

**YES! I SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN FOR FAIR VOTING**

Fair Vote Alberta is a campaign of Fair Vote Canada. To join, use this form or go online at:

**www.fairvote.ca**

\$10 membership fee (first year)

extra donation:

\$25  \$50  \$100  other: \_\_\_\_\_

**OR** automatic monthly donation:

\$10  \$20  other: \_\_\_\_\_

METHOD OF PAYMENT

- cheque enclosed (payable to Fair Vote Canada)  
 automatic monthly debit (enclose voided cheque)  
 VISA  
 MasterCard

\_\_\_\_\_ credit card number \_\_\_\_\_ expiry date

\_\_\_\_\_ cardholder name

\_\_\_\_\_ cardholder signature

\_\_\_\_\_ name

\_\_\_\_\_ address

\_\_\_\_\_ phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

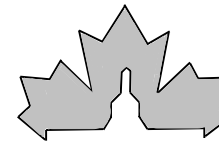
Return To: Fair Vote Canada  
283 Danforth Avenue, #408  
Toronto, ON M4K 1N2  
OR fax to 416-410-4034

**Edmonton chapter**

**Fair Vote Alberta** is a campaign of Fair Vote Canada and is working to replace the current voting system with a proportional system that provides fairer representation and more accountability.

Some notable individuals and organizations that support our campaign statement:

Scott Hennig, Canadian Taxpayers Federation  
Mel Hurtig, Author  
Brian Pincott, Calgary Councillor  
David King, former Alberta Cabinet Minister  
Terry Wickham, Edmonton Folk Music Festival  
Edmonton and District Labour Council  
YWCA of Edmonton



Fair Vote Alberta

**So  
Many  
Voters**

**CONTACT US !**

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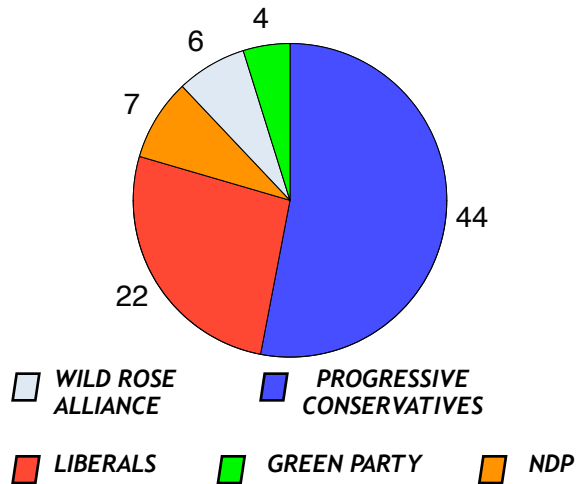
*or*

Fair Vote Canada  
www.fairvote.ca

**So  
Little  
Say**

## WHAT ALBERTANS VOTED FOR ...

(# of seats based on % of popular vote)



This chart shows an estimate of how many seats the parties would have won in the 2008 election if *proportional representation* had been used.

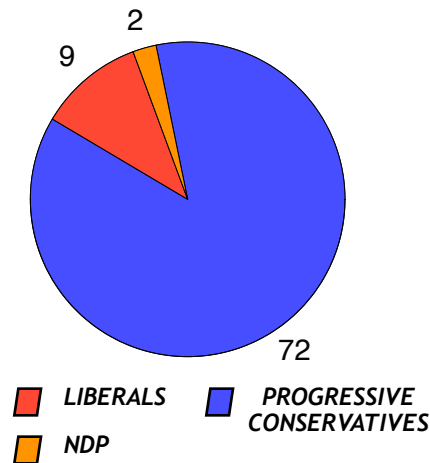
*Proportional representation* is a principle which many democracies use in their voting systems to ensure that the number of seats a party wins reflects its share of the popular vote. It makes elections more fair and democratic.

## ... AND WHAT ALBERTANS GOT

This chart shows the actual number of seats each party won in the 2008 provincial election.

With Alberta's *first-past-the-post* voting system, there is a substantial difference between each party's popular vote and the number of seats it wins. Our current system wastes votes and distorts the popular support for each party.

(# of seats in Alberta Legislature)



## The History of Voting Reform in Alberta

Alberta has not always used our current voting system. Several different voting systems have been used in provincial elections.

**1921** – For the 1921 general election the Liberal government instituted a “bloc voting” system for the large cities. MLAs from Calgary and Edmonton were elected across the city, rather than in single-seat ridings. Each city elected five MLAs, the winners chosen by plurality (the candidates with the most votes win).

**1926** – The United Farmers of Alberta government maintained at-large voting in Calgary and Edmonton but replaced plurality voting with proportional voting. Voters ranked the candidates in order of preference. The winners were those with the highest preferences. (This system is called the single-transferable vote or STV.)

For the rest of the ridings in the province, a system of majority voting was adopted. A single candidate was elected by a preferential ballot, the winner being the one who received 50 per cent plus one vote of the first or subsequent preferences. (This system is called the Alternative Vote or AV.)

This change in the voting system fulfilled a promise the UFA made in its successful 1921 campaign.

**1956** – The Social Credit government abolished the province's mixed system of proportional and majority voting, returning the entire province to single-member districts with plurality voting – commonly known as first-past-the-post. The government was sharply criticized for changing the voting system without public consultation and was accused of making the change out of self-interest.

## ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS