

**Discussion Question**  
**Consultation on Electoral Reform**

**EXERCISE 1: Icebreakers (10 mins)**

1. Introductions & reason why you chose to participate today?
2. Do you usually vote in elections? why or why not?

**EXERCISE 2: Canadian Democratic Values (20 mins)**

3. What attributes do you believe are the most important for a strong and healthy democracy?
4. As a group, choose the four attributes that your group believes are the most important for a strong and health democracy and discuss why
5. What are your expectations of your representative in regards to these values?

Openness	I can find out about decisions government is making.
Accountability	I can hold politicians to account for their actions and decisions.
Representativeness	The government represents my interests.
Relevance	The issues that politicians talk about matter to me.
Efficiency	The government makes decisions and uses resources responsibly and in a way that saves time and money.
Fairness	The system treats me fairly.
Inclusiveness	I feel included in politicians' discussions about issues.
Comprehensibility	The issues are discussed in a way that I understand.
Accessibility	I can access decision-makers if I want to express my concerns or effect a change.
Participation	I can participate and engage with politics.

### EXERCISE 3: Guiding principles for Canadian Federal electoral reform (20 mins)

The following five guiding principles may help you think about what you want from federal elections, your Member of Parliament (MP) and your federal government. They can help you decide what is important to you when it comes to potential changes to our democracy at the federal level by considering how any proposed reforms might:

- Restore the **effectiveness and legitimacy** of voting, such as by reducing distortions and strengthening the link between voter intention and the electoral result
- Encourage greater **engagement** and **participation** in the democratic process, including by underrepresented groups
- Support **accessibility and inclusiveness** of all eligible voters, and avoiding undue complexity in the voting process
- Safeguard the **integrity** of our voting process
- Preserve the **accountability** of local representation
- increase **diversity** in the House of Commons and politics more broadly
- maintain the vital **local connection** an MP has with their constituents

6. What is the importance between direct representation and proportional representation?

- voting needs to be **secure and verifiable**
- Canadians need to be inspired to find **common ground and consensus**

7. How could proposed reforms strengthen and improve the underlying principles which guide our democracy?

### EXERCISE 4: Reflection and Takeaways (10 mins)

8. What are you taking away from today's dialogue on Canadian federal electoral reform?
9. If you could share one message with the Prime Minister on the state of Canada's Democracy – what would it be?