



Office of the Chief Electoral Officer

Performance Report

For the period ending
March 31, 2002

Canada

The Estimates Documents

Each year, the government prepares Estimates in support of its request to Parliament for authority to spend public monies. This request is formalized through the tabling of appropriation bills in Parliament.

The Estimates of the Government of Canada are structured in several parts. Beginning with an overview of total government spending in Part I, the documents become increasingly more specific. Part II outlines spending according to departments, agencies and programs and contains the proposed wording of the conditions governing spending which Parliament will be asked to approve.

The *Report on Plans and Priorities* provides additional detail on each department and its programs primarily in terms of more strategically oriented planning and results information with a focus on outcomes.

The *Departmental Performance Report* provides a focus on results-based accountability by reporting on accomplishments achieved against the performance expectations and results commitments as set out in the spring *Report on Plans and Priorities*.

The Estimates, along with the Minister of Finance's Budget, reflect the government's annual budget planning and resource allocation priorities. In combination with the subsequent reporting of financial results in the Public Accounts and of accomplishments achieved in Departmental Performance Reports, this material helps Parliament hold the government to account for the allocation and management of funds.

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Foreword

In the spring of 2000, the President of the Treasury Board tabled in Parliament the document “Results for Canadians: A Management Framework for the Government of Canada”. This document sets a clear agenda for improving and modernising management practices in federal departments and agencies.

Four key management commitments form the basis for this vision of how the Government will deliver their services and benefits to Canadians in the new millennium. In this vision, departments and agencies recognise that they exist to serve Canadians and that a “citizen focus” shapes all activities, programs and services. This vision commits the Government of Canada to manage its business by the highest public service values. Responsible spending means spending wisely on the things that matter to Canadians. And finally, this vision sets a clear focus on results – the impact and effects of programs.

Departmental performance reports play a key role in the cycle of planning, monitoring, evaluating, and reporting of results through ministers to Parliament and citizens. Departments and agencies are encouraged to prepare their reports following certain principles. Based on these principles, an effective report provides a coherent and balanced picture of performance that is brief and to the point. It focuses on outcomes - benefits to Canadians and Canadian society - and describes the contribution the organisation has made toward those outcomes. It sets the department’s performance in context and discusses risks and challenges faced by the organisation in delivering its commitments. The report also associates performance with earlier commitments as well as achievements realised in partnership with other governmental and non-governmental organisations. Supporting the need for responsible spending, it links resources to results. Finally, the report is credible because it substantiates the performance information with appropriate methodologies and relevant data.

In performance reports, departments and agencies strive to respond to the ongoing and evolving information needs of parliamentarians and Canadians. The input of parliamentarians and other readers can do much to improve these reports over time. The reader is encouraged to assess the performance of the organisation according to the principles outlined above, and provide comments to the department or agency that will help it in the next cycle of planning and reporting.

This report is accessible electronically from the Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat Internet site:
<http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/rma/dpr/dpre.asp>

Comments or questions can be directed to:

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Office of the Chief Electoral Officer

Performance Report

**For the
period ending
March 31, 2002**

Jean-Pierre Kingsley
Chief Electoral Officer of Canada

The Honourable Don Boudria, P.C., M.P.
Minister of State and Leader of the
Government in the House of Commons

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I. The Chief Electoral Officer's Message



Our *Report on Plans and Priorities* for 2001–2002 described the outcomes that we planned to achieve during the past year. This *Performance Report* to Parliament and Canadians discusses key achievements in reaching those outcomes, and in responding to new developments during 2001–2002.

All of Elections Canada's work is directed to three strategic outcomes that provide long-term, enduring benefits to Canadians. Highlights from each area receive special attention in this report.

First, we are committed to delivering federal elections that maintain the integrity of the electoral process — providing an electoral system that is fair, transparent and accessible to electors. In November 2001 I submitted a report to Parliament on *Modernizing the Electoral Process*, which contained my recommendations for amendments to the *Canada Elections Act*.

Second, we must always be ready to deliver electoral events whenever they may be called, and to improve their delivery. Our comprehensive evaluations of the November 2000 general election indicated that improvements to two major areas are necessary: the lists of electors and the voter information cards sent to all registered electors. In 2001–2002 we continued our activities to improve the accuracy and coverage of the National Register of Electors, and the address information of electors.

And finally, we are responsible for providing public education and information programs, and support on electoral matters to the public, parliamentarians, Cabinet, federal electoral boundaries commissions, our partners and other stakeholders. This year we began our support for the 10 newly established federal electoral boundaries commissions, one for each province, in setting new electoral-district boundaries to reflect population growth and shifts over the past decade.

These highlights — and other outcomes described in the report — demonstrate that the Canadian electoral system has evolved over the years into one that is modern, accessible, transparent, and efficient. I am personally committed to the continuing process of electoral reform that has earned Canada its reputation around the world as a model of electoral democracy.

It is a privilege for me to serve Parliament and the Canadian people, and to lead an energetic, multi-talented team dedicated to strengthening and upholding Canada's democratic process.

Jean-Pierre Kingsley
Chief Electoral Officer of Canada

II. The Context for Our Performance

Elections Canada is committed to providing three strategic outcomes for Canadians:

- ❑ to deliver federal elections, by-elections and referendums that maintain the integrity of the electoral process;
- ❑ to achieve and maintain a state of readiness to deliver electoral events whenever they may be called and to improve their delivery; and
- ❑ to provide public education and information programs, and support on electoral matters to the public, parliamentarians, Cabinet, federal electoral boundaries commissions, partners and other stakeholders.

Several external and internal factors can influence our performance in achieving these outcomes, mainly because of Canada's system of government and our widely dispersed and diverse electorate.

Factors influencing our performance

Under our parliamentary system of representative democracy, the length of time between federal electoral events is not a set period (the *Constitution Act, 1982* provides only that the maximum time between general elections be five years, except in time of real or apprehended war, invasion or insurrection). This means that the length of our business cycle varies and the resulting uncertainty makes planning a challenge, since we must be ready at all times to deliver an electoral event, whether it be a by-election, general election or referendum. Consequently, we must continually monitor parliamentary and political events and trends, so that we can take into account contingencies that might affect our electoral readiness and preparations for electoral events.

The sheer size of the country, and our responsibility to provide more than 20 million registered electors with timely information and an opportunity to vote conveniently, can dramatically affect the size of the agency from time to time. As an electoral event approaches, the staff at Elections Canada may grow from 200 to more than 900 people. Returning officers hire an additional 160,000 temporary workers to support the electoral process in more than 17,000 polling places across the country, and we must plan to provide all of these people with training, supervision, supplies and administrative support. To respond to these issues, our team must be multi-skilled and flexible.

Returning officers are appointed by the Governor in Council, not by the Chief Electoral Officer, and they bear the responsibility for recruiting enough temporary workers to conduct an event in their electoral districts. Nevertheless, we are accountable for the overall performance of returning officers, and we try to minimize any risk arising from this responsibility by providing them with appropriate training and support. The lack of experience among newly appointed returning officers, especially returning officers appointed just before an event, poses risks whose origins are beyond our control, but that we try to reduce through concentrated training programs.

Other factors that can influence our performance include high mobility rates (about half of all Canadians change their addresses every five years), increased social diversity, and judicial decisions that change the interpretation or application of the *Canada Elections Act*.

Our partners

The co-operation of many partners is important to achieving our strategic outcomes successfully:

- ❑ *provincial, territorial and municipal governments and electoral agencies, and other public-sector organizations*: sharing data with the National Register of Electors, the National Geographic Database and other electoral systems and products;
- ❑ *federal departments and agencies*: Statistics Canada, in updating the National Geographic Database, providing census information and certifying population counts for redistribution; the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency, and Citizenship and Immigration Canada, in updating the National Register of Electors; the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, in helping overseas electors; the Canadian International Development Agency, in furnishing technical and professional electoral assistance to other countries; the Department of National Defence, in aiding Canadian Forces electors; the Correctional Service of Canada, in assisting incarcerated electors; Canada Post Corporation, in delivering election information; and Natural Resources Canada, in verifying boundary descriptions for redistribution;
- ❑ *community partners*: First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities, ethnocultural and special-needs associations, academics, public schools and museums, in helping to provide public education and information about the electoral process; and
- ❑ *international organizations*: the United Nations, the International Foundation for Election Systems, and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, in providing resources for international electoral studies, conferences and research.


Adjustments to our reporting on previous plans and priorities




We measure our performance through post-election evaluations. Following the 2000 general election, for example, we undertook wide-ranging evaluations involving an in-house examination of the strengths and weaknesses of every service provided by each of our directorates; comments from all returning officers and members of their staffs at post-election meetings and workshops; and a broad array of public surveys and consultations with electors, political parties, candidates, third parties, the Advisory Committee of Political Parties, the academic community, and other organizations and individuals interested in the electoral process.

After a by-election, we evaluate our performance in the same way, but on a much more limited scale. In a fiscal year when we have not conducted an election or by-election, we report on our progress in improving the priority areas that we identified in the *Report on Plans and Priorities* for the matching year.

This is our second year of attempting to measure our performance so comprehensively, particularly with all our external clients and stakeholders. As a result, the performance information in this report may be difficult to compare with that in reports before 2000–2001, where the information came from mainly internal evaluations. Although much remains to be accomplished with performance measurement, our new approach will permit benchmarking and further improvements for future electoral events.

Before our *Report on Plans and Priorities* for 2002–2003, our previous reports included a fairly high degree of detail about our planned activities. In accordance with the new reporting principles of the Treasury Board of Canada, this *Performance Report* for 2001–2002 focuses less on the lower-level activities listed in our *Report on Plans and Priorities* for 2001–2002 and more directly on benefits to Canadians.

 This symbol of a computer mouse indicates that more detailed information is available on our Web site (www.elections.ca) or in one of our printed publications.

-  For more information on our mandate, roles and responsibilities, see *Office of the Chief Electoral Officer: 2001–2002 Estimates, Part III — Report on Plans and Priorities* (CLICK: General Information → Official Reports → Estimates Documents). The report is also available in print.
-  The Chief Electoral Officer's March 2001 report on the 2000 general election is available on our Web site (CLICK: General Information → Official Reports → Elections Canada's Official Reports), and is also available in print.
-  For a summary of evaluations of the 2000 general election, see our research study *2000 General Election Post-event Overview* (CLICK: Electoral Law & Policy).

III. Elections Canada's Strategic Outcomes

1. Event delivery

To deliver federal elections, by-elections and referendums that maintain the integrity of the electoral process

Context and background

No federal electoral events occurred during the reporting period from April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002. On March 27, 2002 the Chief Electoral Officer issued the writs for five by-elections to be held on May 13 in the ridings of Calgary Southwest (Alberta), Saint Boniface (Manitoba), Windsor West (Ontario), Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel (Quebec) and Bonavista—Trinity—Conception (Newfoundland and Labrador). He had been notified on March 25 that the seats for Verdun—Saint-Henri—Saint-Paul—Pointe Saint-Charles (Quebec) and Gander—Grand Falls (Newfoundland and Labrador) were vacant, and would issue the two additional writs on April 5 for the May 13 by-elections. We will report on these seven by-elections in next year's *Performance Report*.

Bill C-9, *An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act and the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act*, received Royal Assent on June 14, 2001. The Act allows candidates other than those of registered political parties to have the option of indicating their political affiliation on ballots. It also clarified and harmonized several provisions of the *Canada Elections Act*, and made a related amendment to the *Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act*.

On June 29, 2001, a decision by the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench in *Harper v. Canada (A.G.)* declared unconstitutional the *Canada Elections Act's* limits on third-party election advertising expenses, and the prohibition against a third party splitting itself into two or more third parties to circumvent the limits. On March 27, 2002 the Chief Electoral Officer announced that to achieve the fair application of the Act across the country, he and the Commissioner of Canada Elections would apply the Alberta court decision nationally for the seven by-elections on May 13. This meant that there would be no limits on advertising expenses for third parties in the by-elections.

- 🔗 For the text of the *Canada Elections Act*, CLICK: Electoral Law & Policy → Federal Electoral and Referendum Legislation → Federal Electoral Legislation. The text of the Act is also available in print.
- 🔗 For the Alberta case, see www.albertacourts.ab.ca/qb (CLICK: Recent Judgments → ENTER June 2001 → CLICK Harper v. Canada (A.G.) 2001 ABQB 558).
- 🔗 The Chief Electoral Officer's announcement is on our Web site (CLICK: Media → Press Releases).

Resources used

Financial information (\$ thousands)	Planned spending:	\$776
	Total authorities:	\$6,892
	Actuals:	\$5,168

- ❑ *Planned spending*: the amount the agency planned to spend at the beginning of the fiscal year
- ❑ *Total authorities*: the additional spending required to reflect changing priorities and unforeseen events
- ❑ *Actuals*: the amount actually spent

Outcomes achieved

We measure our performance in delivering electoral events by the extent to which we provide:

- ❑ electoral events that are fair and transparent within the context of, and in accordance with, constitutional and legal requirements;
- ❑ effective compliance and enforcement programs;
- ❑ electoral events that remove barriers to participation and facilitate access to the electoral process; and
- ❑ timely disclosure of comprehensive electoral information.

Compliance and enforcement

During 2001–2002 the Commissioner of Canada Elections received a further 420 complaints of alleged infractions of the *Canada Elections Act* resulting from the 2000 general election, for a total of 823 complaints since the election. Of these, he closed 607 cases, including 313 cases this year, and resolved 11 cases through compliance agreements, by which individuals agreed to the Commissioner's terms and conditions for making sure that they complied with the Act. Nineteen cases are still before the courts, three offenders have been convicted, and one prosecution was suspended.

- 🔗 Details of convictions and summaries of the terms of compliance agreements appear on our Web site (CLICK: Electoral Law and Policy → Commissioner of Canada Elections' Initiatives).

Information disclosure

Following his March 2001 report on the 2000 general election (*Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada on the 37th General Election Held on November 27, 2000*), the Chief Electoral Officer submitted his recommendations to Parliament for amendments to the *Canada Elections Act* in his report *Modernizing the Electoral Process: Recommendations from the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada following the 37th General Election* (November 2001).

🖱️ For *Modernizing the Electoral Process*, CLICK: General Information → Official Reports.

During the year, we improved electoral transparency by publishing an extensive variety of official electoral information on our Web site, including financial information disclosed by candidates, political parties and third parties:

- ❑ voting results: *36th and 37th General Elections: Official Voting Results: Poll-by-poll; Thirty-seventh General Election 2000: Official Voting Results: Synopsis; Poll-by-poll Result Files, 1997 and 2000 General Elections* (data files)

🖱️ CLICK: General Information → Official Reports

- ❑ election expenses: *Third Party Election Advertising Reports for the 2000 General Election; Registered Political Parties' Returns in Respect of Election Expenses — 2000 General Election*

🖱️ CLICK: Political Parties, Candidates & Third Parties

- ❑ candidates' and parties' campaign returns: *Contributions and Expenses* (database of candidates' contributions and expenses); *Political Parties' Fiscal Period Returns* (searchable database); *Statements of Assets and Liabilities — 2000 Fiscal Period; Election Expenses and Reimbursements, by Registered Political Party — 2000 General Election; Breakdown of Election Expenses of Registered Political Parties — 2000 General Election; Reimbursements to Candidates for the 2000 General Election (as of January 24, 2002)*

🖱️ CLICK: Election Financing

2. Event readiness and improvements

To achieve and maintain a state of readiness to deliver electoral events whenever they may be called and to improve the delivery of electoral events

Context and background

To make sure that Elections Canada is always ready for an election, by-election or referendum, we constantly monitor our mission-critical functions and systems, and report on progress in improvements every two weeks to the executive committee, chaired by the Chief Electoral Officer. Every three months, we present a complete readiness report to the Chief Electoral Officer.

Resources used

Financial information (\$ thousands)	Planned spending:	\$29,975
	Total authorities:	\$40,416
	Actuals:	\$38,081

Outcomes achieved

We measure our performance in being ready for electoral events, and improving our delivery of them, by the extent to which we provide:

- ❑ trained staff and election officers, and up-to-date electoral processes, systems, databases and materials that are ready for any electoral event; and
- ❑ processes that are cost-effective and respond to the concerns of stakeholders.

Our evaluations of the 2000 general election indicated that four areas should be priorities for our 2002–2003 readiness planning: the quality of the lists of electors and the voter information cards sent to all registered electors, communications with electors and response to enquiries from the public. Although we will report on our progress in our 2002–2003 *Performance Report* next year, in this report we note some early progress in the first two of these priority areas.

Staff and systems readiness

A comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date National Register of Electors is at the heart of our election readiness. During 2001–2002 we incorporated approximately 3.6 million address changes into the Register, reflecting revisions made to the lists of electors during the 2000 general election. We then made 2.5 million address changes, added 306,000 electors and removed 294,000 deceased electors. We also identified and removed 863,000 duplicate records, which resulted when electors moved and were added to a new riding during the general election without being removed from their

former riding. Some 84% of tax-filers in 2001 gave their consent for the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency to provide their names, addresses and dates of birth to Elections Canada for the Register – the same level as the previous year. On October 15, 2001 we provided the annual updated lists of electors for members of the House of Commons and political parties, as required under the *Canada Elections Act*.

We have adjusted our two main reliability targets for information in the Register to make them clearer and more accurate. The *Report of the Chief Electoral Officer of Canada on the 37th General Election Held on November 27, 2000* used 97% as the reliability target for the proportion of electors listed in the Register, and 80% for the percentage of electors listed in the Register at the correct addresses. However, neither figure includes the 5% of electors who do not register regardless of the registration method we use. After consultation with the Advisory Committee of Political Parties, we now include this 5% of electors in our targets. Our adjusted targets are to have 92% of *all* electors listed in the Register, and 76% of *all* electors listed at their correct addresses.

As of March 2002, we estimate that the proportion of all electors listed in the Register was 90%, or 2% lower than our target. The proportion is lower primarily because we have not yet added new 18-year-olds to the Register since the general election; we will add them in mid-2002 using new data from the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency. We estimate that we have raised the percentage of electors listed in the Register at their correct addresses to 78%, or 2% higher than our target.

 For more information on the Register, [CLICK: Registration of Electors](#).

The National Geographic Database — maintained jointly with Statistics Canada — is a digital road map of Canada, with street names and address ranges, and is used for automated mapping, supporting redistribution and assigning electors to electoral districts and polling divisions for the voter information cards. In 2001–2002, we increased the proportion of electors who are geo-referenced — that is, assigned to a point on a map — to 77% from 63% last year. This is a 22% improvement which is considered very good. In July 2001, Elections Canada staff received a prestigious award for best software integration in maps at the Environmental Systems Research Institute's annual International User Conference, attended by 10,000 geographic information systems professionals.

Improved processes and service levels

As part of our commitment to continuously improve the quality of our databases, we introduced projects to help returning officers prepare for elections — revising polling division boundaries, revising geographical aspects of the preliminary lists of electors, and updating each returning office's database of polling sites. We began sending out the necessary tools in March 2002 for testing in October 2002. The Advisory Committee of Returning Officers — established in September 2001 — is closely involved with the projects.

We met our goal that all returning officers should have and be able to use a computer as a working tool and as the preferred means of Communication with Elections Canada by October 31, 2001.

Our plans for a new version of the REVISE field registration and list production system continued on schedule for completion by the end of the next fiscal year. A major feature allowing returning officers to transfer the information of electors who move to new electoral districts will improve the accuracy of lists of electors and reduce duplicate records.

We now have partnership agreements for sharing electoral data with provincial, territorial and municipal electoral agencies and authorities in all provinces and territories. The information can only be used for electoral purposes, such as developing electoral registers, maintaining permanent lists of electors, and creating electoral lists for specific elections or referendums. This year we expanded our co-ordinated planning with Elections Ontario, and signed a new sharing agreement with Elections Nova Scotia.

3. Public education, information and support

To provide timely and high-quality public education and information programs, and assurance that support on electoral matters is available to the public, parliamentarians, Cabinet, federal electoral boundaries commissions, partners and other stakeholders

Context and background

Our education and information programs concentrate on making the electoral system and processes more easily understood by the general public, and on reaching out to electors whose participation rate in voting has been historically lower than that of the electorate generally — especially youth, Aboriginal electors, members of ethnocultural groups and electors with special needs. While a higher participation rate may not necessarily be a direct outcome of our efforts, we have a clear responsibility for keeping electors informed in the most accessible ways possible.

Resources used

Financial information (\$ thousands)	Planned spending:	\$5,787
	Total authorities:	\$7,315
	Actuals:	\$6,308

Outcomes achieved

We measure our performance in offering public education and information programs, and support on electoral matters by the extent to which we provide:

- ❑ electoral processes that are better known to the public, particularly those persons and groups most likely to experience difficulties in exercising their democratic rights; and
- ❑ stakeholders' access to timely and high-quality information, advice, products and support in accordance with established standards.

Our priority area for next year is administering the *Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act*. Although we will report on our progress in our *Performance Report* for 2002–2003, in this report we comment on planned events that were triggered when we received the 2001 census return from Statistics Canada.

Public education and information

During the year, we continued our public information program by participating in youth voting education programs at the *Salon Pepsi jeunesse* in Montreal, and at the Canada and the World Pavilion in Ottawa; by making sure that our Web site was always up to date; and by publishing a revised CD-ROM for teachers (*Exploring Canada's Electoral System*), an on-line version of *Canada's Electoral System*, and an on-line version of the 2001 *Compendium of Electoral Information*.

- 🔗 Our Web site's home page includes links to our features for youth (CLICK: Youth Site), explanations of Canada's voting system and a history of voting (CLICK: General Information), on-line and print publications (CLICK: Publications), press releases and media information (CLICK: Media) and the compendium (CLICK: Electoral Law & Policy).

Support to stakeholders

Every 10 years, independent federal electoral boundaries commissions readjust riding boundaries to reflect changes and movements in Canada's population. The process — commonly called redistribution — began on March 12, 2002, when the Chief Statistician of Canada sent the 2001 census return to the Chief Electoral Officer. Following calculations set out in the *Constitution Act, 1867* and the *Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act*, the Chief Electoral Officer announced that the number of seats in the House of Commons would increase from 301 to 308 for a general election held after July 21, 2004. During 2001–2002 we convened the first conference of chairs, members and secretaries of the commissions to outline the support that Elections Canada will offer them; set up a redistribution unit to help the commissions; and published extensive information on our Web site.

- 🔗 For more information on redistribution, CLICK: Federal Representation 2004.

The Chief Electoral Officer appeared three times before the House of Commons Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs to discuss Elections Canada's *Report on Plans and Priorities* for 2002–2003, the *Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act*, and his recommendations to Parliament in *Modernizing the Electoral Process*. In his three appearances before the Standing Senate Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs, he commented on his report on the 37th general election, on Bill C-9 amending the *Canada Elections Act* and the *Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act*, and on redistribution. Elections Canada held three sessions with the Advisory Committee of Political Parties in June, October and December 2001.

Elections Canada maintains contact with similar organizations in jurisdictions around the world, and works with the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and the Canadian International Development Agency to provide technical and professional assistance to other countries. During 2001–2002, we renewed our five-year technical co-operation agreement with the Instituto Federal Electoral of Mexico, and hosted several visits from representatives of other countries.

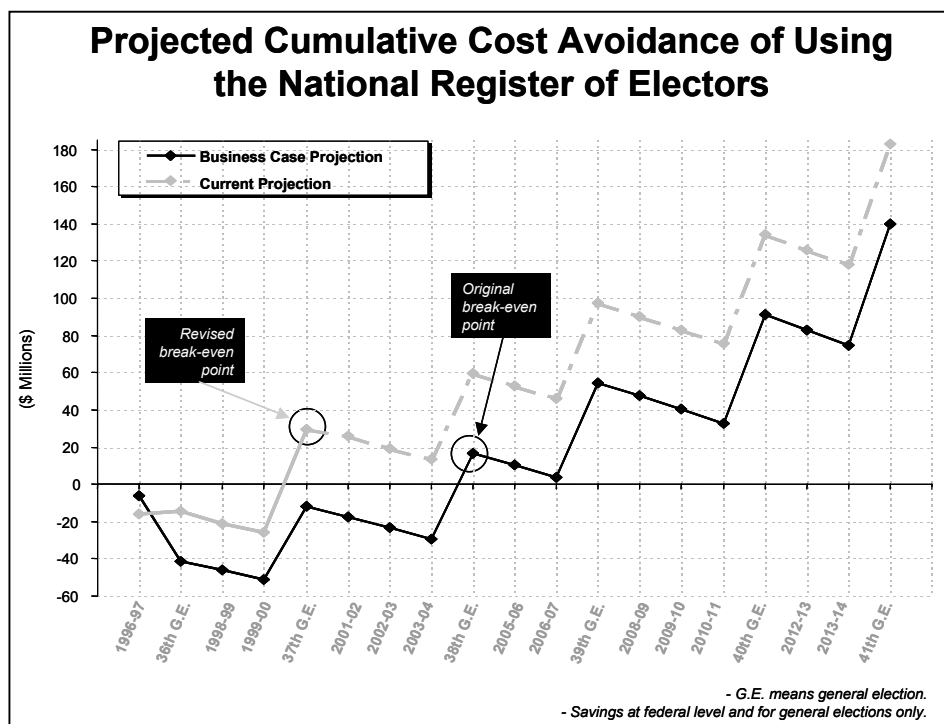
 For more information about our international activities, [CLICK: International](#).

Annexes

A. Financial performance

Financial performance overview

The following graph shows the cumulative costs avoided by using the National Register of Electors, both according to our original business case for the Register and according to our actual and projected results. The savings apply only to federal general elections, and do not include further savings realized by our municipal and provincial partners with whom we share data. Hypothetical dates for future general elections are given here merely to provide consistent points for data comparison. As the graph indicates, we recovered our initial investment at the 2000 general election, rather than the one after that.



Financial summary tables

Funding authorities

Elections Canada operates under two funding authorities: the administrative vote (which essentially provides for the salaries of indeterminate staff) and the statutory authority (which provides for all other expenditures, including the costs of electoral events and continuing public education programs). Because the authorities are interdependent, this report considers both together.

Table 1: Financial requirements by authority (\$ thousands)

Vote	Authority	2001–2002		
		Planned spending	Total authorities	Actual
20	Program expenditures	11,765	12,792	11,675
(S)	Salary of the Chief Electoral Officer	179	238	238
(S)	Expenses of elections	22,300	39,300	35,252
(S)	Contributions to employee benefits plan	2,294	2,294	2,391
Total		36,538	54,624	49,556

(S) means that an item is authorized by a statutory authority.

In table 2 below:

- ❑ Numbers in *italics* are actual total authorities (Main and Supplementary Estimates and other authorities).
- ❑ Numbers in **bold** type are actual expenditures and revenues.
- ❑ *Operating* includes contributions to employee benefits plan and the salary of the Chief Electoral Officer.

Table 2: Agency planned vs. actual spending by funding authority, 2001–2002 (\$ thousands)

Funding authority	Full-time equivalent	Operating	Capital	Voted grants and contributions	Subtotal: gross voted expenditures	Statutory payments	Total gross expenditures	Less: Respendable revenues	Total net expenditures
Administration									
Planned spending	210	14,238			14,238		14,238		14,238
<i>Total authorities</i>	<i>210</i>	<i>15,324</i>			<i>15,324</i>		<i>15,324</i>		<i>15,324</i>
Actuals	191	14,304			14,304		14,304		14,304
Elections and referendums									
Planned spending	21					22,300	22,300		22,300
<i>Total authorities</i>	<i>121</i>					<i>39,300</i>	<i>39,300</i>		<i>39,300</i>
Actuals	100					35,252	35,252		35,252
Totals									
Planned spending	231	14,238			14,238	22,300	36,538		36,538
<i>Total authorities</i>	<i>331</i>	<i>15,324</i>			<i>15,324</i>	<i>39,300</i>	<i>54,624</i>		<i>54,624</i>
Actuals	291	14,304			14,304	35,252	49,556		49,556
Other revenues and expenditures:									
Non-respendable revenues									-
Planned									-
<i>Total authorities</i>									-
Actuals									-
Cost of services provided by other departments									
Planned									3,304
<i>Total authorities</i>									<i>3,304</i>
Actuals									7,227
Net cost of the program									
Planned									39,842
<i>Total authorities</i>									<i>57,928</i>
Actuals									56,783

Table 3: Historical comparison of total planned spending to actual spending (\$ thousands)

Funding authority	2001–2002				
	Actual 1999–2000	Actual 2000–2001	Planned spending	Total authorities	Actual
Administration	3,646	5,703	14,238	15,324	14,304
Elections and referendums	33,386	197,148	22,300	39,300	35,252
Total	37,032	202,851	36,538	54,624	49,556

Table 4: Statutory payments by funding authority (\$ thousands)

Funding authority	Actual 1999–2000	Actual 2000–2001	2001–2002		
			Planned spending	Total authorities	Actual
Administration	814	953	2,473	2,532	2,629
Elections and referendums	33,386	197,148	22,300	39,300	35,252
Total statutory payments	34,200	198,101	24,773	41,832	37,881

In table 5 below, transfer payments incorporate the following factors:

- ❑ A candidate who is elected or receives at least 15% of the valid votes cast at an election is entitled to a reimbursement of 50% of the actual paid election expenses and the paid personal expenses to a maximum of 50% of the election expenses limit.
- ❑ A registered party is eligible for a reimbursement if the party has obtained 2% or more of the total number of valid votes cast nationally, or 5% of the valid votes cast in those districts where the party sponsored candidates in an election. Following receipt of a registered party's election expenses return, the auditor's unqualified report and the declaration by the chief agent, the Chief Electoral Officer will prepare and issue a certificate requiring the Receiver General to reimburse that registered party in the amount of 22.5% of its paid election expenses as set out in the return.
- ❑ The Act provides for a subsidy to be paid out of public funds directly to the candidate's auditor, upon confirmation of compliance with the relevant provisions of the Act. If the subsidy paid to the auditor by the Receiver General is less than the total fee charged by the auditor, the candidate is responsible for paying the excess. The subsidy cannot exceed 3% of the election expenses of the candidate to a maximum of \$1,500, nor can the payment be less than \$250.

Table 5: Transfer payments (\$ thousands)

Other transfer payments	Actual 1999–2000	Actual 2000–2001	2001–2002		
			Planned spending	Total authorities	Actual
Candidates	1	15,724	-	-	361
Political parties	-	7,765	-	-	(165)
Candidates' auditors	274	1,305	-	-	(134)
Total transfer payments	275	24,794	-	-	62

B. Other information

Federal political contributions and tax credits claimed

The table below shows the number of contributions received by registered political parties and candidates, the total value of the contributions, and the estimated tax credits provided to individuals and corporations, as supported by official tax receipts for the corresponding calendar years. Tax credit amounts fluctuate between electoral events, although they tend to increase with the approach of a general election (see the amounts for 1993 and 1997). Federal political contributions from corporations appear to follow the same trend as those from individuals.

The information on contributions for 1991 to 1993 is extracted from the Elections Canada publication *Contributions and Expenses of Registered Political Parties and Candidates for the general election of 1993*. Information for 1994 to 2001 is extracted from Elections Canada records. Information on contributions to candidates is provided only for the general elections of 1993, 1997 and 2000.

The source of estimated tax credits claimed by *individuals* is the yearly edition of *Income Statistics* (Canada Customs and Revenue Agency), and for *corporations* is information from the Corporations Statistics Section of the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency. *N/A* means that the estimated amounts were not available at the time this report was prepared.

Federal political contributions and estimated tax credits claimed

	Number of contributions								
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Registered political parties	222,376	176,823	184,369	203,533	217,792	173,304	168,369	404,780	105,447
Candidates	160,944	-	-	-	121,159	-	-	107,518	-
Total	383,320	176,823	184,369	203,533	338,951	173,304	168,369	512,298	105,447
	Value of contributions (\$ thousands)								
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Registered political parties	53,793	33,560	37,631	41,658	55,290	31,935	34,194	57,100	31,540
Candidates	42,210	-	-	-	38,665	-	-	41,849	-
Total	96,003	33,560	37,631	41,658	93,955	31,935	34,194	98,949	31,540
	Estimated tax credits claimed (\$ thousands)								
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Corporations	1,009	917	571	515	1,099	674	509	926	N/A
Individuals	19,590	9,192	9,945	10,320	15,396	9,735	10,439	N/A	N/A
Total	20,599	10,109	10,516	10,835	16,495	10,409	10,948	926	N/A

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