



Yukon Legislative Assembly 2071 Second Ave, Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6 Delivered by hand and email

Dear Honourable Premier Mike Pemberton, Kate White, Leader of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Party, and Currie Dixon, Leader of the Official Opposition.

Plebiscite Question Remedy

This letter represents a non-partisan citizens' movement, Fair Vote Yukon (FVY), which has been formed since 2015 in Whitehorse, to further the aim of instituting a fair and representative electoral system for the Yukon. We also add our voice and expertise in bringing this about for Canada.

A recently published letter to the Yukon News on Friday September 5, 2025, by Mary Amerongen of Whitehorse, voiced the opinion of many Yukoners who have expressed concerns about the upcoming Electoral Reform Plebiscite question. Mary writes:

## Prejudiced electoral reform question

And when did you stop beating your wife?

That's a biased and manipulative trick question that's impossible for people to answer truthfully. Exactly like the planned electoral reform question to be put to Yukoners: "Should the way the Members of the Yukon Legislative Assembly are elected be changed from the current system of First past the post to a different system of ranked ballot? Yes? No?" (Yukon News Aug 13).

If I answer no, I indicate I don't want electoral reform. Not true! I believe it is desperately needed.

If I answer yes, I indicate that I want ranked ballot. Not true! I want simple, fair, proportional representation.

If I don't answer, I indicate that I don't care or don't know. Not true! To be unbiased, the plebiscite question would offer at least three common options for electoral reform. At a minimum, the question must be made into two questions. It would still be biased towards ranked ballot, but at least everyone can answer truthfully.

The Yukon Government's press release states that the plebiscite "provides an opportunity for the public to offer input on electoral reform before any final decision is made" This is not true at all, unless "the public" means only those who want ranked ballot. They are the only ones who can answer the questions truthfully.

As 67 % of Canadians want proportional representation, it's a safe assumption that quite a few Yukoners want it, and some may want other options. But the

current loaded question excludes all those persons from giving a truthful response.

I cannot believe that our Yukon Citizen's Assembly on Electoral Reform came up with that dishonest question."

On Mary's last point, FVY understands the Yukon Citizen's Assembly did not come up with that dishonest question, it was the Cabinet that was ultimately responsible for creating the plebiscite question.

Once again, Yukon voters are seeing politicians as the gatekeepers of this process. FVY believes the public perception of political influence in this Yukon electoral reform process is at an all-time high.

FVY would like to offer a remedy for this situation. **Offer a 3<sup>rd</sup> choice on the plebiscite** – <u>None of the Above</u>. This choice would be for those people who want electoral reform and want a different system than Ranked Vote.

FVY understands that the Plebiscite is being printed very soon, and we would like to meet with all the Party Leaders to discuss this remedy as soon as possible.

Delay will only reinforce the attitudes of many that there is little to no political will for change and this process is being orchestrated by party politics versus public interest and democracy.

Your attention to our request and prompt response would be most welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Greetham 335-7335
Sally Wright 393-2977, scrag@northwestel.net
Dave Brekke 633-4418
JP Pinard 336-2977