



**YUKON
CITIZENS'
ASSEMBLY**
ON
ELECTORAL
REFORM

Submissions



Summary



Submissions were open from May 25-Aug 12

- 44 total submissions
- 34 short text, 5 letters, 5 reports
- 41 unique contributors

Of the submissions advocating for or against a system change specifically:

- 10 support status quo
- 20 support change



Values mentioned



- Collaboration/cooperation
- Simplicity
- Hearing diverse views/voices
- Fairness (often equated with proportionality)
- More parties/more interests
- More voter choice
- Local representation
- Cost effectiveness
- Confidence in the process



Advocating for change

“The system is broken”

Strategic voting

“Every vote should count”/”wasted votes”

Balancing geographic representation with representing a range of views

More independent candidates and/or smaller parties

Reducing polarization and hyper-partisanship

Desire for more direct democracy/active participation by citizens



Advocating for status quo

Support for existing system

Appreciation for clarity and ability to move platform commitments forward when the result is a majority gov't

Dislike of ranking/being asked to do more than pick a single candidate

Risks of changing to proportional system – e.g. fringe parties

How might we improve our current system without a major change?



Systems-specific comments

- **Unmanageably large districts outside of Whitehorse under PR**
- **Risks of changing to a PR system (e.g. fringe parties)**
- **Size of the Legislature**
- **Importance of local representation**
- MMP as worst of both worlds
- STV gives more choices to voters



General sentiments

- Incentives for parties/not wanting to strengthen parties
- Representation of marginalized groups
- Concerns about climate change
- Trust in systems – who is left out?
- Confusion over how systems work, and the role of Electoral District Boundaries Commission
- Extrapolating from federal elections
- Potential for a second chamber for reconciliation and regional representation
- Some questions coming from submissions:
 - What is the MLA's role?
 - What is the best role for parties?
 - What systems best fit Yukon's political culture?