

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
26 Maryland Blvd.
Toronto, ON M4C 5C9

OR fax to 416-686-4929

Fair Vote Alberta is a campaign of Fair Vote Canada and is pushing for the province to hold a citizens' assembly on electoral reform, similar to those in British Columbia and Ontario.

Some notable individuals and organizations that support our campaign statement:

Hon. Dr. Thelma Chalifoux, retired Senator
Bob Hawkesworth, Calgary Alderman
Scott Henning, Canadian Taxpayers Federation
Mel Hurtig, Author
David King, former Alberta Cabinet Minister
Karen Leibovici, Edmonton City Councillor
Terry Wickham, Edmonton Folk Music Festival
Edmonton and District Labour Council
YWCA of Edmonton

If you would like to be on our e-mail contact list, and/or would like to participate as a member of Fair Vote Alberta, respond via any one of the addresses below ...

CONTACT US !

Fair Vote Alberta
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Edmonton, Alberta
T6E 4H9

Info@fairvotealberta.ca
www.fairvotealberta.ca



Fair Vote Alberta

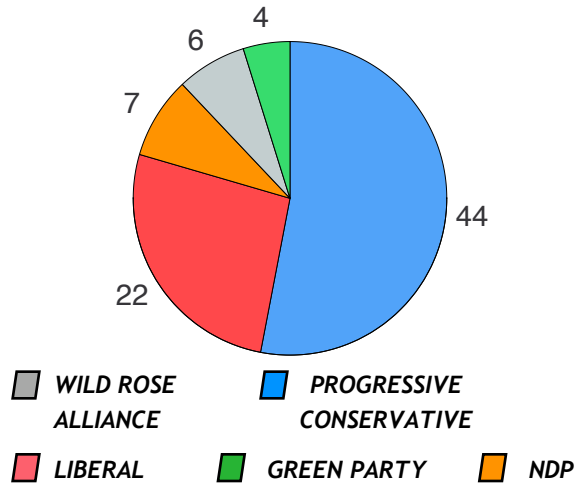
www.fairvotealberta.ca

So
Many
Voters

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.

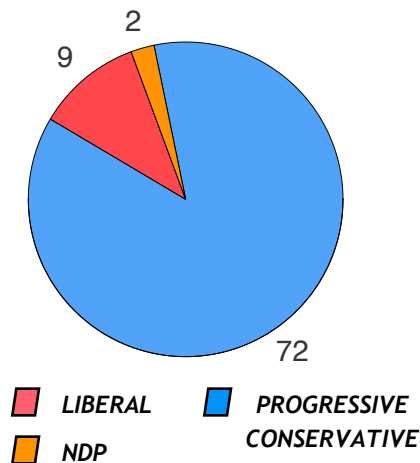
Proportional representation is a principle which many democracies use in their voting systems to ensure that the number of seats a party wins reflects its share of the popular vote. It makes elections more fair and democratic.

... 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