

NICOLA DI IORIO
SAINT-LÉONARD—SAINT-MICHEL

TOWN HALL REPORT
ON ELECTORAL REFORM
PUBLIC CONSULTATION



NICOLA DI IORIO
SAINT-LÉONARD—SAINT-MICHEL

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)
October 8, 2016	11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (1.5 hrs)	Leonardo Da Vinci Centre	54
2.			
3.			
4.			
Form: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use of the Library of Parliament's visual presentation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Presentation from the MP's office <input type="checkbox"/> Open microphone <input checked="" 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
<p>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> <p>The participants felt that the current system provides an equal opportunity for all candidates on the ballot. However, some participants said that the current system could lead to a regionalization of politics, with parties focusing their message on certain parts of the country. Depending on past outcomes in their constituency, some people may be less likely to go to the polls if they feel their vote will not change anything.</p> <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,</p>

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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

proportionality, simplicity, legitimacy etc.)? (suggested limit: 500 words)
<p>The following voting systems were presented: Preferential Vote, List Proportional Representation (closed and open list), Single Transferable Vote and Mixed Member Representation.</p> <p>The participants indicated that what mattered to them in an electoral system was the legitimacy of MP and local representation (ties with the constituency).</p>
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)
<p>During the discussion on how to increase voter turnout, most of the participants said they attribute voter disengagement to a lack of civic education and cynicism resulting from candidates' failure to keep their promises once they are elected to office.</p>
Did participants feel that it should be mandatory to cast a ballot? (Can include spoiling a ballot.) (suggested limit: 500 words)
<p>All of the participants said they were opposed to mandatory voting (even with the option to spoil a ballot). They felt that mandatory voting restricts people's freedom. In their opinion, the focus should be on educating the public regarding voting rather than on implementing mandatory voting.</p>
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)
<p>During the discussion on online voting, the participants (especially the younger ones) said they were in favour of introducing online voting. However, some had reservations about the security of such a system. Security concerns were twofold: (1) concerns about system security (protecting data from denial-of-service attacks and the size of digital infrastructure required); and (2) protecting vote secrecy (if we want to introduce online voting, we must find a way to confirm the identity of the person voting while still ensuring vote secrecy).</p>
Were any other major topics raised by the participants? (i.e., referendum, women/minority representation, accessibility, voter turnout etc.) (suggested limit: 500 words)
<p>No.</p>

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SUMMARY OF KEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND COMMENTS FROM PARTICIPANTS (suggested limit: 1000 words)

The participants who attended our consultation stated that mattered to them in an electoral system was:

- legitimacy; and
- local representation (the MP must have ties with the constituency).

In their opinion, voting should not be mandatory; however, greater civic education is needed.

The participants were not opposed to online voting but expressed reservations about the security of this type of voting and about how to ensure vote secrecy if online voting is implemented.

Report submitted to Special Committee on Electoral Reform (ERRE)

Date: October 12, 2016

Jean-Luc Plourde
Parliamentary Assistant

(Office of Nicola Di Iorio
MP for Saint-Léonard—Saint-Michel

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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