Representative welcomes input into electoral reform

To the editor:

Democracy is one of our greatest assets. Through regular elections we choose who will represent us and govern us.

The Citizens Assembly for Electoral Reform will examine our present system and compare it with others around the world to see which one may be better for Ontario. The assembly will also give the people of Ontario the opportunity to debate and share their views on our present system.

I have been chosen to represent this riding (S.D & C) and am looking forward to the work involved and eager to hear what you have to say.

Our first meeting was held in Toronto, Sept. 9-10, and was the start of the learning phase for the assembly members. We will continue to meet every other weekend until mid-November.

Then we start the consultation phase where, through community meetings, the public will get involved and be able to express their concerns. We will then go back to Toronto in February, for the deliberation phase, to discuss what was said at each of the meetings. We will file a report with all of our recommendations with the government by May 15.

If we recommend change the government will hold a referendum for the people to decide. Ultimately it will be up to the people of Ontario if there is a need for change.

To learn more I encourage you to go to the website, www.citizensassembly.gov.on.ca, for more information and you can e-mail me at dproulx@ontariocitizensassembly.ca. I look forward to reading you comments and answer any questions you may have.

Thank you,

David Proulx,
Cornwall