



## Deliberation Phase Meeting Notes

Weekend 3 – March 17 & 18 2007

### **In Attendance    Members, Public & Staff**

- 101 Assembly members, including the Chair
- 13 Secretariat staff
- 11 small group facilitators
- 27 public observers

### **Guest Speakers**

- None

### **Advisors & Technical Support**

- Evaluator: Lyn McDonnell, Institute on Governance
- Facilitation advisor: Beth Allan
- Process advisor: Amy Lang, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Technical support: TV Ontario, Seneca College, Mediaco; Osgoode Hall Law School
- Simultaneous translation: International Conference Interpreters
- American Sign Language: Canadian Hearing Society

### **Objectives for Session**

- Design a working model of a Single Transferable Vote (STV) system
- Continue the design of a working model of a Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) system

### **Proceedings**

1. The session began with approval of meeting notes from the previous session, introductory presentations by the Chair and Academic Director, and an open forum.
2. The Assembly reconfirmed its decision to design an STV system.
3. The Assembly agreed to the following procedures:

- When decisions are made by consensus through a show of hands, the image will be captured on camera and projected on the screen to visibly demonstrate the degree of consensus.
  - Before a formal vote is taken, the Chair will propose the kind of vote that will be used and why.
4. The Chair confirmed that any member may question his finding on whether a consensus exists or the results of any vote.
  5. In a plenary session following medium group sessions, the Assembly agreed on the following elements for the STV working model, subject to further reflection and revisions in Weekend 4:
    - District magnitudes should range from 3 to 7 members per district with an average of 5.
    - The votes for an elected candidate should be transferred at a discounted value.
    - Ballot completion should be optional; voters need not rank all or any minimum number of candidates.
  6. The following STV design issues remain outstanding:
    - What should the legislature size be (from 125 to 145 seats) and how many districts should there be (from 25 to 29 districts)?
    - Should seat vacancies be filled through recount, by-election, or replacement list?
  7. In a plenary session following medium group sessions, the Assembly agreed on the following elements for the MMP working model, subject to further reflection and revisions in Weekend 4:
    - Dual candidacy should be optional; candidates on a party list have the option of also running for a single member seat.
    - The type of vote for the single member seats should be Single Member Plurality.
  8. These elements build on elements for the MMP working model discussed in Weekend 2:
    - The list tier should be provincial.
    - Voters should have two votes: one for a candidate and one for a party.
    - There should be a closed list of candidates from each party to fill seats from the list tier.

- Parties should meet a threshold of 3% of the popular vote to be entitled to seats from the list tier.
  - The Hare formula should be used to allocate seats.
  - Overhang seats should be allowed.
9. The Assembly agreed that more work is required on whether there should be an independent review of party lists or the processes parties use to create them.
10. Academic director Jonathan Rose presented the results of simulations of four MMP models under consideration. This was followed by medium groups and a plenary session to discuss these models and others. Following a formal two-round vote, the Assembly agreed on the following additional elements for their MMP working model, subject to further reflections and revisions in Weekend 4:
- Number of single-member seats: 90
  - Ratio of single-member seats to list seats: 70:30
  - Number of list seats: 39
  - Size of the legislature: 129 seats

## **Follow-up Items**

### **Members**

11. Members will:

- Review materials and continue informal discussions to prepare for Weekend 4
- Advise Kelly Burke if they are interested in working up options for the independent review of party lists

### **Secretariat**

12. The Secretariat will:

- Send advance materials to help members prepare for Weekend 4, including options for seat vacancies in STV and independent review of party lists in MMP
- Obtain the views of experts on technical issues arising from the MMP and STV models under consideration
- Send a volume of the three consultation reports to Assembly members, MPPs, and stakeholders.

--Prepared by Karen Cohl, Executive Director and Recording Secretary