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Written Submission  
Citizens Assembly  
2288- 555 W. Hastings St.  
P.O. Box 12118  
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SUBJECT: WRITTEN SUBMISSION

Thank you for considering my ideas. I've made a list of what I don't like in B.C. Politics, and then a list of what I think we need:

Don't Like:

- Elected party leader can resign and the party gets to choose the new leader (you end up with leaders not chosen by the voters (at election time)).
- Top sided, polarized, plurality Governments (There is no middle ground ideas, just one direction for their term)
- Being bribed with my own tax money. Governments always seem to say that they've no money in the start of their term and then towards the election start spending money irresponsibly (buying my vote).

## Don't like, Continued...

- Party voting. MLAs vote with their party instead of with their local constituents.
- "City State" of Vancouver must have some check so that its # of votes (and hence MLAs) doesn't run the province (an example of this is the Olympic referendum, and bid)

## What We Need:

- Party leader and their "vice-leader" to be spelled out, when the party runs for election. So I know who I'm getting if the leader resigns. If both do, then call an election.
- Rural representation versus City (Van). representation
- Candidates chosen by local nomination
- Multi parties better represent all interests (with say a 3-5% # of votes)
- Free votes on all matters before the house. Cabinet presents ideas/proposed legislation NOT dictate how the house votes.
- Increase voter turnout: If you don't vote then you'll pay 1% higher

What We Need Continued...

... Provincial Income Tax (adjusted on your return)

- I want the MLA body to represent all BC'ers. I want the the Government in power to know they need the support of all the elected MLAs, and so temper their proposals with feedback. Will this "freeze" Government? Only if the proposals are outrageous. I think it would make the proposers of change consider all BC'ers before they suggest Fast Ferries or the Olympics or Photo Radar. These ideas may/might have worked better if they had been considered by a variety of critics; not just the inner circle of yes men/women.

Possibly the PR-STV would best address the needs of BC'ers. Or use the model used to choose the Citizens Assembly. It may produce the same or better results with less Party hoopla.

Whichever we change to, we must give it sufficient time to be reviewed (not just 2 years like 1952 + 53).

I appreciate the effort the Assembly has gone to. Thank you.

I would be happy to discuss this.

Yours Truly

Andy Merrick