FairView Proportion: C-mmp (Canadian Mixed Member Proportion)

Electoral Reform Realized

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FairView Proportion C-mmp is a hybrid no list mixed member proportional (MMP) system.

This proposal is submitted to the Committee to be considered as a viable, functional and preferred method to replace the current electoral system.

It is designed to create a better electoral system that creates a stronger more responsive way to engage citizens.
It is **specifically designed for Canada to make Canadian democracy better**.
It is designed to provide a means to Parliamentary representation to break the hegemonic lock that the largest political parties hold.
It is specifically designed to provide seats in relation to who is the **most under-represented.**
This **neither favors nor disadvantages any parties large or small**. It simply recognizes the political parties that have the greatest disparity in seats earned compared to popular support.
It provides a means to rectify the disparity between seats gained and overall votes earned.
This helps to ensure that almost **all votes count** and that no votes are meaningless.
It is designed to **eliminate the need for strategic voting**.
It is designed so that **all voters can have a meaningful impact** with their vote.

Basics: Does FairView satisfy the 5 guiding principles?   **Yes.**

Why is it better?

The Canadian experience has always been defined by the challenges in **balancing rights of the many with the rights of the few**. Particularly now as the term majority becomes less meaningful and we simply have different sized pluralities it is essential to find balance in how to provide fair, meaningful representation. Fairview provides a meaningful way to increase diversity and provide greater voice to groups that have traditionally be marginalized.
FairView C-mmp strikes this balance.

It is organized such that the current total number of seats nationally and provincially remain the as the currently are (338). Approximately 75% of the seats are distributed in geographic ridings. The remaining seats are at-large seats that provide the semi-proportional component. All ridings are single member electoral districts. There are slight differences in overall percentage of geo-ridings to at-large ridings between provinces based on current seat allocations.

With C-mmp being a no list system the parties are not in a position to give or withhold seats based on party loyalty or any other consideration.

Concept: FairView C-mmp is simple and easy to understand. It retains the current seat allotments. All MP's are directly elected by the voters. It ensures that **all MP's are elected with a majority** of voters. It ensures that parties with either strong local support or broad based but diffuse support are capable of gaining seats.

Method: The voter has a simple three part ranked ballot.

The first part is the primary/preferred vote. This portion is used in calculating total support and for distributing the at-large seats. With the no list C-mmp all candidates are ranked by total votes received. This is the basis for how each party that gains at-large seats assigns the winner.

The second and third parts are used to select alternative choices if the primary selection doesn't gain a seat outright in a geo-riding. The voter makes one selection on each section rather than ranking candidates. The winners of these seats are based on largest plurality or majority.

There is no minimum percentage to gain a seat. Because FairView looks at most under-represented it is likely that functionally the floor will be 7%-15%. Again because FairView is designed to distribute at-large seats to the most under-represented either large or small parties are both eligible and likely to gain seats.

Due to the format for FairView a party will likely need to both run candidates in all or most ridings to be eligible. FairView is designed so that there is both a viable means to gain representation but as well the party needs either concentrated (riding level) support or organized broad based support (provincially).

There is no disadvantage to the voter to choosing their preferred candidate on the first ballot as that directly influences the at-large seats. As well, the voter retains as say in the selection of the MP on the ranked ballot. This eliminates the need for strategic voting. It also allows each voter to make meaningful informed choices on the ballot.

All MP's are directly chosen by the electorate.

By-elections would be straight AV/ranked ballot.

Proposed methodology is available at fairviewproportion.ca

It is pure speculation to guess how voting patterns will change under a new system. My conjecture is that under FairView C-mmp the Green party is probably currently best positioned to gain seats. While it is impossible to say precisely how things will change it is likely that the political arena will be more vibrant with greater possibilities for candidates from parties other than the largest ones to gain support. This should serve to create a more engaged electorate where there is less of a hegemonic hold on seats and power by the largest established parties.

FairView C-mmp is designed so that voters can freely make informed ballot choices. It is designed also so that political parties and MP's should be responsive to the electorate. FairView C-mmp ensures that all votes count.

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