

WILLIAM AMOS
PONTIAC

TOWN HALL REPORT
ON ELECTORAL REFORM
PUBLIC CONSULTATION



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

WILLIAM AMOS
PONTIAC

RAPPORT SUR LES CONSULTATIONS
PUBLIQUES SUR LA RÉFORME
ÉLECTORALE

CONSULTATION(S)			
Date(s) of the Meeting(s)	Time and Length (start time and end time)	Location of Consultation	Total Number of People in Attendance (you may indicate the number of volunteers and employees who assisted with the meeting)
1. Emails			55
2. Face-to-face meetings			35
3.			
4.			
Form: <input type="checkbox"/> Use of the Library of Parliament's visual presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation from the MP's office <input type="checkbox"/> Open microphone <input type="checkbox"/> Question and answer session <input type="checkbox"/> Guest speaker <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify):			
SUBJECTS DISCUSSED (summary)			
Voting systems: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Replacement of the current voting system: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Voter turnout: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accessibility and inclusiveness: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mandatory voting: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Online voting: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local representation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify and describe below) <input type="checkbox"/>

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
What did participants say about the current system for electing Members of Parliament (benefits/flaws)? Did participants feel that their votes are fairly translated? (suggested limit: 500 words)
<p>The majority of participants were dissatisfied with the current system. Some say that the current system places some voter groups, including the First Nations, at a disadvantage.</p>
Which alternatives to the current system were discussed? Did participants identify specific features that are important to them in an electoral system (for example local representation, proportionality, simplicity, legitimacy etc.)? (suggested limit: 500 words)

Please return to:

Special Committee on Electoral Reform (ERRE)
131, rue Queen Street, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
Tel./tél.: 613-992-3150 Fax/télécopieur: 613-947-3089 ERRE@parl.gc.ca

Deadline: Friday, October 14, 2016

- Many, but not the majority of participants would prefer a proportional representation voting system. However, this is not the case for the majority of voters. Our riding office received a petition with 78 names in favour of this system.
- Another group of citizens would want a preferential voting system, such as the ones used in Ontario, Australia and the United Kingdom.
- A number of citizens would like to know if there is any option that would combine the proportional and preferential representation voting systems together.
- Less than 20% were in favour of keeping the current system.

Did participants discuss why they feel many Canadians choose not to engage in the democratic process? Did they suggest ways to encourage participation? (suggested limit: 500 words)

- The participants would like the ballot to offer the option of ‘none of these choices’ so that this type of result can be accounted for.
- The participants would like debates to be more widely broadcast over the media and TV networks, and that more party leaders be included in these debates.

Did participants feel that it should be mandatory to cast a ballot? (Can include spoiling a ballot.) (suggested limit: 500 words)

- The participants did not answer this question.
- Some asserted that a minimum participation rate should be required for the election to be valid.
- Some participants said that voting should be mandatory, although they did not elaborate on how this kind of system could be implemented.

Did participants discuss online voting? Did they express a desire to maintain current voting practices? (i.e. presenting themselves at a polling station, vote secrecy etc.) (suggested limit: 500 words)

- A number of participants were in favour.

Were any other major topics raised by the participants? (i.e. referendum, women/minority representation, accessibility, voter turnout etc.) (suggested limit: 500 words)

- The participants said they were very satisfied to see our government handle the issue in a non-partisan manner.
- The participants suggested that there be a fixed election date.
- The participants requested that Elections Canada be involved in the parties’ leadership races and nomination processes.
- The participants would like Elections Canada to govern surveys concerning voting intentions in order to have objective surveys with less impact on voting intentions.
- The participants would like more flexible voter ID laws.
- A number of participants, but not the majority, asked that the government hold a referendum on this issue.
- Some participants would like stricter rules on advertising prior to the official campaign.

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SUMMARY OF KEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS FROM PARTICIPANTS (suggested limit: 1000 words)	
Report submitted to Special Committee on Electoral Reform (ERRE)	Date: October 14, 2016
MP's signature: [signed]	William Amos (Name)

Reports must be submitted to the Clerks of the Committee no later than Friday, October 14, 2016 in both official languages.

Please note that this document is for illustrative purposes only and can be modified or adapted to your needs. The report will be published on the Committee's web site.

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