



Proportional Representation Referendum



Referendum to choose between two major types of electoral systems used to elect members to legislative bodies:

- **First Past the Post**
- **Proportional System**

Winner-Takes-All Models

Plurality Systems

Majoritarian Systems

First Past the Post

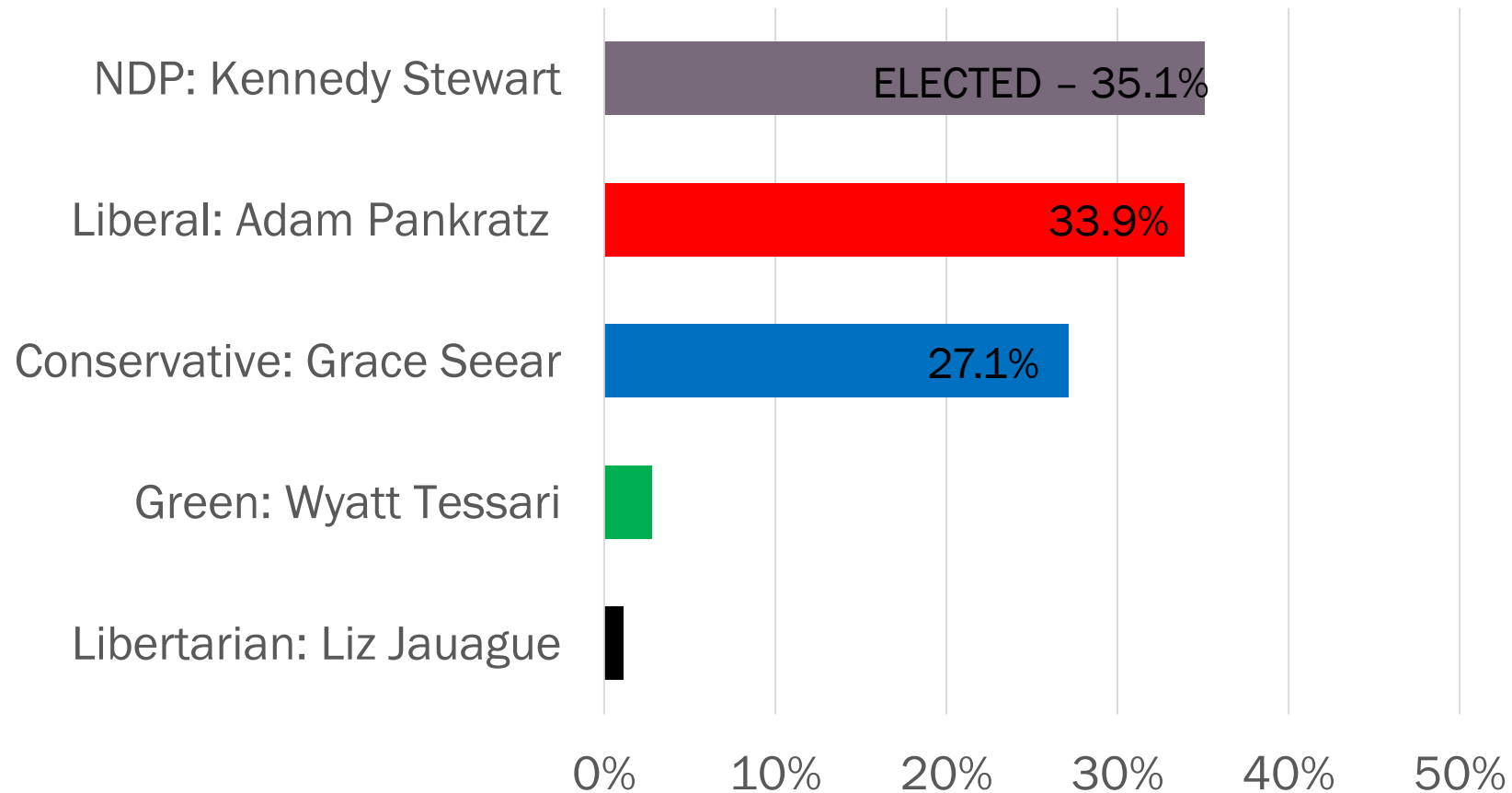
Single Member Pluralities

Ranked Ballot

Preferential Voting

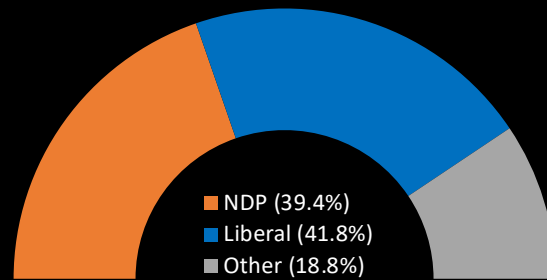
First Past The Post (FPTP)

Burnaby South – 2015 Federal Election

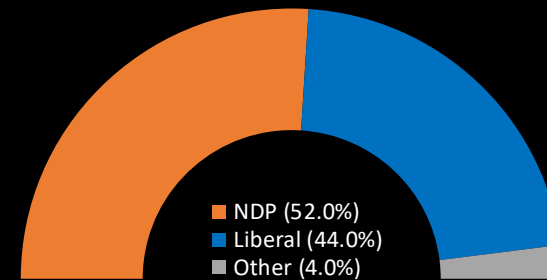


First Past The Post (FPTP)

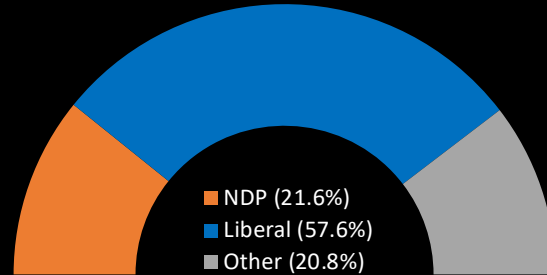
BC Election 1996 - Votes



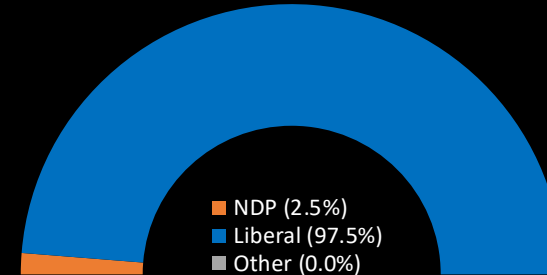
BC Election 1996 - Seats



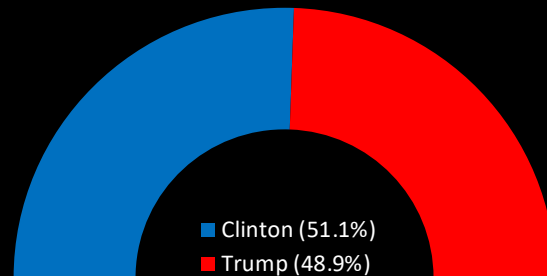
BC Election 2001 - Votes



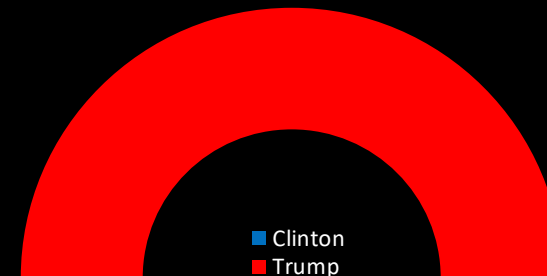
BC Election 2001 - Seats



US Presidential Race 2016 - Popular Vote



US Presidential Race 2016 - Outcome



Proportional Representation

Pro Rep is a *principle*, which refers to when the percentage of votes received by a party is reflected in the percentage of seats that party gets in the legislature.

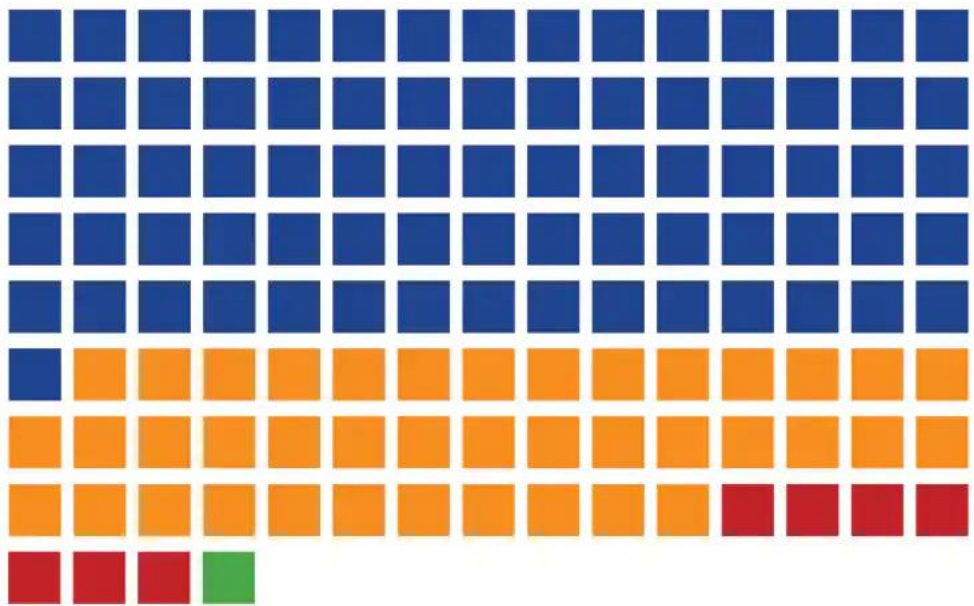
40% of votes = 40% of seats

ONTARIO 2018

First Past The Post

40% of votes = 61% of seats

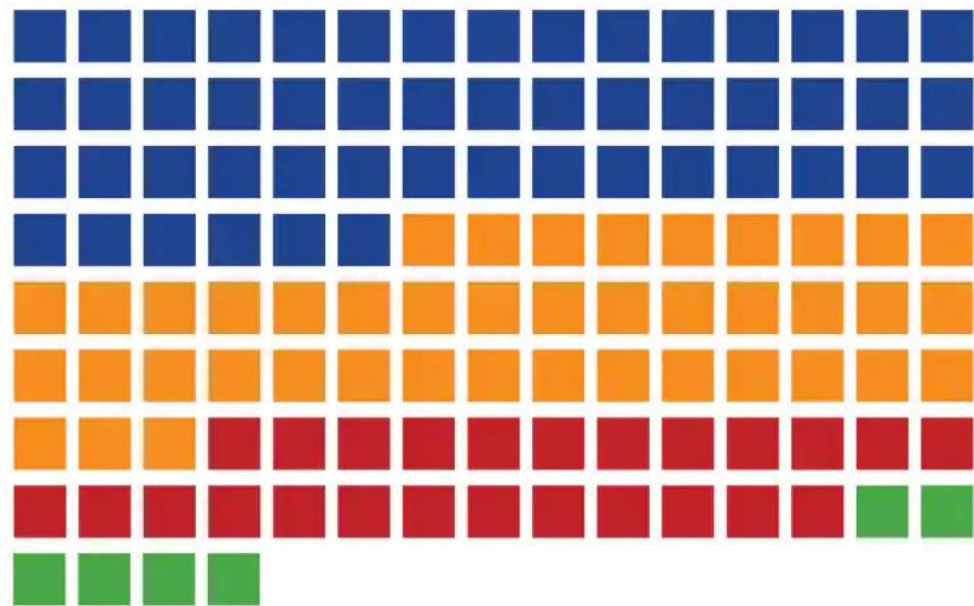
■ PC ■ NDP ■ LIB ■ GREEN



Proportional Representation

40% of votes = 40% of seats

■ PC ■ NDP ■ LIB ■ GREEN

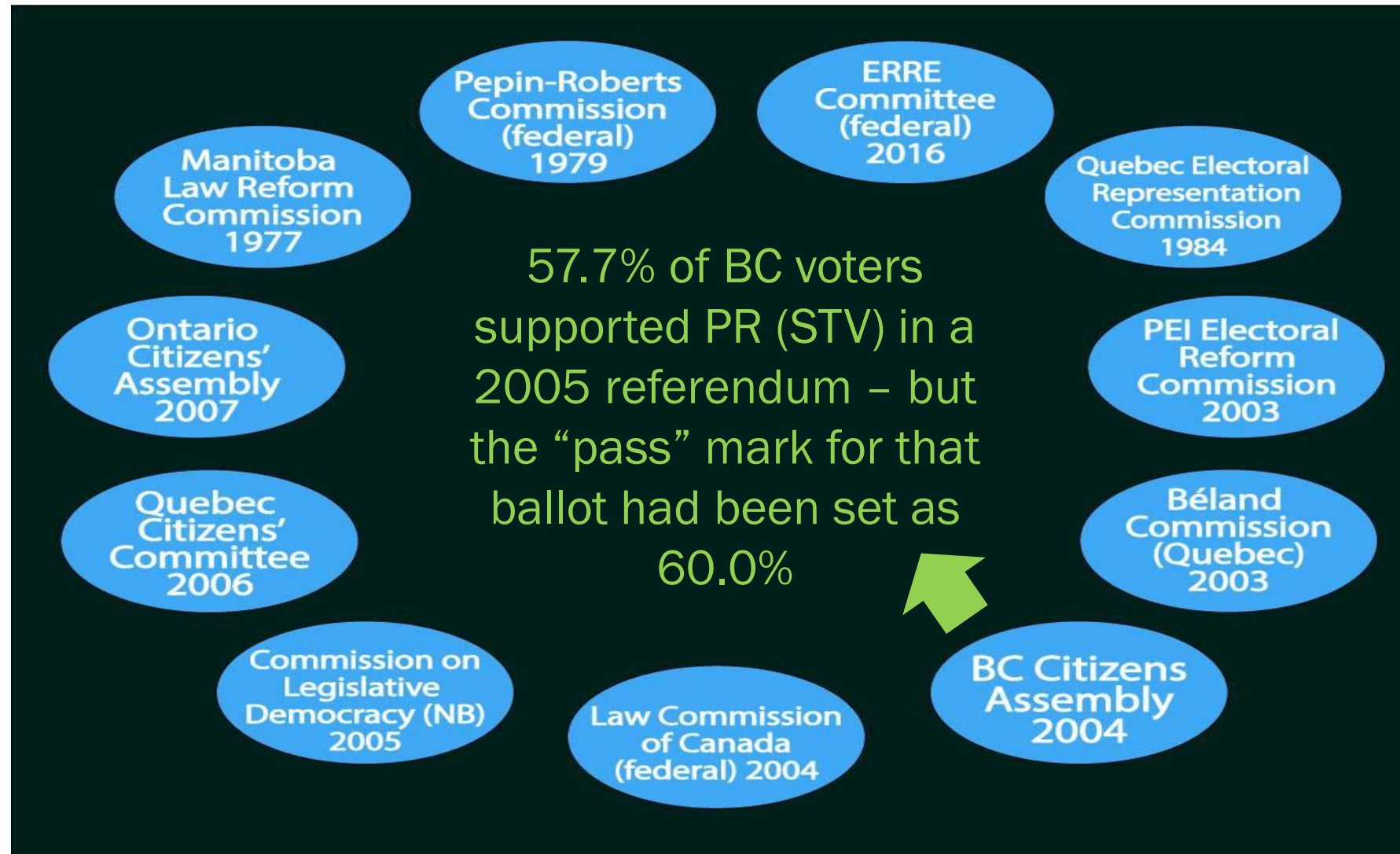


*Parties that didn't obtain more than 4% of all votes weren't considered in this analysis.

Proportional Representation



Proportional Representation



Where are FPTP and PR used?

- First Past The Post

(3 in OECD)



- Proportional Representation

(31 in OECD, inc.)



Referendum Ballot

Question 1

Which system should British Columbia use for provincial elections?

The current First Past the Post voting system

A proportional representation voting system

Question 2

If British Columbia adopts a proportional representation voting system, which of the following voting systems do you prefer? (Rank in order of preference. You may choose to support one, two or all three of the systems.)

	1 1st choice	2 2nd choice	3 3rd choice
Dual Member Proportional (DMP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mixed Member Proportional (MMP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Rural-Urban Proportional (RUP)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Question 1

Which system should British Columbia use for provincial elections?

The current First Past the Post voting system

A proportional representation voting system

Important reminder:

- You can choose to only answer the first question.
- It will not be considered a spoiled ballot if you only answer the first question.

Question 2

If British Columbia adopts a proportional representation voting system, which of the following voting systems do you prefer? (Rank in order of preference. You may choose to support one, two or all three of the systems.)

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Dual Member Proportional (DMP)

- Very proportional
- Combines two existing ridings and these combined ridings have 2 MLAs
- Large rural riding stay as single member First Past the Post ridings
- Is conducive to electing Independents

Mixed Member Proportional (MMP)

- Tried, tested & true (used all over the world)
- Has slightly larger single-member ridings
- Has multi-member regional ridings
- Two kinds of MLAs (local + regional)

Rural Urban Proportional (RUP)

- Combines two systems:
- ***Mixed Member Proportional*** (in rural areas)
- ***Single Transferable Vote*** (in urban areas)
- Maintains high level of local representation in rural areas. Gives high level of voter choice and proportionality in urban area.

Which Works for Me?

Dual Member Proportional (DMP)

- Simplest ballot – one vote but still proportional.

Mixed Member Proportional (MMP)

- Most tested system – it's used in much of the rest of the world for many years with great success.
- Recommended by CUPE BC Executive Board and CUPE National Executive Board

Rural Urban Proportional (RUP)

- Most personalized ballot – you get to vote exactly how you want to vote, but lots of candidates to choose from – so need to do your research.

**All three Pro Rep Systems
are better than the
First Past the Post system
that we have now.**

All three options...

1. Produce proportional results (% votes = % seats)
2. Preserve and *enhance* local representation, with 2+ local/regional MLAs to represent you
3. No big increase the size of the Legislature
4. Threshold of 5% of votes to keep out extremists

Opportunity to Change Back

- **After two elections, another referendum will be held to decide whether to go back or keep the new method.**

Countries with proportional systems on average are ahead of those with winner-take-all systems on numerous measures:

- **Lower income inequality**
- **Better environmental performance**
- **Higher voter turnout**
- **Higher satisfaction with democracy**
- **More women elected**

2018 BC Referendum

Elections BC to mail referendum packages to all registered voters – **Oct 22 to Nov 2**

Can call Elections BC if you did not receive a referendum package by mail – **Nov 3-23**

Voting is by mail-in ballot

Ballots must be received by Elections BC no later than – **November 30**