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News Release

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## Former BC NDP Premier Glen Clark votes NO to Proportional Representation in BC Electoral Systems Referendum

**“I like to vote for the person who represents me. I want to vote for someone who’s going to be accountable.” – Glen Clark**

**VANCOUVER** – Former BC NDP Premier Glen Clark has publicly announced he has voted No to Proportional Representation and voted Yes to First Past The Post in the BC electoral systems referendum.

“I like to vote for the person who represents me. I want to vote for someone who’s going to be accountable,” Clark told Business In Vancouver in a story published Wednesday.

[Story is here:

<https://biv.com/article/2018/10/former-ndp-premier-glen-clark-votes-no-electoral-reform> ]

“If you really want to get more representation, get more seats,” Clark said, adding that it is unfortunate the referendum has become politicized around party positions. “It’s definitely more political and partisan than it should be,” Clark said.

No BC Proportional Representation Society President Bill Tieleman say Clark’s endorsement is key to helping convince New Democrat voters that keeping First Past The Post is important.

“This is a huge boost for our campaign – former Premier Clark is rightly saying to New Democrat voters that this should not be a politicized issue and saying to all voters that Proportional Representation is a bad idea for British Columbia while First Past The Post is the best choice - because it is simple, stable and successful,” Tieleman said.

Clark joins another former BC NDP premier – Ujjal Dosanjh – in opposing Proportional Representation in this referendum, saying that the process is also flawed:

“We could be making fundamental changes without any voter turnout threshold. Changing Canada’s constitution requires two-thirds of the provinces in favour with

at least 50% of the population – why are we considering changing our electoral system indefinitely with far less support than that?” Dosanjh asked earlier this year.

And Tieleman noted that Dave Barrett, the late first-ever BC NDP premier, opposed Proportional Representation in the 2005 referendum, saying our system: “is based upon responsibility and accountability.”

Society Vice-President Suzanne Anton – a former BC Liberal Attorney General – said Clark and Dosanjh’s opposition to Proportional Representation shows that people with long political and governmental experience from all parties are expressing their support for First Past The Post.

“Glen Clark was not only BC’s third elected NDP premier, he has gone on to an incredibly successful career in business as well – his decision to vote No should be carefully listened to by voters,” Anton said. “We need to keep First Past The Post and retain local, accountable representation,”

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