elections. The office administers The Elections Act and The Election Financing Act.*

More information:

Alison Mitchell, Manager of Communications and Public Information

Phone: 204-945-7379 | Email: [amitchell@elections.mb.ca](mailto:amitchell@elections.mb.ca)