

To : The Electoral Reform Parliamentary Committee

Private Dialogue on Electoral Reform  
Aurora Arrioja

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1. What was the nature of the event?  
Coffee dialogue .
2. What date was the event held?  
There were sessions on 8 and 10 of September , 2016.
3. Where was the event held?  
Ottawa ON (private residence).
4. Who hosted the event?  
Aurora Arrioja and Sonia Smee
5. Approximately how many people attended the event?  
Seven
6. Brief description of the event:  
We presented slides to discuss democratic values ; FPTP , AV , PR (party lists) , STV and MMP ; mandatory vote ; and online vote . Then , each one of the attendees filled in a questionnaire to be forwarded to the ERRE committee.

**General**

7. Did you have a dialogue about electoral and democratic reform in general?  
Yes
8. If yes, what were the highlights of the dialogue?
  - a) Everyone consulted would like that a form or another of **proportional representation** be implemented in Canada.
  - b) Everyone agreed that **effectiveness and legitimacy** (this is, significantly reducing or eliminating

distortions , and reflecting voter 's intention) is the most important principle to be achieved .

c) There was also consensus that the channels set up for public consultation on electoral reform (like this coffee dialogue , for example) are valid methods to gauge public opinion .

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### **Democratic principles and values .**

9. Did you have a dialogue about the principles and values that underpin Canada 's democracy?

Yes

If yes, what were the highlights of the dialogue?

Everyone in this consultation believes that **effectiveness and legitimacy** (this is, significantly reducing or eliminating distortions ; and reflecting voter 's intention) is the most important principle and value .

10. What principle(s) did participants identify as most important?

See question nine (9) .

11. What principle(s) did participants identify as least important?

There was no agreement .

### **Canadian federal electoral reforms**

12. Did you have a dialogue about different potential Canadian federal electoral reforms?

Yes

If yes, what were the highlights of the dialogue?

a) All the participants think that First-Past-The-Post is profoundly undemocratic . They support one or another form of **proportional representation** .

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b)The majority of participants oppose closed party lists.

### **Additional feedback**

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Did the dialogue yield additional thoughts you would like to share?

Yes .

If yes, what were those additional thoughts?

Please see attached individual questionnaires .