

Weighing your two Alternatives: MMP and STV

The Task Ahead

Back to the beginning...

- We started our examination of electoral systems based on principles
- When you chose STV and MMP you identified priority objectives
 - vote for a party and candidate
 - seats share more closely reflects vote share
 - effective local representation

Back to the beginning...

- As you examine which is your preferred alternative, let's return to where we began

How do your MMP and STV models meet the Assembly's principles?

Legitimacy

- Which one of these models best reflects the traditions, political culture and values of Ontario?

Fairness of Representation

- How do you think women and underrepresented groups would fare under each model?
- Which model achieves better proportionality?
- Which model is more likely to respond to regional concerns?

Voter Choice

- Each model has different kinds of voter choice --
- Which offers better choice, a preferential ballot or two votes?
- How do you feel about voting for a party vs. just voting for candidates?
- Does either model address concerns around strategic voting?

Effective Parties

- Will parties be stronger or weaker under each model?
- What kind of smaller parties will thrive under each model?
- How do you feel about intra-party competition?

Stable & Effective Government

- Both models are more likely to produce majority coalitions than the present system
- How might different kinds of representation affect the behaviour of government?

Effective Parliament

- Does it matter that in MMP members are elected in two different ways?
 - Does this make parliament more or less effective?
- How is cooperation affected among parties in the two models?

Stronger Voter Participation

- Neither model can be guaranteed to improve voter participation

Accountability

- Which model creates a stronger link between voters and politicians?
- Which model best achieves local or geographic representation?
- Is party accountability enhanced in one model compared to the other?

Simplicity and Practicality

- Is one model easier to understand by the voter when voting?
- Is one model as a whole easier to understand and implement?