



Some Ideas

Do you want to increase the number of women in elected office?

A comparative study showed that there is a positive correlation between the number of female activists in a party and the number of women elected. The 2005 provincial election campaign begins today. It is a great chance to engage women in politics.

Ideas to get more women involved in politics:

1) The First Vote

This election is a special one for several thousand young women (and men) in B.C. between the ages of 18 and 21. They are eligible to vote for the first time. But if the statistics hold, only about one quarter of them will actually vote - and fewer young women than men.

It's also a special election for women (and men) who have recently gained their Canadian citizenship.

Maybe you know a woman who's voting for the first time. Why not help her register to vote, figure out what constituency she's in, and where to find her polling station?

2) Help Women Get to Know Their Candidates

How often do we hear that people don't vote because they don't know anything about the candidates who are running?

Take a new voter or an old voter out to an all-candidates meeting in their constituency. She can learn what the candidates who want to represent her think about issues and find out more about who they are. Maybe she'll like a candidate enough that she'll start working on her or his campaign.

3) Working on an Election Campaign

Political parties and campaigns can be intimidating for people who aren't familiar with them.

Women are often more comfortable with other women in a new environment. Why not invite some of your women friends to join you to volunteer for a few hours on a local candidate's campaign? Working with a group of people on a common goal can be social, a good learning experience and gratifying.