

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

DUNCAN PUBLIC HEARING DATED
8 JUNE 2004 AT THE TRAVELODGE
SILVER BRIDGE

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE PRESENTATION TO THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY ON ELECTORAL REFORM. IT ATTEMPTS TO CAPTURE THE KEY ISSUES AND ARGUMENTS THAT WERE PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING. IN SOME INSTANCES, THE PRESENTER HAS ALSO MADE A SUBMISSION TO THE ASSEMBLY AND THIS IS ACCESSIBLE VIA THE WEBSITE AT WWW.CITIZENSASSEMBLY.BC.CA BY CLICKING ON "GET INVOLVED". IF SUCH A SUBMISSION IS AVAILABLE, IT WILL BE NOTED AT THE END OF THIS REPORT.

Julie Mander

DESCRIPTION OF PRESENTATION

A preferential ballot would remove the need to vote strategically.

KEY THEMES

Julie Mander supported the introduction of a preferential ballot to remove the need for people to vote strategically. She explained that in this system voters could cast their vote for their first preference even if it was a small party, but if they didn't think that party had much of a chance of getting 50 per cent of the votes then they could also cast a vote for second and third preferences. This could be used in a mixed system where the first preference could be counted as the party vote and be used to distribute the compensatory seats. She suggested that the number of compensatory seats should not be a fixed percentage of seats, but that there be as many compensatory seats as is needed to balance the house.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Julie Mander recommended the introduction of the Alternative Vote system in British Columbia.

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PANEL

One member of the panel sought clarification on elements of the presentation.

Q	So you're in a single member district, and you number your ballot one, two, three. And if one candidate wins fifty per cent of vote then they are elected, but if no one candidate is elected then second preferences are distributed?
A	Yes.
	(Response from panel member) That is the Alternative Vote electoral system, and it was used in British Columbia in the 1950s.

Comment from panel: There were no comments from the panel.

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

SUBMISSION: NO