

PolySeSouvient / PolyRemembers

Étudiants et diplômés de Polytechnique pour le contrôle des armes
Students and Graduates of Polytechnique for gun control

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For immediate release

Securing Safe Gun Laws Starts at the Ballot Box This Weekend

Choosing the right candidate for gun control in close riding races could decide future of gun laws in Canada for years to come

MONTREAL, April 19, 2025: Heading into advance polling this weekend – when up to half of eligible voters are estimated to mark their ballots – **PolyRemembers** wants Canadians to know that voting that occurs in ridings with close races could determine the fate of gun control in Canada.

For example, ridings predicted to be a tight race between **Liberals** and **Conservatives** are particularly critical with respect to what will happen to our gun laws under a new government. Earlier this week, **PolyRemembers**, the gun control group comprised of survivors and family members of the Montreal mass shooting **informed Canadians** that, based on political party actions and pledges, it believes that essential gun control measures (1. removing assault weapons for circulation, 2. banning large-capacity magazines and 3. implementing measures related to domestic violence) are most likely to be delivered by a new **Liberal government**.

The group is now asking voters to consult the **polling aggregator 338 Canada**, which provides seat projections by combining historical results with national public opinion data, to see if there is indeed a “toss-up” between two parties in their riding, for example between the **Liberal Party** candidate and the **Conservative Party** candidate.

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Securing **Safe Gun Laws**
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Election of candidates in **close
riding races** could decide
future of gun laws in Canada
for years to come.

VOTE FOR GUN CONTROL

“Saying no to US-style gun laws in Canada – to keep our families and communities safer from gun violence for decades to come – starts at the ballot box this weekend,” said **Heidi Rathjen**, **spokesperson for PolyRemembers**. *“This is why we are urging voters who support reasonable gun laws and who live in ridings with tight races to vote strategically for gun control. The election outcome may well come down to less than a thousand votes, in many ridings,”* explained **Rathjen**.

This strategic voting recommendation follows the release of a [detailed analysis](#) of federal political party positions, actions and promises related to gun control, including recent public pledges by the **Liberal** and **Conservative** party leaders, **Mr. Carney** and **Mr. Poilievre**:

The **Liberal leader** [has promised to](#) reinvigorate the assault-style firearm buyback program and to implement measures passed under Bill C-21 related to domestic violence, which include automatically revoking the firearm license of someone convicted of violent crimes or who is subject to a protection order related to intimate partner violence or stalking. He has also pledged to pass legislation making the **RCMP** responsible for classifying new firearm models rather than the gun industry. The party has [also pledged](#) to ban magazines that can be easily converted to hold 20, 30 or even more rounds.

By contrast, **Mr. Poilievre** has [promised to repeal](#) all gun control measures passed by the **Liberals**, including **Bill C-21** (which automatically removes firearms from domestic abusers and freezes handgun sales), **Bill C-71** (which reinstated commercial sales records and requires the verification of a potential buyer’s licence), and the prohibition of assault weapons like the **AR-15**, which he calls [“hunting rifles”](#).

PolyRemembers encourages voters to research their candidates’ stand on gun control, as they might find some unexpected surprises. For example, running for the **Conservative Party** in the riding of **Elgin—St. Thomas—London South** is candidate **Andrew Lawton**. He opposes banning assault weapons and [his blog](#) called the December 6th **National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women** a “fake holiday” promoted by “feminazis”. As a reporter for the online publication **True North Times**, [Lawton spoke at gun lobby meetings](#), defended non-existent Canadian [“rights to own guns”](#) and hosted a four-part documentary called [Justin Trudeau’s War on Gun Owners](#) in reference to the 2020 ban on 1,500 models of assault weapons. He even [purchased his own AR-15 in protest of the ban](#), posted the weapon online.

“According to every reasonable metric, Mr. Poilievre and Mr. Lawton are gun extremists whose flat-out lies about Canada’s gun laws threaten public safety and will likely lead to more gun violence in our homes, schools and communities,” said **Rathjen**.

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For more information:

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APPENDIX

Voting for these candidates is voting for gun control:

(East to West:)

1. [Lynette Powell](#), Liberal candidate for **Central Newfoundland**
2. [Alana Hirtle](#), Liberal candidate for **Cumberland–Colchester**
3. [Jessica Fancy-Landry](#), Liberal candidate for **South Shore–St. Margarets**
4. [Lisa Harris](#), Liberal candidate for **Miramichi–Grand Lake**
5. [Bruce Fanjoy](#), Liberal candidate for **Carleton**
6. [Chris Malette](#), Liberal candidate for **Bay of Quinte**
7. [Mubarak Ahmed](#), Liberal candidate for **King-Vaughan**
8. [Andrea Kaiser](#), Liberal candidate for **Niagara Falls–Niagara-on-the-Lake**
9. [Emma Harrison](#), Liberal candidate for **Peterborough**
10. [David Goodwin](#), Liberal candidate for **Elgin–St. Thomas–London South**
11. [Lindsay Luhnau](#), Liberal candidate for **Calgary Centre**
12. [Corey Hogan](#), Liberal candidate for **Calgary Confederation**
13. [Hafeez Malik](#), Liberal candidate for **Calgary Skyview**
14. [Jeremy Hoefsloot](#), Liberal candidate for **Edmonton Gateway**
15. [Blair Marie Coles](#), Liberal candidate for **Edmonton Manning**
16. [Lindsey Machona](#), Liberal candidate for **Edmonton Northwest**
17. [Mark Minenko](#), Liberal candidate for **Edmonton Riverbend**
18. [Brad Fournier](#), Liberal candidate for **Edmonton West**
19. [Elizabeth May](#), Green candidate for **Saanich—Gulf Islands**

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BRUCE FANJOY
Liberal candidate for Carleton



CHRIS MALETTE
Liberal candidate for Bay of Quinte



MUBARAK AHMED
Liberal candidate for King-Vaughan

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ANDREA KAISER
Liberal candidate for Niagara Falls - Niagara-on-the-Lake



EMMA HARRISON
Liberal candidate for Peterborough



DAVID GOODWIN
Liberal candidate for Elgin-St. Thomas-London South

VOTE FOR GUN CONTROL

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LINDSAY LUHNAU
Liberal candidate for Calgary Central




COREY HOGAN
Liberal candidate for Calgary Confederation




HAFEEZ MALIK
Liberal candidate for Calgary Skyview

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LYNETTE POWELL
Liberal candidate for Central Newfoundland



ALANA HIRTLE
Liberal candidate for Cumberland - Colchester



JESSICA FANCY-LANDRY
Liberal candidate for South Shore - St. Margarets

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JEREMY HOEFSLOOT
Liberal candidate for Edmonton Gateway




BLAIR MARIE COLES
Liberal candidate for Edmonton Manning




LINDSEY MACHONA
Liberal candidate for Edmonton Northwest

VOTE FOR GUN CONTROL


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
MARK MINENKO
Liberal candidate for Edmonton Riverbend



BRAD FOURNIER
Liberal candidate for Edmonton West



LISA HARRIS
Liberal candidate for Miramichi - Grand Lake



ELIZABETH MAY
Green Party candidate for Saanich—Gulf Islands

VOTE FOR GUN CONTROL