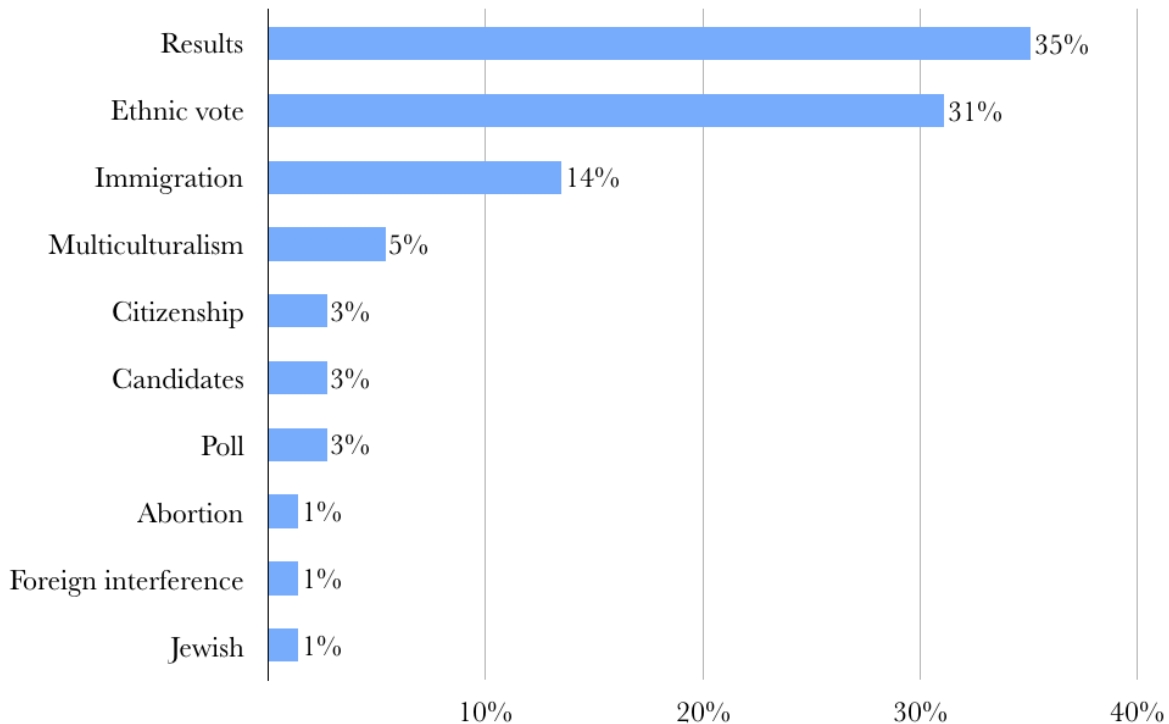


[diversityvotes.ca](https://diversityvotes.ca) — Ethnic Media Election Coverage 29 October to 4 November

### ETHNIC MEDIA—TOP 10 ELECTION ISSUES 29 OCTOBER TO 4 NOVEMBER



This week about 75 post-election-related articles were analyzed, overwhelmingly with respect to the overall election results and ethnic voting patterns, along with analysis of what the results meant in terms of immigration policies and priorities.

#### **Ethnic vote:**

Commentary in Chinese media included:

“...the Chinese community should continue to reflect on the election as Chinese social media was being manipulated by certain political parties, but the Chinese community failed to respond to this as a whole. In contrast, mainstream Canadian voters had a very strong and clear political stand and were less influenced by the campaign tactics.” (Chinese, *Chinese Canadian Times*)

“According to Chinese Canadians, Justin Trudeau’s Liberal Party is too far left, too silly and too naive. They think the Liberals have broken Canada, and that it’s time to let the

## DRAFT

Conservatives take over. They are known to be practical. The Americans have woken up and have given up on the Democrats by choosing a president that will do what he promises. Canada should learn from the US and change the culture. Hence, many Chinese Canadians voted in support of the Conservatives and are eager to remove Trudeau Liberals. Some Chinese Canadians are worried that, if Trudeau serves another four years, Canada will become a refugee camp and 'drug-use central'" (Chinese, *Van People*)

"...a new topic for debate has surfaced. Left-wing Chinese Canadians are blaming their right-wing counterpart for not following Canada values, being short-sighted, and are annoyed by their ways of voting. So what counts as knowing how to vote? ...Because the system is democratic, right-wing Chinese Canadians can still voice their disagreement with left-wing values. Canada needs critical thinkers and active participants in the voting debate. After the election, many left-wing Chinese media were showing off that they chose the winning party, while blaming the right-wing Chinese voters for not being open-minded. But if voters did not vote based on the values they believe in, then what is the point of voting?" (Chinese, *Van People*)

### Comments by African Canadians:

"There's no way in the world I can put my trust in the Conservative Party, which wants to cut immigration even though it is clear that new and old immigrants contribute enormously to the success of Canada as a country." "... For me, it appears the Conservatives have no eyes... They don't often see people like me, a common person from the African community. They always speak above my head, only interested in how many people they wish to prevent from entering Canada. Not whether immigrants should be encouraged to seek the Canadian lifestyle because everyone benefits from it." (African Canadian quotes, *New Canadian Media*)

Greek media focussed on the four elected MPs of Greek origin: Niki Ashton (Churchill-Keewatinook Aski), Emmanouella Lambropoulos (Saint-Laurent), Annie Koutrakis (Vimy) and Peter Fragiskatos (London North Centre).

Korean media noted the election of the first Korean Canadian MP, Nelly Shin (Port Moody-Coquitlam) and the greater involvement of Korean women in politics. (Note: Currently subject to a recount.)

Latino media focussed on reasons why Latinos supported the Liberals in the GTA, some strategically doing so rather than voting NDP, with coverage of some of the Liberal MPs elected or re-elected: Julie Dzerowicz (Davenport), Pablo Rodriguez (Honoré-Mercier), Soraya Martinez Ferrada (Hochelaga, subject to a recount) and those defeated.

Punjabi media noted that 20 MPs of Indian origin were elected, 19 of whom were of Punjabi origin, an increase of one since 2015:

"Trudeau had relaxed immigration laws and Indians had derived the most benefit from that. That is likely to continue. Similarly, a Trudeau government will bring more MPs of Indian origin into the cabinet. The last cabinet had quite a few and they helped him get

a respectable number of seats in this election. He might increase the number of Sikh members of his cabinet to get closer to the NDP, whose leader is a Sikh. The influence of the Sikh community is likely to increase in the Trudeau Government 2.0, which will also benefit Indians.” (Gujarati, Swadesh)

**Results:** General results coverage continued to largely mirror mainstream media regarding regional divisions, how minority governments work, speculation about the continued leadership of CPC leader Scheer, and the impact of the Ford government on Conservatives in Ontario.

“The blame for the defeat lies with the Conservatives themselves. Andrew Scheer was unable to compete effectively with Justin Trudeau. How could he lose against the Liberal Party leader who was tarnished by high-profile scandals? In addition... the Conservative Party's program consists of an overblown set of promises in which key ideas are drowned. For the most part, these promises do not differ fundamentally from Liberal ones, with the exception of the abolition of 'climate fees' and the restriction of illegal migration. The author believes that in order to win, the Conservatives need a clear idea that outlines the contours of the future in which Canadians will wish to exist — and they seem to need a different leader.” (Russian, *Russian Express*)

“What this election proved, more than anything else, is that the immigrant vote cannot be dismissed as irrelevant or unimportant. In the cities where Trudeau won big, it was the immigrants who handed him his second term. In spite of the other parties running ethnic minority candidates by the dozens to try to woo that vote, at the end of the day it was the Liberals who won the day, as they were judged on their actions in their first term, not by the colour of their candidates’ skin. Trudeau, after all, was the first Prime Minister in Canadian history to include so many visible minorities in his cabinet. He also elevated some to the government’s most senior positions, including defence and immigration.” (Caribbean, Equality News)

**Immigration:** Most articles and commentary were positive on continuation of Liberal immigration policies following the election results (Chinese, Filipino, Punjabi, Spanish, and Polish media). Italian media noted the expectation that the incoming government would rewrite or discard the Express Entry immigration system and restore legal status to foreign workers whose visas have expired (undocumented construction workers).

“Immigration levels are poised to rise even further under a Liberal minority government. Under the Liberals' current plan, the target will increase from 330,800 in 2019 to 350,000 by 2021, and their election platform suggested this pattern would continue if they obtained a new mandate. All eyes will now be on the Municipal Nominee Program, which the Liberals promised in order to help smaller cities across Canada attract more immigrants. The Atlantic Immigration Pilot (AIP) will become permanent. The Liberals' pledge to waive citizenship fees for eligible permanent residents suggests that Canada's already high rate of citizenship acquisition will increase even further. Adults must currently pay \$530 plus a right of citizenship fee” of \$100 to support their citizenship application.” (Punjabi, *Hamdard Daily*)

“Corriere publisher Joe Volpe exhorts Anne McLellan, advisor to Justin Trudeau, to tell the Prime Minister to get rid of those federal ministers who never should have been called to government, first among them Ahmed Hussen. As Immigration Minister, Hussen has been a complete disaster. Nonetheless, approximately 300,000 new entrants, as well as international student visa holders, refugees, and the more than one million undocumented workers (and their families), are at his mercy. Closer to home, he has not lifted a finger to make use of the human resources potential of Italian emigrants ‘young, educated and skilled’ who are leaving Italy each year, going everywhere except Canada. Dismiss him before he causes more damage to the country’s demographic fabric and the Liberal brand, Volpe says. (Italian, *Corriere Canadese*)

**Multiculturalism:** Various articles ranging from PM Trudeau not wearing a costume this Halloween, that Canada should “stop pretending to be a diversity paradise,” a profile of NDP leader Singh, a critique of the Muslim Voting Guide prepared by researchers at Laurier University and one commentary stating that customer service agents should not have strong foreign accents.

Other issues with minimal coverage included: citizenship (voting experience for new Canadians, voting rights for international students), abortion (CPC leader Scheer’s maintaining that social conservatives can be trusted to not impose their values), foreign interference (PCO noting limited extent), candidates (Chinese names for non-Chinese candidates), polls (prevalence of strategic voting) and the election date conflicting with a Jewish holiday.

“...many Jews were concerned that the conflict between the election date and the holiday of Shemini Atzeret would lead to a lower proportion of observant Jews turning out to vote. After a concerted campaign by Jewish institutions to educate voters about their electoral options, and the opening of additional service points in ridings with large Jewish populations, Jewish candidates in those ridings were satisfied that the conflict did not hinder people from voting. However, some of the candidates believe the election date hindered their campaigns in other ways.” (Jewish, *Canadian Jewish News*)

Andrew Griffith, ethnic media provided by MIREMS