

Timeline of Liberal Party's Interest in Electoral Reform

1979 – Only ‘Wrong Winner’ Federal Election in Canada - Progressive Conservatives win more seats than the Liberals, even though the Liberals received a higher percent of the popular vote

2001 – Fair Vote Canada created (Massicotte 2008, 124)

2004 – Law Commission of Canada recommends that Canada adopt MMP in its final report, *Voting Counts: Electoral Reform for Canada*

2004 - BC Citizen's Assembly on electoral reform is created and recommends changing from FPTP to STV

2005 - Referendum on electoral reform is held in BC. Changing the system to STV garners 57% of the vote, but fails to meet the 60% threshold.

2005 - PEI holds plebiscite on electoral reform. MMP proposal defeated by sizeable majority.

2006 - Ontario Citizen's Assembly on electoral reform is created and recommends changing from FPTP to MMP

2007 - Ontario holds referendum on electoral reform. MMP proposal wins 37% of vote and fails to meet 60% threshold.

2007 – Federal government conducts public consultations and releases final report, *Public Consultations on Canada's Democratic Institutions and Practices*

2009 - BC holds second referendum on electoral reform. STV proposal only wins 39% of the vote.

2011 – [Liberal Party platform](#) states it will develop an online voting program

2012 – Robert Asselin becomes senior policy advisor to the leader of the Liberal Party

2012 – Gerald Butts becomes political advisor to Justin Trudeau

2012 – Liberal convention [endorses AV](#)

2012, April – Stephane Dion writes for the [National Post](#) on electoral reform

2012, June – Stephane Dion [gives speech](#) to Fair Vote convention, advocating for more proportional representation through multi-member districts

2012, August – Stephane Dion [gives speech](#) to Green Party convention, advocating for more proportional representation through multi-member districts

2013 – Justin Trudeau [advocates for AV](#) at Liberal leaders' debate, saying it will “change the tone of politics completely”

2013 – Justin Trudeau becomes leader of the Liberal Party

2014, April – Liberal policy convention in Mtl – [Resolution 31](#) states that an all-party committee will be established within 12 months of election to make recommendations on “electoral reforms including, without limitation, a preferential ballot and/or a form of proportional representation.”

2014, May – Robert Asselin publishes [“An Agenda for Democratic Reform in Canada.”](#) in which he advocates for AV and Mandatory Voting

2014, December – [Trudeau votes against Craig Scott's electoral reform bill in Parliament: Dion votes in favour](#)

2015 – Katie Telford becomes advisor to Trudeau

2015 – [Liberal platform](#) promises last election under FPTP, all party-committee, and legislation within 18 months of election

2015, December – Broadbent Institute releases [public polling](#) on electoral reform

2016, April - Minister of Democratic Institutions, Maryam Monsef, [lists values](#) that should be prioritized when evaluating electoral systems

2016, May - The makeup of the committee on electoral reform [is announced](#) - 6 Liberals, 3 Conservatives, 1 NDP member will sit on it, alongside with Elizabeth May and a BQ member, neither of whom have voting power in the committee

2016, May - In Question Period, Trudeau and Monsef [dismiss and fend off criticisms](#) from CPC on the Liberal's refusal to bring the issue to a referendum

2016, May - Monsef tells [Toronto Star](#) electoral reform will not proceed unless have a "broad buy in" from Canadian people

2016, May - Numerous women's advocacy groups [join Every Voter Counts Alliance](#)

2016, June - Liberals agree to support NDP motion to change the composition of the committee on electoral reform to be one that is proportional to the popular vote in the last election. There will now be 5 Liberals, 3 Conservatives, 2 New Democrats, Elizabeth May, and a BQ member. Before the vote, [Leadnow started an online petition asking the Liberals to do this](#). They received over 13,000 signatures.

2016, June - [Debate erupts about whether a referendum is even possible](#) on electoral reform after comments made by former Elections Canada head, Jean-Pierre Kingsley

2016, June - Trudeau [reiterates commitment to consulting Canadians](#) on electoral reform, and again dismisses a referendum