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## C-Dem 2023 Annual Report

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# **Annual Report**

## **Report on 2022 Activities**

Version February 2, 2023

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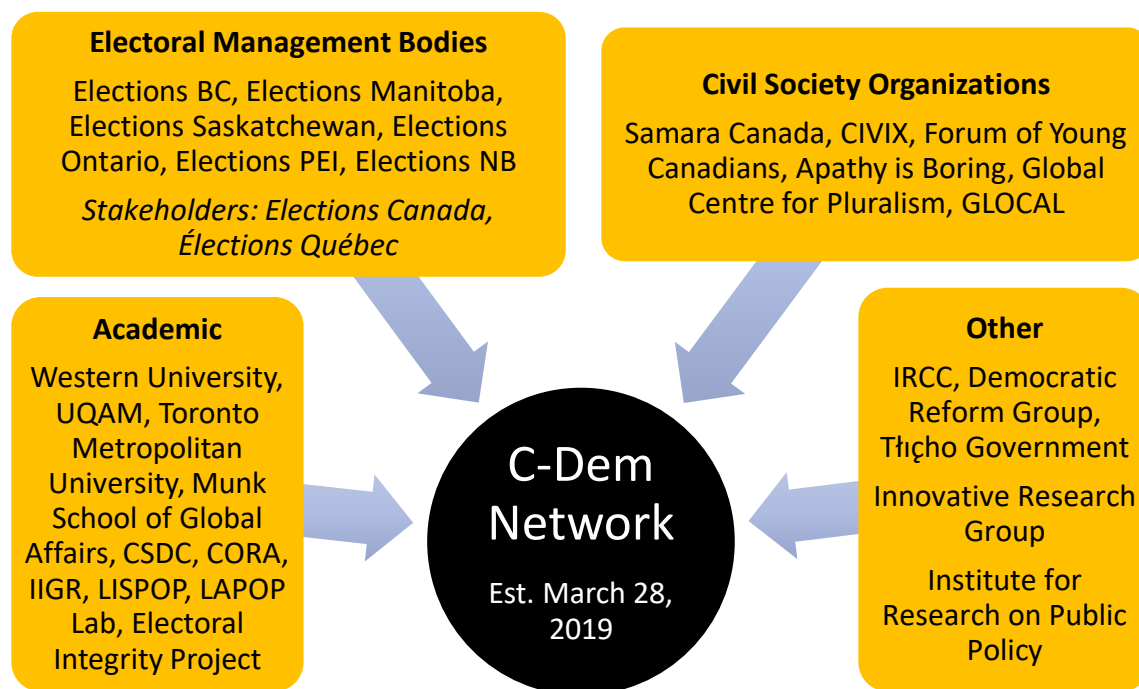
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## Midterm Report and Future Funding

We submitted the midterm report to SSHRC on October 31, 2022. Barbara Oram was particularly helpful in pulling together all of the necessary budget and personnel information. On January 20, 2023 we received the reviewer's report. Not only has SSHRC agreed to continue funding our project until 2026, but the reviewers were very complementary about all that we have accomplished since 2019. They noted that "The committee found that the research activities of this project are commendable given the substantial setbacks caused by COVID-19 for many such initiatives."

## Status of the Network

Since 2022 we have had no official changes to the network. We have, however, begun to work more closely with Élections Québec as a stakeholder.



## Personnel

C-Dem is well-supported by Program Manager (Barbara Oram) and our Data Collection Manager, Sabrina Spence. Our current C-Dem postdocs are Chan Ka-Ming (Bo) (Western) and Matt Polacko (UQAM). Seyoung Jung (Illinois) will join C-Dem at UQAM in May 2023.

We continue to employ several research assistants across various institutions at all three levels of study. Research assistant in 2022 were based at Western, UQAM, Toronto Metropolitan (formerly Ryerson), Toronto, and Laurier.

## Updates on Data Collection

### Completed or Ongoing Studies

Since our last report in February 2022, C-Dem has conducted three new surveys and completed one.

#### Provincial and Territorial Election Studies (PTES)

2022 had two provincial elections – Ontario in June and Quebec in October. We ran the Ontario campaign-period survey from May 18-June 1 and the post-election survey from June 3-13. The provincial co-investigator, Cameron Anderson, was supported by collaborator Michael McGregor. We also partnered with his SSHRC project, The Multi-level Democracy Project, to supplement the sample. The C-Dem sample was 1500 for the campaign-period survey and 1196 for the post-election survey (RTS=79.7%). The Multi-level Democracy Project collected additional sample (CPS n=2511; PES n=1992; RTS=79.3%) which included a number of C-Dem questions that can be combined into the dataset.

The Quebec election study was managed by our co-investigators Éric Bélanger and Valérie-Anne Mahéo. The campaign period survey was in the field from September 19-23, 2022. We launched the post-election study on October 4 and closed on October 15, 2022. The final sample size for the campaign period survey was 1521, and for the post-election survey 1220 (RTS=80.2%).

#### 2022 Democracy Checkup (DC)

We ran the 2022 Democracy Checkup from May 5-20, 2022 (n=9,928). We included the winning 2022 Module Competition questions on that study. We had an oversample of Quebec voters that were contracted by the UQAM Strategic Chair in Decarbonisation.

### Upcoming Studies

#### Provincial and Territorial Election Studies (PTES)

There are three more provincial election studies to conduct, all of which should occur in 2022 – Alberta (expected May 29), Manitoba (expected October 3) and PEI (expected October 2). Jared Wesley, Royce Koop, Amanda Bittner and Scott Matthews are the provincial leads for those studies and will be modifying the questionnaires for each election.

For the PEI study, we are challenged because there is no firm capable of conducting an online study of a decent size. Even an IVR-web recruitment is not possible according to firms we have contacted. We are therefore investigating whether CATI or a mail-to-web recruitment process is feasible and affordable.

#### 2023 Democracy Checkup (DC)

The 2023 Democracy Checkup will be fielded in May 2023, but the exact timing may be adjusted if the Alberta election is called early. We are aiming to collect 8,000 interviews in line with previous years.

Planned C-Dem Surveys			
	Democracy Checkup (N>8000)	Canadian Election Study	Provincial / Territorial Election Study (PTES) (N~1500)
<b>2023</b>	✓	?	Manitoba, Alberta, PEI
<b>2024</b>	✓	?	
<b>2025</b>	✓	?	Tłıcho Government
<b>2026</b>	✓	?	

## Data Releases

On October 31, 2022 we released the 2021 CES, the 2021 Democracy Checkup, and five provincial election studies (New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, British Columbia, Newfoundland and Labrador and Nova Scotia. All are available from Harvard's Dataverse and through CORA.

We have yet to release an updated 2019 CES dataset, but are working with LISPOP and its director, Simon Kiss, to code the occupation data for that year and 2021.

## Survey Firms

C-Dem has continued to work with Leger (<https://leger360.com/surveys/>) for our surveys. We expect to continue doing so moving forward, except for PEI given capacity. In the next CES we will investigate ways to run a short post-election survey with a probability sample in order to maintain Canada's involvement in the CSES (with Module 6).

## Updates on Activities

C-Dem's activities in 2022 picked up as in-person activities re-started. We have begun to archive materials related to some of our network activities through Scholarship@Western (<https://ir.lib.uwo.ca/c-dem/>).

## Postdoc Workshop and Meeting

In fall 2021, we began a biweekly virtual workshop for all C-Dem postdoctoral fellows. At each meeting, postdocs presented a paper or project idea and received feedback from the group. We also complemented the virtual workshop with a full day, in person workshop in 2021 in Toronto, hosted at the Munk School. All involved felt that the workshop and meeting were beneficial and the networking that resulted from meeting in person was particularly useful.



The bi-weekly workshops continued throughout the academic year in 2022, and we again held an in-person meeting in December, 2022 at Toronto Metropolitan University. This year's event included not only presentations by PDFs, but also included a job market round table session for participants.

### Module Competition

As in previous years, we ran a peer-reviewed module competition in 2022. There were two streams of the competition, one for researchers (faculty and post-doctoral fellows) and another for students. Members of our network served as adjudicators: Loewen (chair), Pickup and Bodet.

We received 10 (9 researcher, 1 student) applications. The researcher winners were Vince Hopkins and Yang Yang (University of Saskatchewan), and the student winner was David Sumantry (Toronto Metropolitan University). Their modules were included on the 2022 Democracy Checkup.

We announced the 2023 competition in January 2023. The winners of this competition will have their modules included in the 2023 Democracy Checkup. We will assemble adjudication teams for the proposals in early February.

### Knowledge Mobilization Events

#### Activities with EMB partners

We engaged in a contract with Elections Ontario to consult about the survey instruments they were preparing for their internal research around the 2022 elections.

In response to discussions that occurred during the 2022 Forum in May, we organized a meeting of EMB partners and stakeholders in August to discuss possible ways of data sharing and collaboration. We are currently undertaking a survey of researchers and EMBs in order to prepare a report that better identifies the needs and priorities of each group. Our hope is that great communication will facilitate additional collaboration and potentially data sharing.

We have entered into a contract with Elections Canada in December 2022 to facilitate the production of up to five research reports that make use of data gathered by Elections Canada (the National Electors Survey) and C-Dem. The call for proposals went out before the end of the year and the selection of successful applicants is expected to occur shortly. Drafts of these reports will be presented at the 2023 Forum and we will work with Elections Canada to plan a formal event to celebrate their publication in fall 2023.

### Co-Sponsored Events

We were finally about to hold our Survey Design Under Constraints workshop, which was funded by a SSHRC Connection grant we were awarded in 2020 (#611-2019-0554). Initially scheduled for July of that year, we rescheduled the workshop to be part of the 2022 MapleMeth conference at the University of Western Ontario. The programme included representation from partners, researchers and students. For MapleMeth, C-Dem contributed graduate student support to facilitate attendance.

C-Dem also co-sponsored the APSA Political Communication Section Pre-Conference held at UQAM on the theme “Political Communication in a Divided World: Polarisation, Populism and the Power of Group Representation”. The event was held the day before the American Political Science Association’s annual meeting in Montreal. The event was co-sponsored by LACPOP, the CSDC, and the GRCP. The organizing committee was led by Allison Harell (C-Dem co-director), with Dominic Duval (C-Dem CI), Stuart Soroka (AC member) and Amanda Friesen.

#### C-Dem Forum (May 13-14, 2022)

We are pleased to report we held an in-person Forum at the Munk School at the University of Toronto in May 2022. This event combined a partner meeting, a researcher meeting and an academic workshop. This gave all members of the C-Dem network an opportunity to meet, hear about each other’s work, and engage in fruitful discussion. As this was close to the mid-point of the project, it also provided an opportunity to take stock of what has been accomplished and make more concrete plans for the second half of the project.

We put out a call to our network in November 2021 for expressions of interest in presenting. The response from our researchers and partner organizations was impressive. We were able to design a schedule that incorporated a variety of individual presentations, roundtables, and brainstorming sessions, as well as important opportunities for networking and student poster presentations.

#### Upcoming Events in 2023

##### CSDC/C-Dem Forum on Democratic Citizenship (May 5-6, 2023)

We are excited that in 2023 we will be working with the CSDC to hold a Forum on Democratic Citizenship. We share many objectives and have overlapping networks, so we expect this to be a particularly lively event. We are finalizing a call for papers, posters, organized panels and roundtables that will be circulated to each of our networks soon. In particular, we indicate that we are interested in research that explores:

- (Dis)Information and Learning Active Citizenship
- Diversities and Inequalities in Democratic Politics
- Political Participation and Civic Engagement
- Challenges and Changing Dynamics in Electoral Politics
- Representation and Democratic Institutions
- Data and Methods Issues in Studying Democratic Citizenship

As part of the program, we will hold a closed Partner Meeting in order to share C-Dem’s annual report and gather feedback, as well as to provide partners with an opportunity to share their own projects.

##### MapleMeth (June 2-3, 2023)

C-Dem will again be co-sponsoring MapleMeth held at the University of Western Ontario. We will be organizing a panel on survey design issues, and expect that many of the presentations will touch upon issues related to our core objectives. C-Dem will also sponsor student travel stipends.



### Toronto Political Behaviour Workshop (November)

Daniel Rubenson and Peter Loewen expect to again hold an in-person Toronto Political Behaviour Workshop in November 2023. C-Dem is a co-sponsor of this event which brings together political behavior scholars internationally to workshop papers.

### Research Output

We have updated our website to recognize the ways that C-Dem data has been used for research. The list is updated regularly and can now be accessed anytime [here](#).

We are also pleased that research that makes use of C-Dem data products is beginning to appear at an increasing pace. When we submitted the midterm report, we were able to indicate 5 books or edited volumes; 23 articles; 7 book chapters; 14 publications under review; 7 public reports; 6 reports; 21 manuscripts in preparation; and one MA thesis. We expect that the list, especially for student theses, is incomplete.