

# COMPARISON OF BALLOTS FVY Meeting - January 12,2017

## A. PRESENT First Past the Post FPTP System, Canada

### FPTP Sample Ballot properly marked

Use an "X" to mark the candidate of your choice.

Candidate Party A . . . . . \_\_\_\_

Candidate Party B . . . . .  X

Candidate Party C . . . . . \_\_\_\_

Candidate Party D . . . . . \_\_\_\_

Candidate Independent. . . \_\_\_\_

- **Advantages:**

- Simple to vote and count

- **Disadvantages:**

- Only votes for riding winners elect somebody. Other votes give no empowerment to voters of all parties who didn't win the seat.

- Illusory (false) majority governments with 100% power often occur – inclusiveness for community building is missing

- Collaboration is not required for Government to pass laws

- Government is not accountable during its term of office

## B. Mixed Member Proportional MMP System, Ontario

**NOTE:** This ballot has Two parts:

First, the Party of your choice.

Second, the candidate of your choice

Use an "X" to mark Party of your choice to receive your vote for proportional seat(s).

Party A . . . . . \_\_\_\_

Party B . . . . . X

Party C . . . . . \_\_\_\_

Party D . . . . . \_\_\_\_

Use an "X" to mark the candidate of your choice.

Candidate Party A . . . . . \_\_\_\_

Candidate Party B . . . . . \_\_\_\_

Candidate Party C . . . . . X

Candidate Party D . . . . . \_\_\_\_

Candidate Independent. . \_\_\_\_

- **Advantages:**

- High element of proportionality

- (With open lists) voters can vote for their favourite candidate and their favourite party (eliminating strategic voting)

- Not hard for voters to understand

- **Disadvantages:**

- Can (but not necessarily) result in a larger legislature

- Introduces an element of unfamiliarity to voters

- Larger, "grouped" ridings may have quite diverse demographics

## C. Single Transferable Vote STV SYSTEM, B.C.

Five MPs (representatives) to be elected.

Write the number "1" beside your first choice, then mark as many other preferences as you like.

Party A      Candidate 1. . . .    

                 Candidate 2. . . .   1  

                 Candidate 3. . . .    

                 Candidate 4. . . .    

                 Candidate 5. . . .   5  

Party B      Candidate 1. . . .    

                 Candidate 2. . . .    

                 Candidate 3. . . .    

                 Candidate 4. . . .   3  

                 Candidate 5. . . .    

Party C      Candidate 1 . . . .   4  

                 Candidate 2 . . . .    

                 Candidate 3 . . . .    

Party D      Candidate 1 . . . .    

Candidate Independent . . . . .   2  

- **Advantages:**

- Election outcomes will be fairer
- Almost every vote will count
- Almost everyone will have a local rep
- Collaboration will increase
- More women and minorities will be elected
- More diverse views will be represented

- **Disadvantages:**

- STV works best in ridings with multi Members but loses its proportionality if less than 3 members have to be elected (STV+ is proposed to mitigate this in Canada <http://www.stvforcanada.com/stv>)
- Ballot might be long in multi member ridings
- Formula to count votes is complex because surplus votes are redistributed (voter is not directly affected by this)

## D. 1 Preferential Ridings Proportional PRP System, new

PRP development is based on expressed wants of interested people. At this time, PRP has 2 options. Option 1 makes voting simpler for voters, but limits voter choice.

**PRP Option 1** with limited candidate/party choice

### PREFERENTIAL RIDING PROPORTIONAL PRP SYSTEM

**PRP Sample Ballot** effectively marked

Choose up to three candidates in the order of your choice using “1” for first choice, “2” for second choice and “3” for third.

NOTE: Your 1<sup>st</sup> candidate choice is also your Party choice for proportional seats.

#### Points

Candidate Party A . . . . .	<u>3</u>	(2)
Candidate Party B . . . . .	<u>1</u>	(4)
Candidate Party C . . . . .	___	(.5)
Candidate Party D . . . . .	___	(.5)
Candidate Independent. .	<u>2</u>	(3)

- **Advantages:**

- No additional seats required
- Simple set up and implementation
- Almost all, if not all, votes elect somebody
- false majorities with 100% power cannot occur, so Government can be held accountable during its term of office.
- 3 choices preferential Ballot avoids split votes (most voters can make 3 choices)
- all votes have equal value to avoid strategic voting,
- elects the most wanted or accepted riding candidate
- Representative of vote lives relatively close
- For voter simplicity, 1<sup>st</sup> choice vote is also political party vote for proportional seat(s)

- **Disadvantages:**

- Voters are restricted in their 1<sup>st</sup> candidate choice if their candidate and Party vote are different
- Ridings are twice as large as present FPTP ridings

## D. 2 Preferential Ridings Proportional PRP System, new

### PRP Option 2 with freedom of candidate/Party choice

**NOTE:** This ballot has Two parts:

First, the Party of your choice

Second, the candidate of your choice

#### Party Choice

Use a "1" to mark Party of your choice to receive your vote for proportional seat(s).

Party A . . . . .     

Party B . . . . .   1  

Party C . . . . .     

Party D . . . . .     

#### Candidate Choice

Choose as many candidates as you want in the order of your choice, using "1" for 1<sup>st</sup> choice, "2" for 2<sup>nd</sup> choice and so on until "5" for 5<sup>th</sup> choice.

Points

Candidate Party A . . . .   4   (1)

Candidate Party B . . . .   1   (4)

Candidate Party C . . . .   3   (2)

Candidate Party D . . . .   5   (0)

Candidate Independent   2   (3)

#### • **Advantages:**

Option 2 has all the advantages of Option 1, plus, offers voters the alternative to:

- make their 1<sup>st</sup> choice candidate vote different from their Party vote
- vote preferentially for as many candidates as they want, from one candidate to all candidates.

#### • **Disadvantages:**

Ridings are twice as large as present FPTP ridings

PRP Option 2 voting would require computerized vote counting (it would help in PRP Option1, as well) and the rules for the program used would be subject to careful scrutiny before its introduction, as well as careful description to the voting public. Its advantage is that it gives full and equal preferential treatment of each ballot for all voters and candidates.