



## Learning Phase Meeting Notes

Weekend 6 - Nov 25 & 26 2006

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

- 103 Assembly members, including the Chair
- 12 Secretariat staff
- 11 small group facilitators
- 34 public observers

### **Guest Speakers**

- Ailsa Henderson, University of Toronto
- Heather MacIvor, University of Windsor

### **Advisors & Technical Support**

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

### **Objectives for Session**

- To obtain hands-on experience with ballot structures and voting methods
- To show how changing features of electoral systems produces different results
- To introduce members to what must be decided when designing systems
- To hear from each working group about research findings and issues

### **Proceedings**

1. The session began with approval of meeting notes from the previous session. An 'open forum' followed where members could raise issues on any topic.
2. Following presentations by Heather MacIvor on mixed systems and single transferable vote, the Assembly participated in two simulated elections led by Michael Mackenzie and Mark Lyons and heard from Jonathan Rose about variables

that affect election outcomes. The members discussed the simulations and electoral system design features in plenary and small group sessions.

3. Each of the four working groups, assisted by Ailsa Henderson, presented research findings and raised issues for discussion on the following topics:
  - Gender and other under-represented groups
  - Political parties
  - Stable government
  - Geographic representation
4. Assembly member Jordan Elliott demonstrated the new members' on-line discussion forum.

## **Follow-up Items**

### **Members**

5. Members will:
  - Continue to spread the word in their communities about upcoming consultation meetings.
  - Let Susan Pigott know if they are organizing informal consultations so we can keep track of what is happening.
  - Let Huma Pabani know if they need or would like to be a 'forum buddy'. Forum buddies will help members without on-line access to monitor and participate in discussions on the members' forum.

### **Chair**

6. The Chair will:
  - Prepare a draft deliberation phase plan in consultation with the deliberation planning advisory committee, and share the plan with all members before the start of the deliberation phase.

### **Secretariat**

7. The Secretariat will:
  - Prepare a summary of themes from the public consultation process.

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