

New law gives students a choice

Where can we vote?

OTTAWA (CUP) -- Before voting in the Oct. 25 federal election, many students will have to decide where to cast their ballot.

Students away from home who are qualified to vote in this election may register in their home riding or in the local riding of their university.

Elections Canada has started a campaign to inform students about how to vote in the Oct. 25 federal election.

Information packages will be distributed on university campuses across the country to encourage students to vote where they want, says Denise McCulloch, community relations officer and youth liaison for Elections Canada.

"Registration is so easy, it isn't funny," McCulloch says.

To vote, a student must be a Canadian citizen who has turned 18 by Oct. 25. Students away from home will need to register for a special ballot.

The registration can be found in a booklet available at any post office. McCulloch says it important to register soon in order to receive your ballot in time.

A completed registration form must be received by Elections Canada by Oct. 20, the Wednesday before the election, and your completed ballot must reach Elections Canada by 4 p.m., on Friday, Oct. 22.

If you were attending school last year and you were enumerated for last year's federal referendum in your school's riding, you are already on this year's voters' list in the same riding. If not, McCulloch says you are able to register at the poll in your school's riding on voting day.

Last year, Elections Canada organized a large student awareness campaign for the October referendum called Voting's a Breeze. Elections Canada officials visited universities includ-

ing Carleton to publicize student participation.

This year, McCulloch says, the onus to inform students will be put more on student councils.

"We hope that student associations will

do some sort of information tables," she says.

If you have any questions you can contact Elections Canada at 1-800-267-8683, or 1-800-361-8935 for the hearing-impaired.

STEVE DOBRENSKI and ARN KEELING

Women's group publishes voting guide

Voting advice for women

OTTAWA (CUP) -- A new book will help voters find out if their candidates take women's issues seriously.

The NAC Voter's Guide, published by the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, does not endorse any parties or candidates for the Oct. 25 federal election.

Instead, the 132-page guide outlines issues women can question candidates about, including child care, social programs, violence against women, breast cancer, lesbian and gay rights and electoral reform. The guide was co-authored by Hugette Leger and former NAC president Judy Rebick.

"NAC is going to... make sure issues of equality are not put on the back-burner," NAC President Sunera Thobani told a Carleton University audience.

NAC is an umbrella group which represents about 500 women's organizations across the country. It lobbies the federal government on issues concerning women in Canada.

Thobani, until recently a graduate stu-

dent at Simon Fraser University, was critical of the present government's record.

"I think what we have seen with this federal government is that they have declared a war on democracy and on equality, and they have declared a war on the rights of women."

She said that while Prime Minister Kim Campbell isn't merely Brian Mulroney in a skirt, she cannot escape the Tory legacy.

"At the end of the day, Ms. Campbell is running as the head of the Tory party."

Thobani was critical of Tory cuts to social programs, increasing unemployment and the "absolute no-discussion of a national child-care program."

Thobani said NAC is maintaining a non-partisan stance in this election, and later urged voters to question candidates from all parties.

To order a copy of the Voter's Guide, visit your local women's bookstore or call NAC at (613) 234-7062.

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