

PRESENTATION SUMMARY

POWELL RIVER PUBLIC HEARING DATED
15 MAY 2004 AT THE CEDAR ROOM, POWELL
RIVER RECREATION CENTRE

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.

Patti Gibbs

DESCRIPTION OF PRESENTATION

I believe electoral reform should focus on proportional representation, I prefer a mixed member type.

KEY THEMES

Patti Gibbs argued that the current electoral system fails the voters. She discussed her experience as a volunteer with the 'Free Your Vote' campaign and spoke in favour of the MMP electoral system. Ms Gibbs argued that compromise in the legislature was more likely because MLAs would need to work together to pass legislation under MMP. This would result in a less adversarial political system than is currently the case.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Patti Gibbs recommended the introduction of MMP in British Columbia.

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PANEL

There were no questions or comments from the panel.

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Following this presentation a member of the audience had a question.

Q	I'm interested to find out what you see as the role of the media in elections because I think they play a big part in influencing voters.
A	I think that's what the media is there for, to provide information for voters. I think being educated towards gender balance, for example, would be a good thing.

SUBMISSION: NO