

(Email sent Feb 4, 2017)

## **RE: Proportional Representation - Electoral Reform - I'm very disappointed**

Prime Minister Trudeau,

I believed in your promise to Canadians to make 2015 the last election under first-past-the-post. I am very disappointed with your reversal on this.

You have just extended massive system failure of democracy for Canadians, yet again. I thought you were different. I am upset that you failed Canadians on this. I am sad. I am disillusioned with you about this.

You have just anchored the arguments against you as a liar Liberal who doesn't keep his promises. That is not the right image for you and this decision you made to keep Canada in a first-past-the-post electoral system is not right for Canada. I believe you know that. If you don't change your decision on this, I believe it will be something you'll regret deeply.

To quote Ed Broadbent, it's not like you had no clarity: "The consensus reached by all opposition parties in the committee's majority report was quite precise. They recommended the adoption of a proportional voting system with strong local representation, to be decided by national referendum."

I took that survey, if that was some kind of 'referendum' the government chose to administer. It was weird. It was not straightforward. It was not pragmatic. I was evaluated to be an "innovator". What did that mean? I wanted to be asked straight out if I wanted a proportional representation system or any other options to eliminate our antiquated first past the post system. That's what I wanted. That's what you promised—to end first-past-the-post. I didn't want to know that I was an innovator. That gave me nothing. It did nothing to move Canada into 21st Century democracy. You had/have a chance to be an "innovator" for Canada, to make your own intelligent and logical stamp, as compared to the Canadian prime ministers before you. This really could have/could be a shining moment for you.

I don't know if I can get over this. I'm that disappointed. I feel betrayed by your decision to break your important election promise, that you shut this progressive reform down, and that you plan to keep everything status quo. What Canada has is a very substandard method of electoral representation when compared to many well functioning democracies in the world, like our circumpolar Scandinavian neighbours, to name some strong examples.

Please find a way to reverse your decision. You have time to review this. You have time to listen to the Canadians you've disappointed. I expect many other Canadians are asking this of you. Please listen to us and be the leader you promised to be and were elected to be.

Thank you, Cindy Babyn, Van Anda, BC