

## Deliberation Phase Meeting Notes

Weekend 2 – March 3 & 4 2007

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

- 101 Assembly members, including the Chair
- 13 Secretariat staff
- 11 small group facilitators
- 37 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; Raw Edge Photography
- Simultaneous translation: International Conference Interpreters

### **Objectives for Session**

- Work on the design of a Mixed Member Proportional (MMP) system
- Decide whether to design another alternative system, and if so, which one

### **Proceedings**

1. The session began with a presentation by the Chair and approval of meeting notes from the previous session.
2. In order to develop preliminary working models for MMP, Assembly members met in medium groups and plenary sessions to discuss the following nine design elements and how they work together as a whole:
  - How many single-member seats should there be?
  - What should be the ratio of single-member seats to list seats?
  - How many seats should there be in the legislature in total?
  - What type of list tier should there be (regional or provincial)?

- Should there be a threshold for parties to gain seats from the list tier? If so, what should it be?
  - What type of list should there be (closed, open, free, or ‘near winner’)?
  - How many votes should there be (one or two)?
  - Which formula should be used to allocate seats?
  - Should overhangs be allowed?
3. In Weekend 3, the Assembly will discuss the following three additional MMP design issues:
- What stipulations should there be for the creation of party lists?
  - Should dual candidacy be mandatory, optional or prohibited?
  - What type of vote should there be for the single-member seats?
4. The Assembly will continue to review models showing different ways to combine the number of single-member seats, ratio of single-member to list seats, and size of the legislature in an MMP system.
5. The Assembly decided to design a second alternative system: Single Transferable Vote (STV).

## **Follow-up Items**

### **Members**

6. Members will:
- Review materials and continue informal discussions in preparation for Weekend 3

### **Secretariat**

7. The Secretariat will:
- Send advance materials to help members prepare for Weekend 3
  - Obtain the views of academic reference group members on technical issues arising from the MMP models under consideration
  - Provide a map of the 130 electoral districts that existed in Ontario up until 1995
  - Provide data on representation by population across Canada

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