

31 May 2004

Marilyn Jacobson,
Citizen's Assembly on Electoral Reform,
#2288-555 West Hastings Stn.
P0 Box 12118,
Vancouver, BC
V6B 4N6

Dear Madam Chairperson,

RE: Changes in our Government

1. 30% of MLA's should be woman. Age 40-70 years old — picked at random in the Province.
2. We need "more minority", MLA's or MP's. Canada has over 200 nations represented in their mosaic of nations. Canada is a multiplicity of nations!
3. Age of an MLA or MP should be 40-70 years old.
4. "Premier or Prime Minister" age should be 55-75 years old. The Roman Empire fell because the last 5 Caesar were 20 years old.
5. Experience in a woman or man's life is a big one. People should not be elected that have not proven themselves on the home front.
6. Designate 5 committees — North — South — East — West and Central. Each committee has 5 members each. They would receive part time pay and travelling allowance. These committees would be consulted on all major issues of the Provincial Government. Did you know "the Alberta Government" has such a system in place? I would be willing to sit on one of those 5 committees.
7. Develop policies that would say we are here to build British Columbia in the North, in the South, in the East, and in all other areas.
8. Politics should be 10% of the total — 90% should be building our province. Is it credible what I am doing? How many sawmills will be shut down because we are making an important decision. Will this decision put 30,000 people on early retirement? Is there a better way?
9. Hitler had a policy with his leaders. They would get 1 dollar a year pay, and 2% of the savings in the Department they were responsible for. So that would mean if he managed to cut back in his Department 10 million dollars, his cut would be \$200,000 annually. What I am saying here is be far more frugal in government spending.
10. Get rid of all 'Liars' in high places. We have much of this in our Government in Canada.

11. 'Stewardship Reports' on a regular basis by City Hall, MLA's and MP's. We actually had this in place here in British Columbia in 1960-1970. Bring this back again — every 6 months we have locally a hail to go to and hear reports of our leaders in high places.

12. Accountability, transparency, honesty and hard workers are very much needed in all governments of our land, Ottawa, Victoria and Merritt, BC.

13. When looking at Government you have to look at the big picture overall.

Financial atmosphere, is it improving or are we going downhill? Did we borrow 17 billion dollars to make it happen? The former NDP government did this in British Columbia. Good government does not mortgage away the future in order to make themselves look good to you and me.

14. I hope you will read my Report and if implemented should bring great results for British Columbia and its citizens, old and young.

Submitted by:

Harry Vogt

1700 Bann Street,

Merritt, BC

V1K 1E9