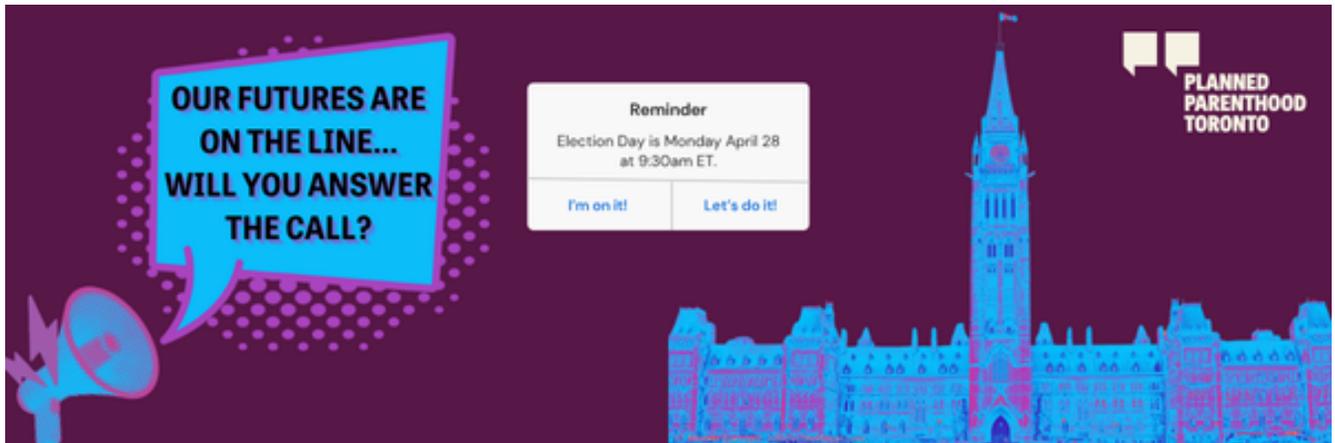


Election Day is Monday, April 28. Planned Parenthood Toronto's Executive Director has a special message for our supporters on how to remain optimistic in our current moment, and why voting is an act of resistance in a time of censorship.



“Your Anger is the Part of You that Loves You Best, Because She Knows You Deserve Better”

Those were the words that rang out the most loudly with the Planned Parenthood Toronto team during our all-day crisis de escalation training last week.

At PPT, we build youth futures by attending to the present. Every day, our staff work tirelessly to provide consistent, trusted and affirming healthcare, mental health services, reproductive and sexual health services and programming. We host youth leadership programs, drop-ins, highly skilled peer volunteer programs. And we are all over the city, everywhere from schools to libraries, community centres to gender-based violence shelters. Our approach is to act now, alongside youth, for the futures we all deserve.

The last few years have represented a sea change in the world we live in; politically, economically, emotionally, psychologically, environmentally. For youth, it has been one existential crisis after another throughout much of their lives. It's not surprising if many of us are wondering what

happened to the lives we thought we were going to live and the world we were hoping to build, together and for each other.

Monday April 28 is Canada's federal election. And although voting is just one step, as we see all over the world, it is an extremely consequential building block to be able to protect the future. If you weren't sure about voting this election, here is a loving reminder and appeal from your friends at PPT – please make sure you go out and vote.

Vote for the world you want, vote to block attempts to roll back hard-won rights, vote to protect our public health systems, vote to protect the right to dissent, vote to protect reproductive and sexual healthcare, vote to hold corporations accountable, vote to protect the environment, vote to stand in solidarity with queer and trans communities and women, vote to invest in everyday communities instead of greedy corporations. Vote for youth futures!

And then on April 29 and every day after that, join us as we continue to push to for what we know we deserve: much better.

But seriously – don't forget to vote on Monday April 28!

Mohini Datta-Ray
Executive Director
Planned Parenthood Toronto

