



# Canadian Municipal Barometer

A new partnership to generate high-quality data and rigorous analysis of  
Canadian municipal democracy and public policy.



# The Canadian Municipal Barometer | Project Overview

- Recurring **survey of mayors and councillors** in every municipality above 9,000 population in Canada (~440 municipalities, ~3800 politicians)
- **Pan-Canadian academic team** and a variety of partners:
  - Academic team: Jack Lucas (Calgary), Royce Koop (Manitoba), Gabriel Eidelman (Toronto), Sandra Breux (INRS Montreal), Kelly Blidook (Memorial)
  - Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Samara Centre for Democracy, Institute on Municipal Finance and Governance
  - Senior Advisory Committee: Katherine Einstein, Thomas Ivacko, Peter Loewen, Andrew Sancton, Enid Slack
- **Annual rhythm:**
  - Fall: hire RAs and update politician contact list, collect election results, write and translate annual survey
  - January-February: field survey
  - March-April: distribute updates and reports
  - Ongoing: academic research

# The Canadian Municipal Barometer | Data and Reporting

- Recurring **tracking questions**: democratic satisfaction, economic conditions, provincial-municipal relations, federal-municipal relations, issue importance
- Annual **research theme**:
  - 2020: Life and Career of the Municipal Politician
  - 2021: Municipal Participation and Engagement
  - 2022: Democratic Institutions and IGR
- Additional questions for specific projects / partners
- **Research outputs**:
  - Ideology and ideological representation
  - Intergovernmental relations and municipal autonomy
  - Municipal representational styles
  - COVID-19 policy and its local consequences
  - Politician salaries and careers

# The Canadian Municipal Barometer | **Join the Party!**

- **Make use of the data** we've already collected
- Contribute **additional data** to increase the value of CMB survey responses
- Propose **new questions** for future CMB surveys

# The Canadian Municipal Barometer | General Thoughts

- It helps to be interested in **municipal politics and policy!**
- The **accessibility paradox** of elite survey research
- Focus on stuff that you **can't get elsewhere!**

# Thanks!

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