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PPR123 = 'Perfect Proportional Representation' + 'Instant Runoff Voting' = 'Voter Equality' + 'True' Democracy!

OPEN LETTER #1 TO ALL MPs RE: "THE PM'S DECISION TO ABANDON ELECTORAL REFORM IS UNACCEPTABLE"

ALL PARLIAMENTARIANS HAVE THE DUTY TO DEFEND AND IMPROVE CANADA'S DEMOCRACY!

Please read [Open Letter #4 to the PM](#) entitled: "[Mr. Prime Minister, your decision to abandon electoral reform is unacceptable](#)", because it [lacks democratic legitimacy](#).

<http://makeeveryvotecount-always.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Open-Letter-4-to-PM-re-Decision-to-abandon-electoral-reform-is-unacceptable.pdf>

That letter, and this letter, are intended to be respectful but firm—calling for the reconsideration and reversal of the PM's anti-democratic decision that was so undemocratically rendered.

The [Open Letter #4 to the PM](#) begins as follows:

"Mr. Prime Minister, the future of Canada's democracy—and legacy of your leadership—are now at great risk.

With all due respect, [your unilateral decision to abandon electoral reform](#) is not just an enormous mistake—which you now have the duty to correct—it [is simply unacceptable—because it's not democratically legitimate](#).

Even worse, [your assertion that "this was my choice to make"](#) is effectively an expression of contempt for both the authority of Parliament and Democracy itself."

This Open Letter to All MPs is to call upon Parliament to rise to the challenge of defending its own integrity, and to fulfill its responsibility to serve truly as the People's representatives—and hence to assert itself as the ultimate authority of Democratic power— by standing up against the undemocratic infringement of its power under the increasing domination by Prime Ministers, their PMOs and party bosses.

It's a sad reflection on the state of Canada's 'democracy' that it seems quite unclear, if not unlikely, whether MPs of any party—especially the party of Government—today believe that they have the freedom to differ from their leader by expressing themselves independently. Blind loyalty to party and its leader are demanded and rewarded—whereas anything less is punished. This highly restrictive political environment predictably attracts a class of politicians who are high on ambition, easy on integrity, and comfortable with self-censorship.

Yet surely all Parliamentarians want to do good—and to make things better. And surely they must recognize it's their **duty to defend Canada's Democracy**—and that [electoral reform presents the greatest opportunity in the history of Canada to significantly improve the quality of both our Democracy and its democratic processes!](#)

Electoral Reform could become the most lasting and important legacy of this PM—and this Parliament!

At this point, the PM has dictatorially declared that electoral reform is dead—and the response of Parliament has effectively been to 'roll over and play dead'. Both the PM and Parliamentarians should be ashamed of themselves for their collective failure to truly serve the Canadian People. Certainly some Opposition MPs and parties have sincerely done their best—and some are still striving to force reconsideration by the PM and/or an open parliamentary debate and vote on electoral reform.

But [in his unilateral arrogance, the PM has presented Parliament with a quite specific and probably even more important issue than electoral reform](#). Which is the evident display of **contempt for Parliament and contempt for Democracy shown by this and previous PMs and their PMOs**—specifically their ever-expanding abuses of executive/administrative power and **infringement of the power of Parliament itself!**

The first question that Parliamentarians ought to address is whether **Parliament—as the elected body with the ultimate power and authority to speak and act for the People, and the duty to serve Canada's best interests—should now assert itself to veto the PM's assertion that vetoing electoral reform was 'his decision to make'**.

After all, this is all about our Democracy—and it raises many troubling questions:

- **Does a PM have the authority to unilaterally usurp the power of Parliament** to decide a fundamental issue of Canada's Democracy and our democratic process—for which Parliament had established an all-party committee [ERRE] of its members to study and report?
- **Does a PM have authority to unilaterally veto that committee's recommendations** on our democracy?
- **Is it ethically acceptable** for a PM to unilaterally over-rule the recommendations of the ERRE Committee, given that: all ERRE members recommended some form of electoral reform; almost all expert witnesses recommended some form of electoral reform; and the PM himself had so clearly recognized the great need for electoral reform that he made it his unqualified campaign promise—not just to talk about it—but to actually deliver electoral reform before the 2019 election?
- **Is it an ethical conflict of interest** for a PM—whose party obtained a 'false-majority' Government based on a vote-share of only 39%—to unilaterally veto electoral reform that would henceforth prevent such gross distortions of the expressed 'Will of the People'?
- **Should Government back-benchers be liberated** to fulfill a more meaningful role (beyond committees and constituent services) than serving as the PM's unquestioning '*rubber stamps*'? In the 21st Century, is this waste of their potential still acceptable to them—and to the Parliament and People of Canada?

Clearly the PM's motives behind his unilateral decision to break the oft-repeated promise of electoral reform—that he and his party made to gain votes by taking them from other parties—are highly suspect if not downright scurrilous. As such, this situation should be absolutely unacceptable to the Parliament and People of Canada. And on these issues of such immense national significance, **the People of Canada should be able to expect principled leadership from their Parliamentarians of all parties—to curtail the abuses of power by all PMs and their PMOs.**

Parliamentarians should also understand that the main reason why Canadian politics continues in this sad cycle of repetitious frustration and futility is not primarily because the politicians are personally flawed—rather, it's the political system itself that is so deeply flawed. Specifically, the rules governing elections and other political practices are perversely contrived to reward adverse behaviour and punish those with principles.

Given that there are always so many issues of the day demanding Government attention, **should a PM or a Parliament take the time to consider their legacy? Absolutely!** If a PM and Parliament would allow their time and efforts to be entirely consumed by the endless stream of short-range issues, they'd never find the time to think-BIG and create a meaningful and lasting legacy, and hence would have squandered their great opportunity (and obligation) to build a better Canada for future generations of Canadians.

By rising to the challenge and truly serving the People, your personal integrity and political courage should be widely recognized and democratically rewarded by the Citizens of Canada—as well as being greatly appreciated and admired by future generations of Canadians. And that would surely be your lasting legacy!

With a truly fair electoral system, **Canada's reformed democracy can become a model for the World!**

Sincerely,

Jeff & Diana Jewell
Mission BC, Canada

*PS: While the authors strongly believe that "**Voter's Choice**" based on "**PPR123+**" ("Perfect Proportional Representation" plus balanced representation) would be the best electoral reform alternative, we would fully support whichever electoral reform is chosen. Please see our website for extensive analysis:*

<http://www.ppr123.ca>

<http://makeeveryvotecount-always.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/Announcing-Voter%E2%80%99s-Choice.pdf>