



CANADIAN MUSLIM
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A Muslim Community Reading of Quebec Election Results & The Historic Defeat of CAQ

Quebec's Muslims view the outcome of the 2026 Quebec provincial election as a defining moment for democratic governance and a decisive rejection of divisive identity politics. The Coalition Avenir Québec (CAQ) lost ALL seats in Parliament after forming two majority governments over the past 8 years. The election results serve as a clear punishment and failure for political strategies built on division, demonstrating that weaponizing identity for electoral gain is no longer a viable path to power. Analysts also point to the collapse of CAQ as a clear case study in governance failure, beyond its divisive agenda, the government suffered from severe administrative missteps, such as high-profile procurement and IT failures like [SAAQclic](#), and overall public dissatisfaction over core public services. With the Parti Québécois securing 59 seats to form a minority government and the Parti libéral du Québec taking 40 seats as the Official Opposition, Quebec has entered an era of shared legislative authority where collaboration must replace division. This election sends a clear political message for all elected leaders to put identity politics aside and build a collaborative government that prioritizes civil liberties, economic stability, and the protection of fundamental rights.

Across key ridings where the Muslim community is concentrated, Muslim Quebecers mobilized, participated heavily at the ballot box, and made their democratic presence felt. For Quebec's Muslim community and broader ethnic and religious minority populations, the political climate of recent years has made one message abundantly clear: Quebec cannot continue down a path that seeks to eliminate, isolate, or marginalize its minority communities. Quebec's true strength lies in its diversity, and any sustainable path forward requires a government that actively safeguards human dignity and constitutional protections. This minority mandate provides a vital chance for both the governing party and the Official Opposition to reset the political discourse, work together constructively, and address the pressing core challenges that affect all Quebecers, including economic growth, healthcare, public services, and equal protection under the law.

In this new political landscape, passive observation is no longer an option for the Muslim community. To safeguard civil liberties and protect against further erosion of rights, the community must focus on active negotiation, building cross-sectoral alliances, and maintaining continuous engagement across party lines to ensure community concerns regarding systemic discrimination and Islamophobia are directly addressed. Furthermore, building durable, long-term coalitions with legal experts, human rights advocates, and diverse minority

organizations across Quebec will be essential to establishing a unified front against any legislative efforts that attempt to compromise fundamental freedoms.

To effectively navigate this transition, Muslim community leadership must maintain active, formal dialogue with all parties for the protection of rights and civil liberties in all legislative affairs. Simultaneously, they must demonstrate that Muslim Quebecers are vital contributors to the province's economic vitality and social fabric, while constructively holding the government accountable to the principles of human rights.

Quebec stands at a critical juncture where political division can give way to principled, collaborative governance. As an organization dedicated to empowering Muslim Canadians and championing civil liberties, CMPAC will remain steadfast in organizing, mobilizing, and strategically advocating across party lines to safeguard constitutional rights, combat systemic Islamophobia, and ensure that all Quebecers can live, contribute, and thrive in an inclusive, pluralistic society.