

LESSON 11

ELECTION ISSUES

Elections present an opportunity for citizens to explore key issues and to participate in constructive dialogue about priorities and public policy. This process includes establishing which issues are most important to you and your community, and evaluating how the different political parties will address them.

Political significance is a political thinking concept that looks at the importance of government policies, political issues, events or developments, and the civic actions of individuals and groups. Political significance is generally determined by the impact of a government policy or decision on the lives of citizens, or by the influence of civic actions on public decision-making.

When assessing issues in order of political priority, it is important to identify criteria that could be used to rank them. These criteria may include the number of people or groups affected, impact across the province, how long people have been waiting for a solution, whether the issue involves basic human needs, whether human rights are being violated, and the social, economic and/or environmental impact of an issue