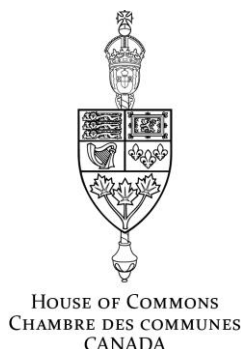


MONIQUE PAUZÉ
LUC THÉRIAULT
MICHEL BOUDRIAS
MPS FOR REPENTIGNY,
MONTCALM AND
TERREBONNE



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TOWN HALL REPORT
ON ELECTORAL REFORM
PUBLIC CONSULTATION

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. 01/10/16	10 a.m. to 12:30	Repentigny	29
2.			
3.			
4.			
Form: <input type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint presentation from the MP's office based on document provided by the Library of Parliament <input type="checkbox"/> Guest speakers (Luc Thériault – MP for Montcalm and the Bloc Québécois representative on the Special Committee on Electoral Reform) <input type="checkbox"/> Question and answer session <input type="checkbox"/> Round table and plenary session			
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>According to the citizens who participated, this is an outdated system that creates significant gaps between the will of the people and the makeup of the House of Commons. In addition, since only the votes in favour of the person who wins actually count, that can discourage people from voting or increase their level of distrust of the system. In addition, this system does not help with the integration and representation of women, Aborigines and minority groups.</p>

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

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)

The following voting systems were explained:

- First past the post system;
- Alternative vote;
- The two-round or two-ballot system;
- Proportional representation systems;
- Mixed voting systems.

The participants believe that the compensatory mixed member proportional system would be the best democratic system and that it would simultaneously promote political pluralism, be a way of more accurately reflecting the will of the people in the region and even achieve equality between men and women, in addition to promoting ethnocultural diversity in the government.

In addition, in their opinion, the new system should reintroduce the funding of elected officials in proportion to the votes they received, as was the case previously.

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 believe that education of the people should be encouraged in order to help citizens understand the importance of exercising their right to vote.

The citizens also said that their personal and professional lives have been getting busier and busier, and that if voting is not made mandatory or the legal voting age is not reduced, it will be necessary to find incentives to ensure that people actually go to vote. Incentives that could be monetary in nature (a tax credit for people who vote) or that involve promoting a two-fold process that would allow citizens to vote for their representatives while at the same time allowing them to make decisions on important issues using the ballot on the day of the election (referendum on a given topic).

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

No, the participants believe in better incentives, as described in the answer to the previous question. Public education should be used, rather than imposing an obligation.

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)

The citizens preferred maintaining the current voting procedures, because they make it possible to check the identity of voters.

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

According to the citizens, this reform should be part of a true democratic process and not represent any partisan interest that would ensure that any one party is re-elected virtually all the time. This is why it should be submitted to a referendum. The people should make the decision and take back control over the electoral system that represents them.

Representation of women, Aboriginals and minority groups is an important factor that should be taken into account.

In addition, a number of citizens spoke against the hasty way in which the Trudeau government is undertaking this reform, by only spending a few months, while a similar initiative in Quebec took more than a year, following broad-based general assemblies (*états généraux*) on the issue.

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

- **The current voting system is out of date;**
- **In favour of a compensatory mixed member proportional system;**
- **No to compulsory voting or voting on line, but in favour of public education and incentives that could be monetary in nature, or that could involve issues of public interest;**
- **The need for a referendum to ensure that this is a reform by the people and not by political parties;**
- **The people present did not appreciate the hasty way in which the Trudeau government seems to be undertaking this Canadian reform, because they are afraid that it will only serve partisan interests;**
- **The people would like to have more time and more information in order to express their opinion on the new voting system.**

Report submitted to Special Committee on Electoral Reform (ERRE)

Date: October 11, 2016

MP's signature:

MONIQUE PAUZÉ

LUC THÉRIAULT

MICHEL BOUDRIAS

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

Please return to:

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Deadline: Friday, October 14, 2016

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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