



Citizens' Assembly

Working to increase women's representation among elected officials

The Citizens Assembly on Women and Electoral Reform (STV)

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Equal Voice BC and members of the British Columbia Citizen's Assembly on Electoral Reform presented the Citizens Assembly position on Electoral reform in British Columbia. The citizen's assembly recently recommended that BC's provincial elections adopt a system of proportional representation known as single transferable vote. Come learn about the process that led to their decision and what this will mean for women's representation in the BC legislature.

What is the Citizens' Assembly?

The Citizens' Assembly was created by the Government of British Columbia with the unanimous support of the B.C. Legislature. It is an independent, non-partisan assembly of citizens who will meet to examine the province's electoral system — that is, how our votes determine who gets elected to sit in the provincial Legislature.

The Citizens' Assembly has 160 members, one man and one woman from each of B.C.'s 79 provincial electoral districts (constituencies) plus two Aboriginal members. They are representative of the province as a whole, and work for all British Columbians. Members were picked by random draw from a pool that reflected the gender, age and geographical make-up of British Columbia. Assembly chair Jack Blaney is also an additional member, the 161st.

The initiative is unique. Nowhere else in the world has such power been handed to randomly selected citizens.

View the Citizens' Assembly site www.citizensassembly.bc.ca