

# PRESENTATION SUMMARY

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UCLUELET PUBLIC HEARING  
MAY 15, 2004 AT SEAPLANE BASE  
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](http://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.

# JEFF CHILTON

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## DESCRIPTION OF PRESENTATION

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Mixed Member Proportional Representation offers the best solution to reform an undemocratic voting system.

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## KEY THEMES

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Our current system does not work, all views are not represented in the system and smaller parties definitely get left out. It allows a couple of large, well financed parties to dominate. I advocate a Mixed Member Proportional system. It would allow for more women to enter politics and provide a higher turnout.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

I advocate a Mixed Member Proportional system.

*Quotes: "In my opinion, our current system does not work. It is broken and dysfunctional."*

*"There is a fundamental unfairness about our system."*

*"We need governments with parties working together."*

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## QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND COMMENTS FROM THE PANEL

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Four members of the panel sought clarification on elements of the presentation.

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Q Have you heard about the system Ireland uses?

A I really find it incomprehensible. Because you have 2nd and 3rd choices, you really don't know how the vote comes out.

Q If we decided to have a more proportional system, it might cost a bit more money, are you willing to spend more on government?

A Yes.

Q What threshold would you consider?

A 5% like in New Zealand.

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**QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

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Following this presentation a member of the audience asked the following question

Q            In New Zealand, was it an improvement?

A            Yes, smaller parties, women and Maoris are more represented in Parliament.

**SUBMISSION: YES**

**SUBMISSION ID# CHILTON-0053, CHILTON-0054**