

# BC-STV • Our Key Messages

1. Our current voting system does not work. Wasted votes and skewed outcomes have been the result for many years.
2. The Citizens' Assembly, 160 ordinary voters from all walks of life, studied this issue and chose STV as the best system for BC.
3. BC-STV offers voters real choice, while improving accountability and stability.
4. BC-STV makes your vote more powerful and gives communities stronger representation.

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## BC-STV's origins

BC-STV is the recommendation of the BC Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform. The legislature asked this group of 160 randomly-selected ordinary voters to say whether our voting system should be kept, and if not, to design an alternative. The Assembly worked for 11 months, did extensive research, and listened to many members of the public as they worked toward a decision.

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## The Case Against First Past the Post

FPTP cheats the voters: They don't get what they voted for.

FPTP doesn't hold the government responsible to the voters: When 40% of the votes can win 60% of the seats and 100% of the power it's hard to hold the government responsible.

FPTP weakens our province: It fuels polarized policy-making and instability.

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## The Case for BC-STV

BC-STV is a modern, well-established voting system - It is the longest used form of proportional voting.

More effective representation - With greater voter choice leading to more competitive local contests and an end to "safe" seats, BC-STV rewards the voters with MLAs who know their seats depend on public service.

Greater stability - consensus based, enduring legislation creates a better investment, business and labour climate.

A fair system – With proportional results, your vote won't be wasted.