

## ACTIVITY SHEET 4.1: NEWS BANK

Over the course of the provincial election campaign, you will create a digital news bank related to the provincial election to help you prepare for Student Vote Day.

You can select news articles or broadcast stories about the following topics:

- The different parties and leaders and their platform announcements;
- The local candidates running in your electoral district;
- Election issues that matter to British Columbians;
- Important campaign events, such as leaders' debates.

By the end of the election, you need to gather and analyze a minimum of **8 news articles or broadcast stories**.

Your news articles/pieces should come from at least **4 different news organizations**, and include both online, print and broadcast media (TV or radio).

### CHECKLIST:

You must also ensure that you have covered the elements on the following checklist:

- ☐ 3-4 news reports from 3 different sources
- ☐ 3 opinion pieces from 3 different authors/sources
- ☐ 2 news stories from different sources about the same campaign event, issue or development

### JOURNALISTIC STANDARDS:

For any of the fact-based news reports, evaluate the presence of journalistic standards.

- Are there multiple credible sources?
- Is there evidence that the reporter has taken steps to ensure the report is accurate?
- Does the story provide context about the issue?
- Is there supporting research, like reports, or statistics?
- Is the story fair? Is the language used to describe people and issues neutral?

### FINAL QUESTIONS:

After you have completed your news bank, please respond to the following questions:

- Which two news sources do you find most credible? Provide reasons to support your choices.
- Were you able to detect any bias or political leanings from the sources? Explain with evidence.
- Did any news stories influence your views about an issue, party or candidate? Explain.