



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

Ahmed Hussien

Member of Parliament
York South—Weston

What did participants say about the current system for electing Members of Parliament (benefits/flaws)? Did participants feel that their votes are fairly translated?

- Some participants firmly stated that Canada has an electoral system that is unprecedented and we as Canadians have a stable and reliable system
- They felt their votes were not fully and fairly translated because their votes had a little impact, in relation to the alternative vote and single transferable vote

Which alternatives to the current system were discussed? Did participants identify the specific features that are important to them in an electoral system?

- Alternative vote, list proportional representation, single transferable vote, mixed member proportions
- Simplicity, stability, reliability, accessibility and representational of the population

Did the participants discuss why they feel many Canadians choose not to engage in the democratic process? Did they suggest ways to encourage participation?

- Their votes have little impact so they feel like it's a waste of their time (young voters)
- Disagree with candidate platforms
- Consultations, town halls, info sessions, educational engagement, building awareness, creating accessibility for seniors and get more youth out to vote
- Online voting

Did participants feel that it should be mandatory to cast a ballot?

- Participants disagreed with mandatory voting
- Balloting for some members of society is intimidating
- Concerned with diluting the effectiveness of the government
- Suggestion: it is best to engage to inform and expand awareness. I.e. there is a gap in political interest between grade 5-10 and there is a loss of interest

Ottawa

Room 770, The Valour Building, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6
Tel.: (613) 995-0777 Fax.: (613) 992-2949



Constituency Office

85 Ingram Drive, Toronto, Ontario, M6M 2L7
Tel.: (416) 656-2526 Fax: (416) 656-9908

Ahmed.Hussen@parl.gc.ca

Did participants discuss online voting? Did they express a desire to maintain current voting practices?

- Yes, online voting was discussed. They said that not many people have accessibility to the internet.
- However they also discussed online voting can help indigenous populations, people in remote areas, youth to come out and vote
- Problem: seniors who do not have access to the internet

Were any other major topics raised by the participants?

- Concerns with electoral votes
- They didn't want this to cause a referendum, a Brexit or something similar to the Quebec problem
- Opens a floodgate