

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

NELSON PUBLIC HEARING
DATED 11 MAY 2004
AT THE PRESTIGE LAKESIDE RESORT

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.

Brian Zacharias

DESCRIPTION OF PRESENTATION

A presentation discussing the means of encouraging greater citizen involvement in the political process, particularly on the part of youth.

KEY THEMES

Mr. Zacharias stated the need to engage the citizenry in the political process via the reform of the electoral system, the recall process, and via a test for individuals holding public office.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Zacharias expressed support for a change to MMP in addition to reforming the recall process in BC. The presenter also recommended that every citizen in BC should have a card (akin to a credit card) that would allow them to vote. Finally, Mr. Zacharias recommended the introduction of a rebate on drivers' licenses in order to provide an incentive for citizens to vote.

Quote: The youth are disconnected with politics as they don't feel that they have any power in the process.