



Healthy Democracy Project

Ontario Small Urban Municipalities

Democracy today

Politics

Why Is Politics Getting Nastier?

With threats and harassment rising, running for office has become a dangerous job

BY STEPHEN MAHER

Updated 21:32, May, 30, 2022 | Published 14:00, May, 12, 2022

OPINION

Women and racialized political candidates are being set up to fail

ERIN TOLLEY

CONTRIBUTED TO THE GLOBE AND MAIL
PUBLISHED JUNE 13, 2022

OPINION

As apathy spreads, municipal democracies are in danger



MARCUS GEE >
TORONTO
PUBLISHED OCTOBER 15, 2022
UPDATED OCTOBER 20, 2022

CANADA

Wasaga Beach, Ont., disables comments on its social media to prevent spread of hate, misinformation

By Staff • The Canadian Press
Posted October 27, 2021 9:13 pm

Local News

Trolling is a major barrier for women considering politics, conference hears

"I want to put my time into developing good policy, not fighting trolls on the internet. It is frustrating and it is draining."

Elizabeth Payne

Published Aug 15, 2022 • 3 minute read

Politics

MPs describe threats, safety fears as they're issued panic buttons



One MP said he's forwarded 20 death threats to the police

Politics

Governor General's office closes social media comments after a wave of hateful remarks



Rideau Hall says comments have been 'abusive, misogynistic and racist' in nature

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WINDSOR STAR

News / Local News

Essex County meeting cancelled after unruly protest

Brian MacLeod
Published Apr 07, 2023 • 2 minute read

43 Comments



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Politics

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The response



We All Win

- Representative councils
- Resources, tools, and training
- Equity-informed leadership
- People running for office don't feel alone and have recourse

Respect for Democracy

- Increase trust in local government
- Improving the tone of discourse
- AMO as a thought leader on participatory democracy

Engagement & Education

- Civic education and youth engagement
- Civic engagement support for AMO members
- AMO member engagement in Healthy Democracy work

The journey

1. Healthy Democracy Project Advisory Group
2. New education opportunities
3. Monumental research—barriers to running for office
4. CIVIX partnership and civic education pilot
5. Toronto Metropolitan University partnership—Voter turnout, Solutions Bank, Healthy Democracy Indicators
6. Local Democracy Accelerator
7. Healthy Democracy Forum June 26-28



Accelerating the health of local democracy together

Thank you.

Stay in touch:

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