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SIMPLE, STABLE + SUCCESSFUL

Key Chinese Community Leaders Give Strong Support to NO Campaign on Proportional Representation Referendum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VANCOUVER, BC (September 19th, 2018) – A number of respected and influential leaders in BC’s Chinese community have thrown their support behind the “NO” campaign when it comes to changing the voting system in our Province. The group spoke out about their concerns at a press conference in Chinatown today, with remarks from former Vancouver City Councillor and CEO of S.U.C.C.E.S.S. **Tung Chan OBC**, who is leading the Chinese language campaign for the No BC Proportional Representation Society.

They were among a large number of supporters who joined former BC Attorney General **Suzanne Anton** QC and **Mr Bill Tieleman**, both directors of the No to BC Proportional Representation Society, to encourage voters to reject Proportional Representation in the referendum being held next month.

“Proportional Representation has been proven to elect extremist parties into power all over the world,” said Chan. “These groups bring with them divisive politics that often targets immigrants and minority groups. There is no place for that in BC, and we believe passionately in our current inclusive and welcoming system of politics.”

From October 22nd, voters will start receiving a mail-in ballot on the future of our electoral system, asking whether they would like to keep the current First Past the Post system, or replace it with Proportional Representation. ProRep is a form of voting used in some countries including Sweden, where a recent election saw anti-immigrant, far-right extremists elected into government, where they now hold the balance of power.

Proportional Representation would see the loss of local MLAs around BC, a loss of accountability, & the rise of single issue and extremist parties. ProRep would end BC’s simple-to-understand voting system, a system which has led us to having one of the most stable & successful jurisdictions in the world. To vote in the referendum, voters must be 18 years or older as of November 30th 2018, a Canadian citizen and a BC resident for at least six months prior to November 30th 2018. Voting packages need to be completed and returned by November 30th 2018.