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Citizen-Created Election Website Empowers Manitoba Voters

Winnipeg, Manitoba, September 7, 2011 -- The folks at Open Democracy Manitoba want to help you make an informed choice as a voter on October 4th. Their new election website aims to be a comprehensive resource for information on the upcoming provincial election.

The ManitobaElection.ca site features interactive constituency maps, a calendar of election-related events, and educational resources on legislative politics in Manitoba. Election candidates are listed along with links to their web pages, email addresses, Facebook fan pages and Twitter feeds. Online news articles that mention candidates are also linked, providing up-to-date election news from a variety of media sources.

The Open Democracy Manitoba community organization was founded by Winnipeggers Kyle Geske and Jody Gillis. In 2010 Geske and Gillis, instructors at Red River College, built a similar site for the Winnipeg civic election.

“The response to WinnipegElection.ca exceeded our expectations,” says Gillis. “By election day our site had been visited by over forty-five thousand Winnipeggers.”

“We’ve raised our expectations for ManitobaElection.ca”, adds Geske. “We want to engage voters and empower them to learn about the candidates, the issues, and the legislative process itself.”

Now that the election has officially been called, the group is working on adding historic election data to the site. They are also preparing a candidate questionnaire, which will be sent to all the candidates once nominations close on September 13th.

ManitobaElection.ca is a citizen-created resource for the 2011 Manitoba general election, designed to provide Manitoba voters with information on their candidates. Open Democracy Manitoba strives to educate voters, empowering them to understand the roles, issues, and visions of our representatives in order have a more accountable and respectful democracy.

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For more information:
Kyle Geske or Jody Gillis
204-995-5369
204-612-2307
manitoba.election@gmail.com