



HSA members urged to vote in May 2nd federal election

April 28, 2011

On May 2nd, HSA members will help elect a new federal government. Members are encouraged to vote for candidates who support public services, and the people who deliver them.

Election Day: Monday May 2

Voting times: 7:00 am ... 7:00 pm (Pacific Time)

7:30 am ... 7:30 pm (Mountain Time)

Advance Voting

You may also vote on one of the following Advance Voting Days:

Friday April 22: 12:00 noon ... 8:00 pm

Saturday April 23: 12:00 noon ... 8:00 pm

Monday April 25: 12:00 noon ... 8:00 pm

To vote, you must be a Canadian citizen and at least 18 years old on Election Day.

Everyone must bring **identification that proves your identity and your current address**. Registered voters should have received a "Voter Information Card" in the mail from Elections Canada, and should also bring this card when you go to vote. If you're not already a registered voter, then you can register when you vote.

You will only be allowed to vote at your assigned voting location on Election Day or during the Advanced Voting Days. For most voters, the assigned location will be different on Election Day than for the Advanced Voting Days.

Your assigned voting locations are indicated on the "Voter Information Card" mailed from Elections Canada. You may also find these locations by entering your postal code at

<http://www.elections.ca/scripts/pss/FindED.aspx?L=e>

Time off work to vote

By law, employers must give employees who are qualified voters **at least 3 consecutive hours** off work with pay during voting hours on Election Day, in order to vote. Your employer has the right to determine at what point the time is given during voting hours on Election Day.

For most of BC, this means your employer could allow you to arrive late (at 10:00 am), let you leave early (at 4:00 p.m.), or give you three hours off at some point during the work day.

Note: Members who are eligible to vote, and who are covered by the Nurses collective agreement or one of the Community Social Services agreements, are entitled under these contracts to **4 consecutive hours** off work during voting hours on Election Day, in order to vote.

For more information on voter eligibility, voting by mail and other special voting opportunities in federal elections, see the Elections Canada website at www.elections.ca.

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