

Voting Checklist for Direct Support Professionals

The provincial election is September 10, 2019. **The people you support have a RIGHT to vote. It's your job to ensure they can.** There are lots of resources to help you support people to exercise their voting rights. The Elections Manitoba website (electionsmanitoba.ca) and the Disability Matters Vote website (dmvote.ca) are great resources.

Here's a checklist to help you support people to make a voting plan.

- Talk to the person you support. Let them know that the provincial election is on September 10, and Manitobans choose who will lead the province and represent constituencies. As a citizen over age 18, they have a right to vote and their vote MATTERS. You can support them to learn more.
- If the person tells you they would like to vote, support them to check if they are registered to vote. You can do this online at electionsmanitoba.ca or by supporting them to call 204-945-3225 or toll free 1-866-628-6837.
- If the person is not already registered to vote, they will need to register. They can register online at electionsmanitoba.ca or by phone. In order to register to vote, the person must have access to their identification.
- Once the person is registered to vote, they are ready to vote. They will receive a voter information card in the mail that tells them where and when they can vote. They will need to bring their voter information card, so make sure it is kept in a safe place.
- Make sure the person has the required identification. They will need one piece of government-issued photo ID (such as a driver's licence or Manitoba identification card) OR two other pieces of ID (a Manitoba Health card and a library card). A full list of acceptable ID can be found here: electionsmanitoba.ca/downloads/Acceptable_ID_En.pdf.

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- ❑ Support the person to obtain the identification required to be able to vote. If they have the Public Guardian and Trustee (PGT) as their Substitute Decision Maker, the PGT may have their ID. Support them to contact their PGT to ask for their ID so they can register and vote. Give the PGT or SDM as much notice as possible when making this request.
- ❑ Support the person to learn about who is running for election, and find out what they say they will do, if elected. Help the person to prepare questions to ask candidates when they go door-to-door to talk with voters, or by email or in a conversation. The Disability Matters Vote website has information on the issues and sample questions for candidates. dmvote.ca.
- ❑ Mark election day on the calendar, or support them to choose an alternative way to vote. Advance voting is possible if they are not able to visit a polling station on September 10. Homebound voting and absentee voting are also possible. An application form must be completed for homebound and absentee voting. For applications, visit electionsmanitoba.ca/en/Voting/Accessibility.
- ❑ Support the person to find their polling station. Confirm that the polling station is accessible. Almost all polling stations are accessible. If it is not, curbside voting is possible. A voting officer can bring the ballot box to a vehicle for the person to vote if they are not able to access the polling station due to disability.
- ❑ Plan how the person will get to their polling location. Book Handi-Transit, support the person to learn the bus route to their polling station, or arrange other transportation.
- ❑ On voting day, support the person to bring their voter information card and ID. Encourage them to tell the returning officer if they need assistance, so the returning officer can help. You can start planning now. It's easier to request accommodation services at the polls earlier on.

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My Voting Plan

What to know?	My Plan
Know your needs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Am I able to vote?• What do I need to be able to vote?• Do I require support to vote? If so, what support do I need?• Do I know how to prove my identity and address?	My needs are:
Know the options available <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Am I registered to vote?• If not, what do I need to do to register to vote?• What are the different ways to vote?• Which is right for me?• Do I know how to find or request more information?	My options are:
Know the key information in order to vote <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do I know where to vote?• What do I need to bring with me when I go to vote?• How will I get to where I need to vote?• Do I know how to find or request more information?	My key information is: