

5 GOLDEN RULES OF CANVASSING:

Start off with a hook - a good pitch	- Do you think Canada should continue covering war crimes or should finally stop? - Did you know Canada writes off 100 of millions to steal land? - Hi there, we're telling people about how their vote can save a lot of lives! - Did you know your tax dollars are funding stolen land—at home and abroad? - Did you know your vote could change someone else's life! - Why is Canada producing bombs instead of providing housing and jobs?
Keep it casual	- Avoid the use of 'I's or 'BUT's or direct replies, - I hear your point, votes against genocide actually says ... - That's an interesting point, research has show that - You entitled to your opinion - Appreciate their point of view, - I appreciate that you have formulated an opinion on this, did you know that so and so said such and such - That's an interesting opinion I haven't heard before, do you mind explaining how you came about it?
Keep it relevant	- We voted for a government that has shipped weapons and covered war crimes - Our votes are what's keeping parties that commit crimes in power - Hundreds of millions of our tax dollars provide aid to Israel - Hundreds of millions of Canadian dollars have gone towards devastating Palestine - Our representatives have kept us out of their office and ignored our voice for 2 years since they depend on the rich dollars to fund their next campaign
Simple call to action	- Withhold your vote from genocidal parties - Inform your MP of your pledge not to vote for them - Leave your postal code so we can add it to the tracker (without associating it with you)
Read queues	- If they're hostile/combatative, move one - If they're not interested, give it another shot, then let them go - If they're interested, you could move to the CTA right away - If they're interested, you could emphasize the relevance of the issue to them

QUICK FACTS ABOUT VOTES AGAINST GENOCIDE:

Campaign Strategy	Utilizes voter pledges in <u>swing ridings</u> to pressure political parties into anti-genocide actions.
Impact of Pledging	Collective pledges <u>threaten</u> politicians' <u>power</u> , raising <u>awareness</u> and mobilizing voters for <u>accountability</u> .
Origins of Demands	Rooted in exposure grassroots organizing, international laws, and Indigenous-led inquiries.
Focus on Major Parties	Targets <u>Liberals and Conservatives</u> due to their <u>significant influence</u> and <u>policies</u> supporting <u>genocide</u> .
Effect on Other Parties	<u>Encourages</u> smaller parties to <u>adopt anti-genocide stances</u> to attract voters.
Non-Endorsement Policy	Does <u>not support</u> any <u>specific party</u> ; aims to <u>hold all parties accountable</u> .
Definition of Swing Ridings	Electoral districts where small voter shifts can change election outcomes.
Vote Splitting Concerns	Withholding votes from complicit parties sends a message without necessarily aiding opponents.
Accountability of Supportive MPs	Emphasizes the need for MPs to take concrete <u>actions beyond individual statements</u>
Building a Movement	Aims to <u>unite voters</u> for ongoing advocacy beyond elections

SCRIPT AND TALKING POINTS:

Introduction:

Hi, I'm [Your Name] with Votes Against Genocide.

We're a people's movement that wants to end Canada's involvement in genocides, both here against Indigenous Peoples and internationally in places like Occupied Palestine.

Talking Points:

- **Canada's Role:**
 - Many Canadians aren't aware that our government supports policies contributing to oppression and violence against Indigenous communities here and Palestinians abroad
- **Our Power as Voters:**
 - By pledging to withhold votes from parties complicit in these actions, especially in swing ridings, we can push for meaningful change."

Encouraging Votes Beyond Liberal and Conservative Parties:

- The Liberal and Conservative parties have histories of supporting policies that perpetuate these injustices
- Considering alternative parties can send a strong message that we demand change

Educating on Eligible Candidates:

- We're evaluating parties based on their commitment to our eight actionable demands, which include
 - imposing sanctions for justice in Palestine and
 - restoring Indigenous sovereignty
- This helps voters identify candidates aligned with anti-genocide principles

Understanding Swing Ridings:

- Swing ridings are areas where a small shift in votes can change the election outcome. In these ridings, our collective pledges can significantly influence party positions on these critical issues
- Your vote in a swing riding holds substantial power: by uniting voters here, we can pressure major parties to adopt anti-genocide policies to secure electoral success

Holding Politicians Accountable:

- Our movement signals to politicians that their electoral success depends on addressing these injustices. We're building a collective voice to demand accountability and real policy changes

Handling Common Responses:

- If Supporting a Pro-Palestinian Liberal or Conservative: while individual MPs may be supportive, their party's overall policies often contradict anti-genocide principles.
 - Supporting alternative parties can more effectively drive change
- If Supporting a Non-Liberal/Conservative Candidate: That's great!
 - Your support for alternative parties aligns with our goal to challenge the status quo and promote justice-oriented policies
- If Undecided:
 - Choosing a candidate is hard
 - Considering parties committed to ending Canada's complicity in oppression can help you make a more decisive decision
- If Uninformed: No problem!
 - We're here to provide information on how our votes can impact Canada's role in global and domestic justice issues.
- If Opposed: I understand, have a good day (disengage as tempting as it may be to continue!)