

# 5. How to Find Out More About Policy Issues and Candidates

- **Visit the websites of the major political parties:**
  - [Liberal Party of Canada](#)
  - [New Democratic Party \(NDP\) of Canada](#)
  - [Green Party of Canada](#)
  - [Conservative Party of Canada](#)
- **Read the party platforms:**
  - All political parties release a platform before the election.
  - A party's platform is the policies and values that it promises to make happen if elected. It tells voters where the party stands on major issues.
  - You can read the platforms on each party's website.
  - Here are platforms on disability issues by:
    - [The Liberal Party](#) (page 96)
    - [The New Democratic Party \(NDP\)](#)
    - [The Conservative Party](#) (page 68)
    - [The Green Party](#) (page 77)
- **Read, listen, or watch the news coverage of the election:**
  - You can find updates about the election on the TV news, radio stations, and print and online newspapers.
  - For example, news media will have summaries of party platforms. These are some news sites that we found as examples, but this is not a full list:

- [CBC](#)
- [Maclean's](#)
- [CTV News](#)
- [The Globe and Mail](#) (note: You must create an account to access this page)
- [The National Post](#)
- Note: All news media have their own bias and perspective. When reading articles in the news about candidates, parties, and their platforms, keep in mind that journalists summarize and paraphrase what they think is important.
- **Attend or watch a debate:**
  - **Televised Federal Leaders' debates**
    - There are two organized by the Leaders' Debates. They have already happened, but you can watch them online here:
      - [English Leaders Debate](#)
      - [French Leaders Debate](#)
      - The debates are aired on major television networks. Full videos can be found online on news media websites afterwards.
      - [CBC has more information about how to watch the debates.](#)
    - News media will also have articles talking about the Leaders' debates and fact checking them. Fact checking means looking into what someone says and double checking if they are telling the truth or not.

- **Local town halls (also called All Candidates Debates)**
  - You can find where and when your all-candidates debates are by searching “[your riding’s name (e.g. Vancouver South], all candidates debate”
  - They may also be listed in local newspapers.
  - Many debates will be held online this year because of COVID-19.
  - If you miss an all candidates debate, you can see if it was recorded and can be watched online.
- This year, a group of disability organizations hosted a All-Parties Candidates Debate on Disability Issues. [You can watch it by clicking here.](#)
- **Visit the websites and social media of the candidates in your riding:**
  - You can do this by looking up the candidate’s name. Find out who is running for MP in your riding [using the Elections Canada tool here.](#)
  - If one of the candidates is currently an MP, find out how they have talked about and voted on issues in Parliament in the past.
  - Some resources for finding this out are:
    - The Parliament of Canada website: <https://www.ourcommons.ca/en>
    - Open Parliament, an independent website: <https://openparliament.ca/>

- **Check the facts:**

- Not everything that a political candidate or party says is true. Sometimes they lie or say misleading things.
- Do research to check if what they are saying is true. Make sure you check that your sources are credible and reliable.
- News media will sometimes do fact checks.