

Brief Submitted to the House of Commons Special Committee on Electoral Reform  
David Kyle, October 2, 2016

Honorable Members, you have an extremely important mandate with three timely phases soon to be completed December 1, 2016. Canadians very much support your efforts and anticipate recommendations that truly reflect our collective input.

My recommendations are summarized as follows:

1. Replace our first-past-the-post (FPTP) electoral system with proportional representation (PR). My own choice would be mixed-member proportional (MMP), open to majority decision.
2. No referendum. Voter input is better summarized as a result of Special Committee activity.
3. Not in favor of online voting at this time. As discussed at Meeting 32, risk exceeds reward.
4. Not in favor of mandatory voting.

Feel we can expect increased diversity in elected representatives with change to PR, and hopefully increased voter turnout, including younger voters.

My input is based on readings easily accessed<sup>1</sup>, attending two “Democracy Café” events on electoral reform hosted by our local community resources, attending ERRE Electoral Reform Meeting 32 September 28, 2016, as well as listening to various other Electoral Reform Meetings and reading submitted briefs and witness presentation/questions available on the ERRE website. I am not a member of a political party or other organization on electoral reform.

The amount of information and input is truly overwhelming. Good luck on healthy Committee debate and final report, we rely on your agreement on how best to present Canadian values on electoral reform.

<sup>1</sup> Primary references

Voting Counts: Electoral Reform for Canada, Law Commission of Canada, 2004

The Politics of Voting, Reforming Canada's Electoral System, Dennis Pilon, 2007

Electoral Systems and Electoral Reform in Canada and Elsewhere: An Overview, Parliamentary Information and Research Service, 2016

ERRE witness/brief presentations by Joyce Green, Dr. Denis Pilon, and Hon. Ed Broadbent (to name 3)

Various Electoral Reform web-sites, including ERRE, Fair Vote Canada, and Dr. Pippa Norris "electoral integrity project"