

# Welcome

Dear Educator,

Thank you for leading the Student Vote program for the 2023 Manitoba provincial election.

Numerous program evaluations have found that participating in Student Vote has a positive impact on students' knowledge and understanding of government and elections, on their sense of civic responsibility and confidence in participating in the voting process.

The program also provides an opportunity for students to take their newfound knowledge home and engage in conversations about the election with their family.

The Student Vote activities can also be used to engage students through social and emotional learning strategies (SEL) to support self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision making.

The whole experience can foster a sense of belonging by helping students learn about themselves and understand others. This can be achieved through collaborative problem solving, exploring multiple perspectives, and setting and achieving personal and class goals.

As part of CIVIX's priorities for the current school year, you will see an emphasis on building constructive dialogue skills among students.

Heightened social tensions and the erosion of democratic norms around the world only underscore the need for constructive dialogue skills. Democracy requires bridges between different perspectives.

On the following pages, you will find guiding principles for classroom discussion and activities for co-creating a 'norms of agreement' with students. Developing classroom norms with your students is a great way to ensure a safe and caring classroom environment and encourage respectful discussion.

As always, if you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact our team at [hello@civix.ca](mailto:hello@civix.ca).

Please be sure to visit the project website for videos, slide decks, digital activity sheets and more:  
[www.studentvote.ca/mb2023](http://www.studentvote.ca/mb2023)

Wishing you and your students a great election,

The CIVIX Team

# Acknowledgements

Student Vote is the flagship program of CIVIX. CIVIX is a non-partisan, national registered charity dedicated to building the skills and habits of active and informed citizenship among school-aged youth.



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We would like to thank the countless educators who, over the years, have contributed their ideas and feedback to the development of this resource.

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