



www.votetoronto.ca

Press Release

VoteToronto.ca Federal Election website gives Toronto voters vital information about their MPs and candidates for the June 28 election

June 8, 2004, Toronto — For the first time ever, Toronto voters will be able to log onto the web to find out key information about their candidates, such as how often the 22 Toronto-area MPs spoke out in Parliament, who provided the money to finance their campaigns in the 2000 federal election, who their candidates are in the June 28 election and where they stand on key issues facing Toronto.

VoteToronto.ca is an independent non-partisan website that helps voters make intelligent choices on candidates for all levels of public office within the City of Toronto by providing access to research on election financing, incumbent performance and candidate positions on issues relevant to Toronto voters.

With the help of elections finances expert Prof. Bob MacDermid, Department of Political Science York University, VoteToronto.ca has analysed Elections Canada data on contributions to candidates and riding associations in all 22 Toronto ridings in the 2000 election. Voters can follow the money in a consolidated report of individual and corporate donations to political party riding associations and candidates in the last election.

Follow The Money in the 2000 Federal Election

The VoteToronto.ca analysis (see table) shows the Liberals raised 58% or close to \$2 million of the \$3.5 million contributed during the campaign. The NDP was in second place with 14% or \$500,000. The Canadian Alliance was in third place with 13% or \$450,000 and Progressive Conservatives in fourth with 10% or \$350,000. The combined Conservatives raised 24% or \$800,000, just two-fifths of the Liberal total.

Based on the classifications used by Elections Canada, contributions made to candidates by Riding Associations and contributions made by Individuals were the same at 37% or about \$1.3 million each, while Corporations gave 24% or \$800,000. Union contributions were 3% or \$88,000.

www.votetoronto.ca

VoteToronto is an independent, non-partisan community-based organization that aims to improve the long-term health of Toronto by making political processes transparent, holding elected politicians accountable, and endorsing high-quality candidates who are dedicated to promoting the community's best interests.

Party	Associations	Corporate	Individual	Union	Grand Total	Percent
Liberal	\$795,402	\$670,833	\$482,290	\$22,441	\$1,970,966	58%
Progressive Conservative	\$168,383	\$40,844	\$140,599		\$349,826	10%
Canadian Alliance	\$162,934	\$56,486	\$237,638	\$500	\$457,558	13%
N.D.P.	\$116,454	\$7,930	\$298,479	\$65,771	\$488,635	14%
Canadian Action	\$6,833	\$3,800	\$70,050		\$80,683	2%
Communist	\$3,443				\$3,443	0%
Green Party	\$4,600	\$1,890	\$5,674		\$12,164	0%
Marijuana Party	\$300		\$50		\$350	0%
No Affiliation	\$100	\$33,596	\$27,155		\$60,851	2%
Grand Total	\$1,258,449	\$815,379	\$1,261,936	\$88,712	\$3,424,475	
Percent	37%	24%	37%	3%		

Candidate contributions by **riding associations** and other non-incorporated associations was \$1.3 million. Median contributions to Liberal candidates by Associations was \$48,950 per riding, Alliance \$6,574, Progressive Conservative \$10,125 and NDP \$1,339. St. Paul's and Scarborough--Agincourt were the top association contributors both over \$80,000. Scarborough Centre and Don Valley West were top for the Alliance, Toronto Centre--Rosedale and St. Paul's for the Progressive Conservatives, while the top NDP association was Toronto--Danforth and Beaches--East York.

Median contributions to Liberal candidates from **Individuals** was \$25,745. Alliance candidate median was \$10,100. The Progressive Conservative median was \$6,557 and NDP was \$6,725.

Median contributions to Liberal candidates from **Corporations** was \$30,500, Progressive Conservative candidate median was \$2,720, Canadian Alliance \$2,300 and NDP \$500.

Parliamentary participation

The following table summarizes participation of Toronto MP's in 390 sessions of the House of Commons between January 29, 2001 and February 24, 2004, including Members' Statements, Oral Questions and Debate. The information was derived from Hansard. The website contains the date, parliamentary session number and topic of the speech or intervention for each Toronto MP.

Parliamentary Participation Rankings of Toronto MPs

Riding	MP	Sessions spoken in	percent of 383 sessions	Rank of 22 Toronto MPs	Government Office/ House Committee at dissolution
Don Valley East	Collenette	188	49%	1	Industry, Science and Technology Committee
Etobicoke Centre	Rock	157	41%	2	Resigned
Toronto Centre	Graham	154	40%	3	Minister of Foreign Affairs
York Centre	Eggleton	134	35%	4	Foreign Affairs Committee
Parkdale-High Park	Bulte	128	33%	5	Canadian Heritage Committee
Davenport	Caccia	125	33%	6	Environment and Sustainable Development (Chair)
Scarborough-Rouge River	Lee	105	27%	7	Justice, Human Rights, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee
York West	Sgro	103	27%	8	Minister of Citizenship and Immigration
Etobicoke North	Cullen	94	25%	9	Finance Committee (Chair) Official Languages Committee
York South-Weston	Tonks	69	18%	10	Public Accounts Committee, Transport Committee
Etobicoke Lakeshore	Augustine	64	17%	11	Minister of State (Multiculturalism and Status of Women)
Scarborough-Guildwood	McKay	59	15%	12	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance, Finance Committee
St. Paul's	Bennett	58	15%	13	Minister of State (Public Health)
Scarborough Centre	Cannis	54	14%	14	Transport Committee Vice Chair
Toronto-Danforth	Mills	43	11%	15	Canadian Heritage Committee
Beaches-East York	Minna	39	10%	16	Finance Committee
Scarborough-Agincourt	Karygiannis	35	9%	17	Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport
Don Valley West	Godfrey	32	8%	18	Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Cities) Environment and Sustainable Development Committee
Willowdale	Peterson	29	8%	19	Minister of International Trade
Scarborough Southwest	Wappel	29	8%	20	Fisheries and Oceans Committee (Chair)
Eglinton-Lawrence	Volpe	24	6%	21	Minister of Human Resources and Skills
Trinity-Spadina	Ianno	4	1%	22	Human Resources Committee

www.votetoronto.ca

VoteToronto is an independent, non-partisan community-based organization that aims to improve the long-term health of Toronto by making political processes transparent, holding elected politicians accountable, and endorsing high-quality candidates who are dedicated to promoting the community's best interests.



Candidate Survey

A central element of the VoteToronto.ca federal elections site is candidate survey that will be conducted over the next ten days that will examine candidates' platforms and experience and positions on key issues facing Toronto.

All candidates for the June 28th election are invited to complete an online candidate survey, which explores, a) the candidates and their campaigns, b) candidates' community endorsements and campaign events where voters can meet them, c) the top three election issues in their ridings, in Toronto, and in Canada, d) their position on key Toronto issues including waterfront redevelopment, a New Deal for Cities, affordable housing and more. In addition to the candidate questionnaire, VoteToronto has compiled links to press articles on these key Toronto issues over the past several months.

The logistical information about the campaigns will be published as they are received. The survey close date is Thursday June 17, 2004. The VoteToronto.ca candidate assessments for the 22 Toronto ridings will be published prior to the advance polls.

Election Resource

The VoteToronto.ca site provides voters a one-stop for election information and includes links to media articles on the key Toronto issues. The site will be continuously updated throughout the campaign.

- 30 -

About VoteToronto.ca:

VoteToronto.ca is an independent, non-partisan community-based organization that is committed to protecting and enhancing Toronto's quality of life and long term sustainability, by making political processes transparent, endorsing high-quality candidates who are dedicated to promoting the community's best interests, and holding politicians at all 3 levels continuously accountable for the long term good health of Toronto and its residents.

Note to Editors: The organization's name is VoteToronto.ca

Contact:

info@votetoronto.ca

www.votetoronto.ca

VoteToronto is an independent, non-partisan community-based organization that aims to improve the long-term health of Toronto by making political processes transparent, holding elected politicians accountable, and endorsing high-quality candidates who are dedicated to promoting the community's best interests.