

VOTE NO TO PRO REP



On Monday October 22nd, the same day as voters in BC started to receive their ballots in the mail, more than 100 members of BC's Chinese community gathered to voice their disapproval of the current referendum on our electoral system. The luncheon in Vancouver was attended by founders of the No BC Proportional Representation Society, as well as David Choi, Wendy Yuen, Richard Lee, Rick Lam and former NDP Premier Ujjal Dosanjh.

One by one, speakers took to the stage to say how concerned they are that our First Past the Post System - which has provided simple, effective governance for decades, is now under threat.

A key message that came from the luncheon, is that Chinese community representatives are extremely concerned that proportional representation has a tendency to give a voice - and even power - to far right extremist parties, who can hold the balance of power with a small percentage of the vote. After all, extremist parties who rose to notoriety started with just a few small voices who become empowered through the same electoral process as pro rep. As well, many were quick to point out that proportional representation is notorious for creating unstable governments that rely on coalitions, meaning that not only are decisions hard to reach, but that there are more elections - with money being spend unnecessarily - under pro rep, leading to voter exhaustion, and a lack of confidence in those in power.

The referendum is taking place now, and continues until November 30th. Voters in BC should return their ballot before then, to ensure their voice is heard in this important decision that could have significant consequences for BC's immigrant population.



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10月22日星期一，就在不列顛哥倫比亞省的選民開始接收選票的同一天，不列顛哥倫比亞省華人社區的150名成員齊聚一堂，表達了他們對我們選舉制度當前公投的不滿。溫哥華的午餐會由No BC Proportional Representation Society的創始人以及蔡宏安，李燦明，林語良，袁薇和前NDP省長杜新志參加。

發言者一個接一個地走上講台，表示他們對我們有一百多年歷史簡單有效的現有選舉制度的支持，和對比例代表制威脅現有制度的嚴重關注。

來自午餐會的一個關鍵信息是，華人社區代表極為關注比例代表制傾向於向極右翼的極端主義政黨，他們不但發出聲音更意在是奪權。他們能夠以較小比例槓桿權力的平衡。聲名狼藉的極端主義政黨只是從一些小聲音開始，到現在可以興風作浪。許多人也指出比例代表制以建立不穩定政府而臭名昭著，這意味著不僅難以達成決策，而且花不必要的錢用來選舉。比例代表制會導致選民疲憊，對當權者缺乏信心。

公民投票現在正在進行，並一直持續到11月30日。不列顛哥倫比亞省的選民應該在此之前寄回選票，以確保他們的聲音在這一重要決定中被聆聽到，公投的結果對卑詩省的移民人口會產生重大影響。



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Speakers included:

Hon. Suzanne Anton QC and Bill Tieleman, Directors of No BC Proportional Representation Society

Hon. Ujjal Dosanjh PC QC, Former Premier of BC

Richard T Lee, former Deputy Speaker of BC Legislative Assembly and MLA for Burnaby North

David Choi, National Chair for the Congress of Chinese Canadians

Maggie Ip, former Councillor, City of Vancouver, and founding Chair of SUCCESS

Rick Lam, media commentator

Wendy Yuan, Director, Richmond Community Foundation, Former Federal Liberal Candidate

Maria Xu, Honorary Chair, Canadian Alliance of Chinese Associations, VP, Chinese Women Association of Canada

Other attendees included:

Neil Chan and Tommy Wong, WWII veterans, Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society & Pacific Unit 280, Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans Association (ANAVETS) in Canada

Johnny Fong, well-known community philanthropist

James Chu, Immediate past president of Chinese Benevolent Association

Albert Fok, Chair, Vancouver Chinatown Business Improvement Area, Former Chair of Chinatown Merchants Association

Howard Leong, long time community leader

Daniel Lee, former Councillor, City of Vancouver

Yan Hon NCCC Womens' commission

Killarney seniors' leaders, Willie and Angela Yeung, and Shin Wan Hon

Kelly Kwong – former Chair, Pacific Unit 280, Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans Association (ANAVETS) in Canada

De Ding, engineer, and hardworking event organizer

Leader from Greater Vancouver Chinese seniors' associations (6 chapters)

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Qi Bo Wang, 王启波 VP, Chinese Canadian Society for Political Engagement 加拿大华人投票联盟副主席

Jimmy Yan 吉米言 Commentator for Fairchild TV &Radio; 城市电视时事评论员, Community Outreach Officer, Access Pro Bono

May Zhu President, Caring Citizens of Vancouver Society 爱民协会会长

Amy Huang 黄徐瑞萍 President, North America Investment Association of Canada 北美投资协会会长

Qing Xie 谢青 Honorary Chair, Long Yan Friendship Association of Vancouver 龙岩同乡联谊会名誉会长

Ken Hong 洪先生 VP, Chao Zhou Fellowship Association of Vancouver 潮州同乡会副会长

Shirley Shaw Chairman, Big Feet Group 足王集团主席

Louise Lu 路小云 VP, Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture Association of Vancouver 中医协会理事

Han Yan 韩燕 VP, North East Business Association of Canada 加拿大东北商会副会长

Edward Ye 叶洪涛 Chairman, China Hui 中国汇主席

Ellen Du 杜洪 3rd VP, LaHoo Lions Club

Catherine Yan Xu, VP, North West Fellowship Association of Vancouver 西北同乡会付会长

Nola Young, VP, Chinese Association of Vancouver Surry Branch 素里华人协会副会长

Holly Gu, President, Chinese Maternity Association of Vancouver 温哥华孕妇协会

Tracy Xu, President, Chinese Qipao Association of Vancouver, 温哥华旗袍协会会长

Christopher Chung, President, Victoria Drive Business Improvement Association

Syrus Lee, President at Chinese Real Estate Professional Association

Eric Szeto, President, Vancouver Seniors' Singing Club Association

Geng Shuhui, President, Vancouver Calligraphy and Painting Art Gallery

Greetings and support were received from:

Tung Chan OC OBC, former Councillor, City of Vancouver

Robert H Lee OC OBC former Chancellor of UBC

BC Lee, former councillor, City of Vancouver

King Wan, President, Chinese Canadian Military Museum Society, and former Commanding Officer, HMCS Discovery

MLA Michael Lee, Vancouver Langara

MLA Teresa Wat, Richmond North Centre