## 2021 FEDERAL ELECTION WELLINGTON-HALTON HILLS

Provide a brief bio. Why are you are running? What experience would you bring to the role?

2 Is an election during a pandemic a good idea? If not, how could the money have been better spent?

Have you received COVID-19 vaccinations?
Do you support vaccine mandates/passports?



### MICHAEL CHONG Conservative Party



I grew up in Wellington County, just outside of Fergus where I continue to live with my wife Carrie Davidson and our three hovs

I worked on a local farm for five years while going to high school in Fergus. After getting my education, I worked in the private sector, and became the Chief Information Officer for the National Hockey League Players' Association. I also co-founded Historica Canada and sit on its board of governors. We produce the Heritage Minutes. I understand the people and communities of Wellington County. I'm running to give them a strong voice in Ottawa.

There was no need for an election since the government's legislation was getting through Parliament. In addition, the government shouldn't have called an election during the fourth wave of the pandemic.

Elections Canada says this election could be the most expensive in history. The estimated price tag is \$610 million, \$100 million more than the 2019 election, because of pandemic safety measures and an expected increase in mail-in ballots, a result of the fourth wave. \$610 million could have improved public healthcare by funding the creation of 4,010 hospital beds (at \$152,088/bed).

I'm fully vaccinated. I followed the advice provided by medical professionals and my family doctor.

Domestic travellers boarding a plane or train, or civil servants working in a federal government office, should either be fully vaccinated or tested before entry to ensure they are not sick with COVID-19.

International travelers to Canada should be fully vaccinated and should be denied entry unless fully vaccinated.

This is a reasonable and responsible approach that balances the need to vaccinate as many people as possible. It also takes into consideration Canadians not vaccinated due to health, religious or other reasons.

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#### NOOR JAHANGIF New Democratic Party



I am 22, a female entrepreneur with a sociology and business background. I am small business owner for sustainable fashion and have grown to know the importance of politics and public service. I'm running for office because I am concerned about my future and that of the youth/GenZ. Canadians are expressing fear in regards to economic recovery/employment/ affordability/climate action. I must do something and want to be proactive by engaging in the democratic process and participate in the development and implementation of solutions to help all Canadians. I am going to bring a youthful enthusiasm and a fresh new perspective.

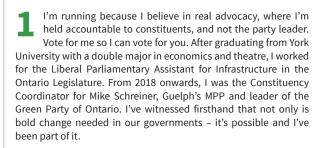
No, the election was unnecessary, the government was functioning; the only reason this election was called is because the prime minister thought he could return to a majority government, freeing him from opposition scrutiny. He was wrong.

The provincial government is now mandating vaccine passports and I am in support of vaccine passports.



#### RAN ZHU Green Party





2 It's not a good idea to call an election right now. As much as the PM says it's about having a choice, it was certainly the current government's choice to not continue to work with other parties to pass policies that will help Canadians, and it was certainly a choice to send all the MPs into campaign mode, as opposed to advocacy.

The money spent on this election should've gone to alleviating the debt and helping our communities. Alas, the election is called, and I'm ready to be held accountable to you.

I chose to become vaccinated to better protect those around me and people I meet on the campaign.

I support educating over mandating when it comes to vaccinations. I also support the advice of top public health officials.

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### SYL CARLE People's Party of Canada

PEOPLE'S PARTY of CANADA

I grew up in the suburbs of Montreal and joined the RCMP in 1990 with a desire to serve my fellow Canadians. My 12-year career provided me with many of the tools I learned to adapt for use in my property management business. My wife Lara and our six wonderful children, aged 8 to 25, have been residents of Halton Hills for over 20 years. My political commitment is motivated by the uncertain future my children will be faced with if Canada doesn't soon change course. I am bilingual and understand Quebec's place in our confederation well.

The prime minister made it clear that he is looking for a renewed mandate to impose vaccine passports with restrictions to our freedoms as he deems necessary. While this could have been done through a more economical referendum, he has never been one to show restraint with public finances. He evidently shows a similar disrespect for our Canadian Charter of Rights with this attack on Canadians' body autonomy; a long accepted principle in our society. While the individual's right to choose may not specifically be listed in the Charter, that right resides in the spirit and intent of the Charter.

My vaccination status is protected information under Personal Health Information Protection Act (PHIPA) and will not be disclosed on a public forum. I am taken aback with the current virtue signalling trend to share such information. This divisive practice promotes intolerance towards those who remain uncomfortable with the evolving science of emergency use only vaccines. An Aug. 26 *Toronto Star* article demonstrated the toxicity of such divisiveness with comments I won't repeat here. I oppose vaccine passports, mandates, or employer policies that attack or diminish the international human rights law to informed consent of any medical procedure.

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### MELANIE LANG Liberal Party

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l've lived in Fergus for 15 years with my husband, Paul, and two girls, Hannah and Beth. I'm a community volunteer, entrepreneur, and researcher at the University of Guelph.

Early in life, I learned the value of service, listening, and working with others. That's how you get anyone, whether small groups or large communities, to solve big problems and make big changes. Even before the pandemic. Canada was facing enormous.

with others. That's how you get anyone, whether small groups or large communities, to solve big problems and make big changes. Even before the pandemic, Canada was facing enormous challenges – I want to bring my experience to Ottawa as an MP to help us all take on those challenges, and build back better once COVID-19 is under control.

Since the last election, the world is a very different place. The Liberal Party supported Canadians during this pandemic, but a lot of things are going to have to change to make post-COVID Canada a stronger, fairer, and more sustainable place. How we decide to move forward will have an impact for generations to come. Given the drastic change in circumstances, I think Canadians should be able to weigh in on the Liberal Party's vision. Several provinces have held elections during this pandemic, and were able to do so safely, with much lower vaccination rates than we have today.

Yes, my husband, daughters and I are all double-vaccinated, and very thankful for it. I certainly support vaccine mandates and/or passports. The Liberal Party plans to bring in vaccination mandates for federal workers and domestic travellers by the fall, and that's something I definitely support. When someone decides not to get vaccinated, they don't just put themselves at risk, but others as well. Government has a duty to protect those who've made efforts to be considerate of their neighbours, coworkers, and fellow travellers – not those who've chosen to be irresponsible (medical reasons excepted).

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# OFA, chambers hosting all-candidates debates

WELLINGTON COUNTY – As of the *Advertiser's* press deadline on Aug. 31, there are three all-candidates debates in the county's two ridings for the Sept. 20 federal election.

#### Wellington-Halton Hills

Sept. 9 - The Centre Wellington and Halton Hills Chambers of Commerce are jointly hosting a virtual debate for Wellington-Halton Hills candidates on Sept. 9 from 8:15 to 10:15 am.

Attendance is free but pre-registration is required. Visit either chamber's website to register.

Questions for candidates can be sent in advance to either chamber at chamber@ cwchamber.ca or mfrazer@ haltonhillschamber.on.ca.

Sept. 9 - The Wellington Federation of Agriculture (WFA) is hosting a video-conference debate for Wellington-Halton Hills candidates focusing on agricultural issues on Sept. 9 at 7:30pm.

Email wellington@ofa. on.ca to receive a link to the meeting or request a meeting recording. Potential questions for candidates must be submitted no later than two days prior to the meeting to be reviewed by the WFA's board of directors.

#### Perth-Wellington

Sept. 15 - The Wellington Federation of Agriculture (WFA) is hosting a videoconference debate for Perth-Wellington candidates focusing on agricultural issues on Sept. 15 at 7:30pm.

Email wellington@ofa. on.ca to receive a link to the meeting or request a meeting recording. Potential questions for candidates must be submitted no later than two days prior to the meeting to be reviewed by the WFA's board of directors.

For more information on the WFA debates, contact Lisa Hern at 519-848-3774 or email wellington@ofa.on.ca.



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