

How to Talk About Housing: Advocacy 101

Presenter: Linda Jeffrey



AutismONTARIO

see the potential voir le potentiel

Recognize this document?

Autism Ontario's Election Toolkit: Getting Started on your Town Hall



1. Send an invitation

It is important that you invite all the candidates who are standing for election in your area. You might have to select a particular riding within your Chapter catchment. Are any of the candidates already appointed Ministers? That's a great way to help narrow down a riding to focus on. If you are not sure which ridings fall into your Chapter electoral area, please [click here](#). You also need to tell your volunteers, friends and family if you would like them to be involved. It's important that candidates see that autism affects others in the community.



Having a broad group of people with ASD, families, and professionals to contribute to the discussion will help your local candidates to better understand the complex issues that people with autism and their families often have to navigate. This will be a busy time for constituents, so they might not respond to your invitation right away.

Identify a moderator and let your invitees know who that person is so they're confident the event will be well run.



2. Set a time and place

Agree on a time and location. It's important that attendees feel comfortable, so pick a location that everyone is familiar with and won't be too busy or noisy so you can hear the discussion. If you do not have access to Chapter space, civic space is often a great choice to hold a discussion. Often libraries, police departments, city halls, schools or other community facilities grant access to their space to hold meetings and discussions. Ensure that the event location is fully accessible.

3. Prepare

Do a tiny bit of preparation; we've pulled together some of the key documents and recent initiatives at the back of this document to help inform you and to share with your candidates. The Town Hall is about introducing your candidates to what it's like to live with autism in your community and how your MPP can help. To manage your time and ensure everyone has a chance to participate, it is important to decide in advance what your group wants to talk about. The discussion topics should help guide your group around what you want to focus on.



Plan your social media strategy to advertise the event and to encourage people to communicate before, during and after the event.

Connect with media with details.

Be sure there are beverages, even if it's just water, available.



Supportive Housing Solutions: Chris and Val



Why does housing advocacy matter?

- **Who** should you approach to have this conversation?



How to find your: Provincial Representative

- Enter your postal code on the Elections Ontario website to find your electoral district:
<https://www.elections.on.ca/en/voting-in-ontario/electoral-districts.html>. The link will tell you the name of your Member of Provincial Parliament.
- Go to the Legislative Assembly website and look up your MPP's name to find their contact information:
<https://www.ola.org/en/members/current/contact-information>

How to find your: Federal Representative

- Go to; <https://www.ourcommons.ca/members/en>
- Fill in your postal code, it will tell you who your member is and how to contact them.
- If you don't email them you can send them a letter postage-free to any Member of Parliament at the following address:
 - [Name of Member of Parliament]
 - House of Commons
 - Ottawa, Ontario
 - Canada
 - K1A 0A6



How to find your: Municipal Representatives

- City Councillor
- Regional Councillor
- School Trustee
- Most municipalities have a place where you can insert your postal code and they will indicate the Ward you live in and your representative



How to begin the conversation about creating more affordable housing



- Bring muffins/cookies
- Bring a picture
- Invite them to something (flag raising)
- Ask them to publicize your events in their newsletter
- Tweet about visit



When and where is the best time to talk to elected officials?



Provincial Calendar

Parliamentary Calendar 2020 Calendrier parlementaire 2020

January/janvier							February/février							March/mars							
Sun dim	Mon lun	Tue mar	Wed mer	Thu jeu	Fri ven	Sat sam	Sun dim	Mon lun	Tue mar	Wed mer	Thu jeu	Fri ven	Sat sam	Sun dim	Mon lun	Tue mar	Wed mer	Thu jeu	Fri ven	Sat sam	
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*Dates on which the House may meet pursuant to the Standing Orders and the Orders of the House dated March 19, 25, April 14, May 12 and June 2, 2020 /
Dates à prévoir pour la Chambre conformément au Règlement et aux ordres de l'Assemblée du 19 et 25 mars, 14 avril, 12 mai et 2 juin 2020*

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Federal Calendar

PARLIAMENT OF CANADA
VISIT PARLIAMENT FRANÇAIS


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HOUSE OF COMMONS SITTING CALENDAR

This calendar is determined pursuant to Standing Order 28(2)(b). Occasionally, the House may adopt special orders to modify the calendar, in which cases this page is updated as soon as possible. For more information please see House of Commons Procedure and Practice, Chapter 6, "The Parliamentary Cycle", and Chapter 9, "Sittings of the House".

< 2020 >
Print

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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- Adjournment tabling
- Sitting days (86 in total)
- Sitting days with possible extension of sitting hours (S.O. 27(1))
- Subject to change before September 30, 2019 (S.O. 28(2)(d))

- Senate
- Library of Parliament
- Parliamentary Protective Service
- Employment at Parliament



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Why talk to Municipal elected representatives?



Affordable housing examples

- Ontario communities that have recently taken bold steps to initiate affordable housing.
 - » London
 - » Windsor
 - » Ottawa
 - » Kitchener
 - » Sault Ste Marie

