

Town of Port McNeill
P.O. Box 728
Port McNeill, B.C. V0N 2R0



Tel: (250) 956-3111
Fax: (250) 956-4300
1775 Grenville Place
email: reception.portmcneill.bc.ca

EMAIL CORRESPONDENCE

A brief Brief to the Citizen's Assembly On a type of Preferential Ballot system

I compliment the Provincial Government for having the courage, concern and perspicacity to organize and sponsor a Citizens' Assembly review of our voting system.

The intention is commendable and the process by which the Citizens' Assembly was chosen was well-planned, innovative and fair. It breaks new ground as a way to improve the democratic process in our provincial voting system.

Having observed the voting system in Ireland, where voters in each riding can vote their preferences by indicating their first choice, second choice, their third choice, etc. I believe that such a system is worth considering for British Columbia.

If one of the candidates wins a clear majority, (50% plus) on the first count, that candidate is declared the winner of the seat in that riding.

But, if there is not a clear winner the Candidate with the least number of votes is eliminated. The second choice votes on his ballots are then distributed amongst the other candidates, then if there is a clear majority (50% + 1), for any candidate, that candidate is declared the winner.

The process continues, until some candidate has a clear majority.

I support that system for its fairness in electing the choice of the majority, and I believe it would work well in British Columbia.

The Irish system has some multiple-member constituencies which can make it very confusing. I believe that the British Columbia system should retain the idea of one M.L.A. per constituency.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerry Furney". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Gerry Furney
Mayor