

Ways to get involved in Local Government Elections

There are many ways to get involved in your community and have worker voices heard on local issues. Working people are busy, but to impact your community you need to get involved:

Volunteer in your community and build your networks - help out at a food bank, coach or manage your kid's sports team, join a service club. Local organizations are always looking for volunteers. People will listen to people who share their values and volunteering is a great place to start.

Get involved in your local Labour Council - Check out what issues your local Labour Council is working on. Become a delegate from your local. Volunteer on a campaign.

Engage your community online and in print - Write letters to your local newspapers. Join local Facebook groups, post stories on issues and engage in respectful discussion. Create a blog on a community issue.

Help organize a community meeting - Start small and build. Find other people that care about your issue and host a kitchen table discussion, a coffee party or even a meet up at a pub for "politics and pints." Grow your team and host a community forum with speakers or even an outdoor rally if you can build enough support. Invite local incumbents, community leaders and potential candidates.

Support local Labour Council endorsed candidates. Help organize a member-to-member campaign for your union local. Attend all candidate meetings and ask candidates questions about worker issues

Volunteer for a local candidate that shares your values. If there isn't a candidate that supports your issues, recruit one, or even consider running as a candidate yourself.

Make your issue an important issue for local candidates. How do you do this? With numbers (lots of people) and with framing (make it easy for them to agree and easy to support).

Available Resources

Your local Labour Council - for information on your local Labour Council please contact the CLC Pacific Region office at pacific@clctc.ca.

Candidate Training - The CLC is conducting regional candidate training. For more information go to: <https://actionnetwork.org/campaigns/bc-local-government-candidate-training>

The **Winch Institute** non-profit that provides materials and services to candidates at fair market rates. For more information contact neil@winch.institute.