

# St. James Civic Affairs Committee

Newsletter 1

May 24, 2019

## Upcoming Events

**When: Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 7 – 8pm**

**Where: St. James Parish Foyer**  
(address below)

At our first meeting, we had an overview – “Politics For Dummies” - now what?

Speaker, Marc Vella, will talk about Civic Activism and how things really get done in democracies. How do we actually engage? We look at local level politics: the need to vote and nomination races for school district & local council elections.

Talk followed by Q&A and hospitality time.

*We break over the summer  
and will be back in September.*

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## In The News...

Points out tortured legal logic when babies in the womb denied personhood.

[Without new abortion laws, there's no way to seek justice for fetal homicide victims: Robyn Urback](#) CBC

Parental rights ignored.

[Appeal dismissed in challenge to Alberta gay-straight alliance law](#) National Post

Social conservatives drummed out of the public square.

[Crosbie boots candidate with anti-abortion, anti-gay views 24 hours after backing him](#) CBC

Crazy like a fox?

[‘Crazies’ now completely in control of PPC, says former executive](#) iPolitics

The next battle line for life issues.

[With Ontario court's ruling on doctors, the revolution continues](#) National Post

## Mission Statement

The *St. James Civic Affairs Committee* is a non-partisan body established to educate and empower members of our community to engage in public affairs from a Christian perspective. We shall also strive to help other churches establish their own Civic Affairs Committees.

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## Why get involved?

We have all heard that cliché that every vote matters. Without looking at deeper explanations, we can look at the May 16, 2019 results for the provincial riding of Labrador West in Newfoundland and Labrador. The victor, a rookie politician, defeated a sitting cabinet minister by five votes. *Five votes.* One vote would not change the result. But one family’s vote could. Kids...siblings...parents...neighbours...friends. You get the picture.

When dealing with local elections, municipal and school board, the chances of narrow victories are even greater as fewer votes are cast.

One’s reasons for participating in politics can vary. Our committee has the mandate of encouraging participation from a Christian perspective. We trust that that would motivate many of us. So with stakes that can be so high, and margins that can be so narrow, all of us, and any of us, could be a difference maker.

## India General Election 2019

“If you think you’re having a bad day, an independent candidate from Jalandhar India got only FIVE votes. He has a family of nine.”