

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

CHILLIWACK PUBLIC HEARING
DATED 18 MAY 2004
AT THE RHOMBUS HOTEL

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.

Gil Caffyn

DESCRIPTION OF PRESENTATION

A presentation in support of democratic initiatives.

KEY THEMES

Mr. Caffyn expressed his support for the Citizens' Assembly process and suggested the jury model as a means of determining public policy issues. The presenter felt that a random selection procedure would lessen the impact of public opinion groups on voting. Mr. Caffyn stated his dissatisfaction with FPTP in terms of the fact that it tends to induce negative or strategic voting. Furthermore, the presenter stated the need to preclude bloc voting along religious or ethnic grounds.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Caffyn recommended the introduction of a "none of the above" (NOTA) option on the ballot in order to enable voters to register their dissatisfaction with the current state of politics.

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PANEL

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| Q | What happens if the NOTA option wins? |
| A | It would be a message to the political parties that they need to smarten up, and they could hold a second election for the riding. |