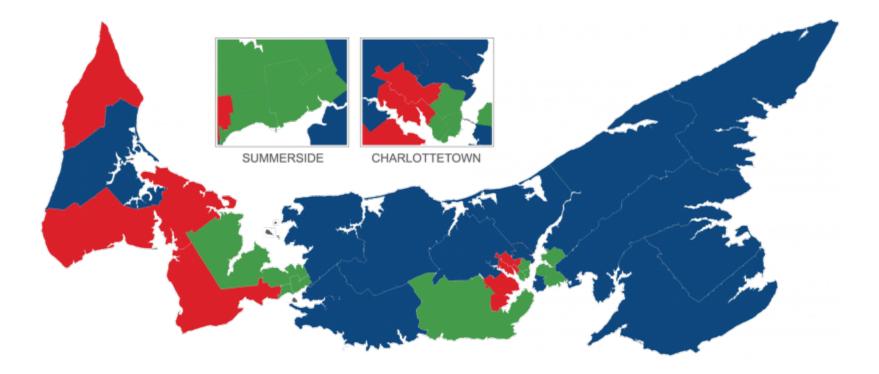


Electoral Reform on PEI

Don Desserud Department of Political Science UPEI

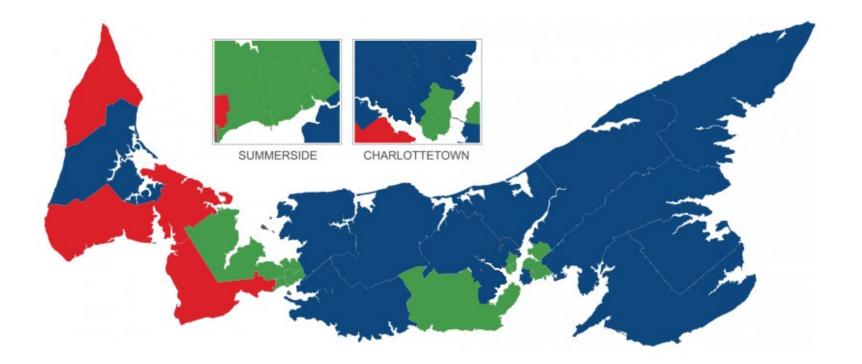
2019 election



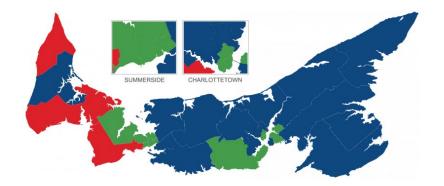


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current







- 27 ridings
- PCs: 15*
- Greens: 8
- Liberals: 4

• 2 byelection wins since 2019



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Voting turnout PEI provincial elections

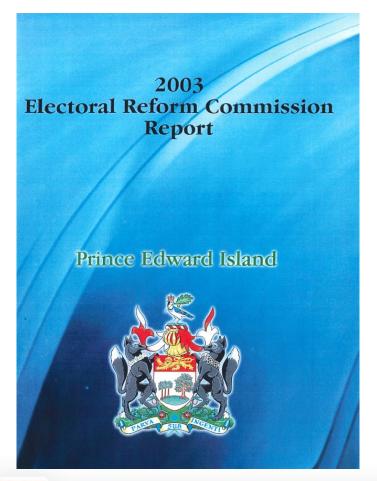


- 1996 85.86%
- **2000 85.23%**
- 2003 83.68%
- **2007 84.21%**
- **2011 76.94%**
- 2015 85.59%
- 2019 77.66%



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2003



- Retired Chief Justice PEI Norman Carruthers
- Recommends mixedmember proportional (MMP)



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2005

- "Should Prince Edward Island change to the Mixed Member Proportional System as presented by the Commission on PEI's Electoral Future?"
- 33 per cent voter turnout

The final numbers		
No	Yes	
20,515 votes	11,750 votes	
25 districts	2 districts	



2015 PEI election









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www.yourchoicepei.ca/home



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PREFERENTIAL VOTING (PV)

It is a system where candidates are ranked and must have more than 50% of votes to win

In a Preferential Voting system, voters rank the candidates on the ballot by their preference; the number 1 is placed beside their first choice, the number 2 beside their second choice, and so on until all the candidates on the ballot have been ranked. A voter may choose to rank as many or as few preferences as they want.

PLEASE RANK TI ORDER OF I	HE CANDIDATES PREFERENCE	IN
1 - MOST PREFERED	5 - LEAST PREF	ERED
CANDIDATE A		3
CANDIDATE B		1
CANDIDATE C		5
CANDIDATE D		2
INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE		4

The winning candidate must have a clear majority, so if no candidate has more than 50% after the first count, the candidate who received the fewest votes is excluded. The ballots for the excluded candidate are then redistributed between the remaining candidates based on the next ranked candidate on those ballots. A new count is completed and if no candidate has received more than 50% support, the process continues until one candidate has a majority of the support.

Preferential Voting is used in other countries like Australia and in the Republic of Ireland.

While a majority government is likely, coalition and minority governments would still be possible.



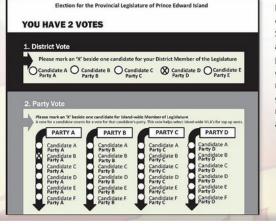
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MIXED MEMBER PROPORTIONAL (MMP)

It is a proportional system where one local MLA is elected per district and other MLAs are elected for the province

An MMP ballot will be in two parts. In the first part, using the First-Past-The-Post system, a voter would mark a single 'X' for their preferred candidate. Two thirds of the MLAs will be elected this way and will become a representative for a district. On the second part of the ballot, a voter would mark a single 'X' for their preferred party by voting for a candidate on a party list. One third of the MLAs would be elected this way. The result of the second part of the ballot determines the percentage of popular vote for each party.

This second vote assigns seats to parties by attempting to make up for any difference in what a party would be assigned proportionally and the number of seats won through First-Past-The-Post. List candidates would represent the entire province.



Based on results in other countries like Scotland, Germany and New Zealand, proportional systems often result in minority or coalition governments, while majority governments are possible.



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DUAL MEMBER PROPORTIONAL (DMP)

It is a proportional system where two local MLAs are elected per district

In each district, voters would mark a single 'X' for the party of their preference. Each party may run a maximum of two candidates per district who appear on the ballot in order as decided by the party. In every district, the most popular party wins the first seat, as in the First-Past-The-Post system. The second seat for every district is assigned so that the party distribution in the Legislative Assembly matches the province-wide popular vote. These seats, assigned proportionally from the

number of seats available, are given to the candidates where the party did the best. If a party receives three extra seats, generally their top three candidates would be elected.

Under this system, Islanders would most often be represented by two MLAs from two different parties. Based on results in other jurisdictions which use proportional systems, they often result in minority or coalition governments, while majority governments are possible.

This system was developed specifically for PEI and is not used anywhere else.

	MARK AN 'X' NEX RTY OF YOUR CI	
PARTY A	1. Candidate A 2. Candidate B	
PARTY B	1. Candidate A 2. Candidate B	
PARTY C	1. Candidate A 2. Candidate B	
PARTY D	1. Candidate A 2. Candidate B	X
INDEPEND CANDIDAT		



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FIRST-PAST-THE-POST PLUS LEADERS It is base add It is base add It is base add CANDIDATE A CANDIDATE B CANDIDATE C CANDIDATE D CANDIDATE D INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE INDEPENDENT Slanders and leaders

It is based on the current system with the addition of some party leaders

This system uses First-Past-The-Post, with the addition of leaders from all political parties that get more than 10 percent of the popular vote Island-wide. This may add different perspectives to the Legislative Assembly and has a small element of proportionality.

Islanders would not vote directly for the leaders and leaders would not run in a district.

As a result, the number of seats in the Legislative Assembly will fluctuate, depending on how many leaders are elected.

This system was modified specifically for PEI and is not used anywhere else.



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FIRST-PAST-THE-POST

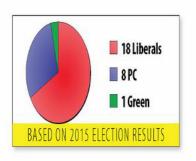
It is the current system where the most popular candidate is elected

Prince Edward Island's current electoral system is known as First-Past-The-Post. Voters mark one 'X' on the ballot for their candidate of choice.

The candidate in each district receiving the most votes is elected. The political party that elects the most members would form government.

Currently, there are 27 MLAs -18 Liberals, 8 Progressive Conservatives and 1 Green. All of the members were elected because they had the most votes in their districts.

Historic results in PEI using the First-Past-The-Post system have created



majority governments; however, minority or coalition governments are possible.

First-Past-The-Post is used in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, and in India.



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plebiscite

- Preferential ballot
- No constituency threshold
- 50% (preferential) = winner
- But ...
- Government did not say it would be bound







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16-year-olds could vote

5. (1) A person is an elector in respect of the plebiscite and, subject to these regulations, is entitled to vote at the plebiscite, if the person(a) is 16 years of age, or will attain that age, on or before the last

day of the alternative voting period;





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voting

- Spread out over 10 days
- Online and telephone voting option

Online & Telephone Voting October 29 - November 7, 2016

In-person Voting November 4 & November 5





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Prince Edward Islanders split on electoral reform

Poll suggests Islanders might vote against change

By Kevin Yarr, CBC News Posted: Sep 28, 2016 2:29 PM AT | Last Updated: Sep 28, 2016 2:29 PM AT



CRA Poll

- 46% current voting system should continue
- 39% system should be changed
- 14% no opinion
- https://cra.ca/islanders-divided-on-reforming-provincial-votingsystem/



Voting advice: Can politicians weigh in without sounding self-serving?

MLAs say it's not what's good for them, it's what's good for the province

By Shane Ross, CBC News Posted: Sep 30, 2016 8:50 PM AT | Last Updated: Sep 30, 2016 8:50 PM AT



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2015 results

Plebiscite Results

Electoral System with Majority Support <u>Mixed Member Proportional</u> <u>Representation</u>

of Votes 19,418 % of Votes 52.42

Total Valid Votes 37,040

Total number of votes required to acheive threshold 18,521

Eligible Electors 102,464

Voter Turnout 36.46%



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PEI plebiscite

My Vote 2016 results FIRST ROUND OF COUNTING

First-Past-the-Post (the current system), 11,567 Mixed Member Proportional Representation, 10,757 Dual Member Proportional Representation, 7,951 Preferential voting, 3,944 First-Past-the-Post plus leaders, 2,821 * First-Past-the-Post plus leaders excluded and the 2,821 votes are redistributed in the next round.

SECOND ROUND OF COUNTING

First-Past-the-Post (the current system), 13,108 Mixed Member Proportional Representation, 11,153 Dual Member Proportional Representation, 8,224 Preferential voting, 4,216 * Preferential voting excluded and the 4,216 votes redistributed in the next round

THIRD ROUND OF COUNTING

First-Past-the-Post (the current system), 14,466 Mixed Member Proportional Representation, 12,780 Dual Member Proportional Representation, 8,948 * Dual Member Proportional Representation excluded and the 8,948 votes redistributed in the next round.

FOURTH ROUND OF COUNTING

Mixed Member Proportional Representation, 19,418 First-Past-the-Post (the current system), 15,869

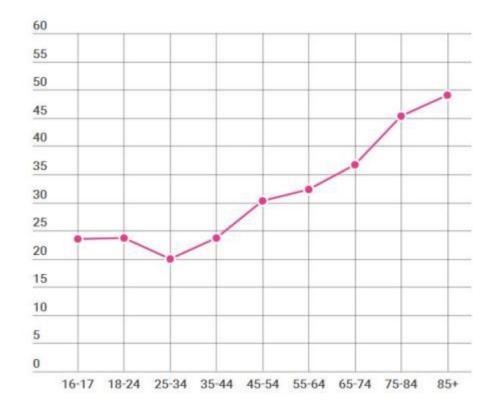
FINAL RESULTS

Mixed Member Proportional Representation, 19,418 (52.42 per cent) First-Past-the-Post (the current system), 15,869 (42.84 per cent) Exhausted, 1,753 (4.74 per cent)



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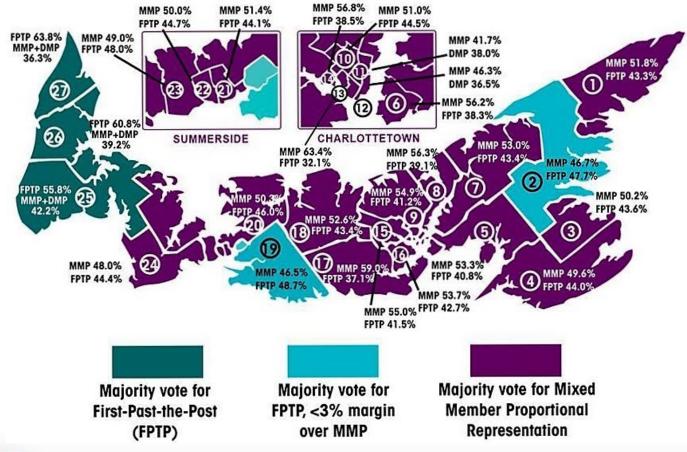
Support for FPTP (status quo) by age



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PEI ELECTORAL REFORM PLEBISCITE RESULTS BY DISTRICT

22 OF 27 DISTRICTS VOTED FOR PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION



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P.E.I. plebiscite results don't reflect will of the people, says premier

Premier Wade MacLauchlan says a poor showing at the polls means there is no real mandate for change.





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Hundreds rally for electoral reform on P.E.I.

Protesters angry over treatment of P.E.I. plebiscite results

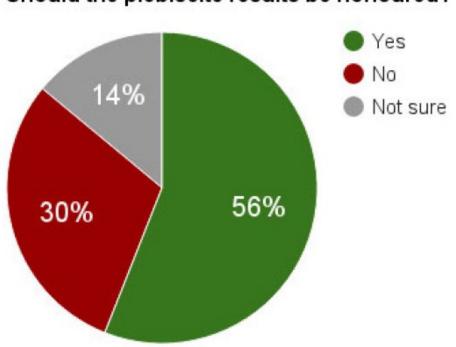
By Natalia Goodwin, CBC News Posted: Nov 30, 2016 7:11 AM AT | Last Updated: Nov 30, 2016 7:11 AM AT



People from all walks of life came out to the rally. (Natalia Goodwin/CBC)



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Should the plebiscite results be honoured?

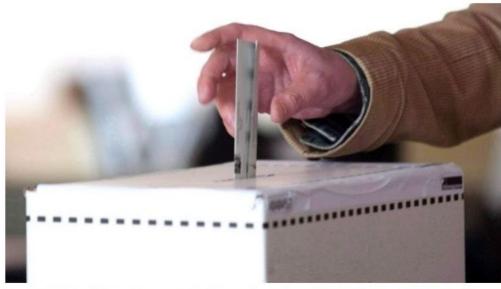


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P.E.I. electoral reform: from plebiscite to binding referendum

Motion tabled to debate having referendum on electoral reform, which would bind government to results

By Shane Ross, CBC News Posted: Nov 16, 2016 6:54 PM AT | Last Updated: Nov 16, 2016 7:07 PM AT



A referendum on electoral reform would be tied to a general election in hopes of getting a higher voter turnout than the plebiscite. (CBC)



Threshold



- 17 districts
 (60% of 27)
- with an overall majority of votes cast (50%+1)



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Referendum on electoral reform in P.E.I. will not be legally binding

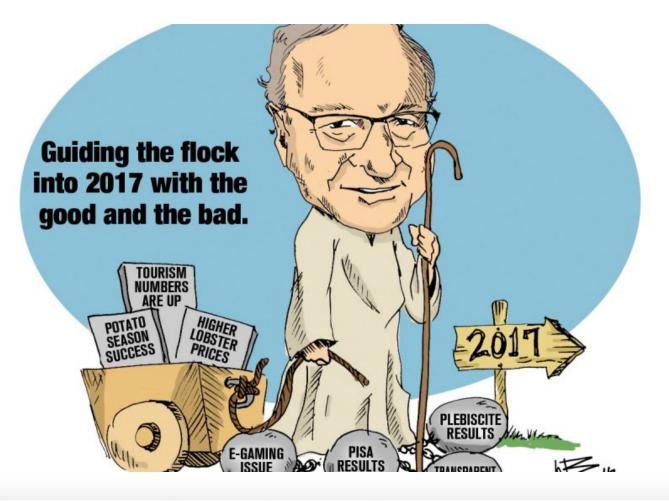
Teresa Wright twright@theguardian.pe.ca Published on November 23, 2016







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New era begins

PC Leader Dennis King plans to lead his minority government on an issue-by-issue basis



T early have confidence, or an individual, personal level, in terne of being able to work together;" hereas-beke suid of King. During the competige, Berner-Daker and King chabed instant detains several tense during public ten entries. \$1.99 pas HTT



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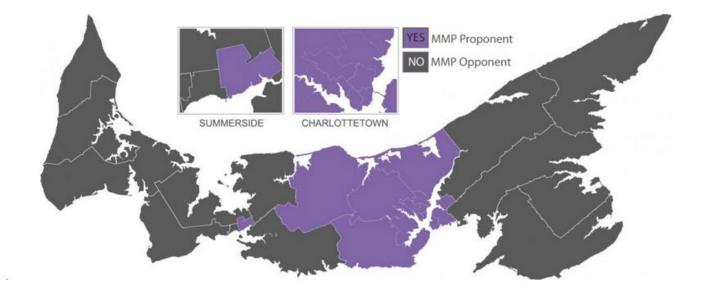
Referendum: "Do you support PEI adopting a Mixed-Member Proportional System? No or Yes"

age iost upublicu moy 27 bi 12.20 pm. Foge ionesnes every minute				
267 of 267 polls reporting	NO	YES		
DISTRICTS WON	13	14		

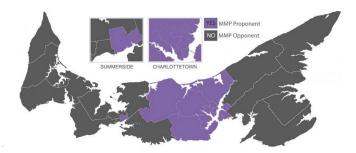
• Threshold was 17 districts (60%), with an overall majority

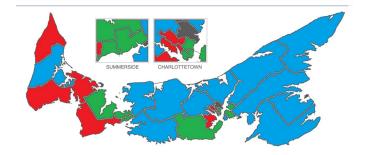
• Result was 52% NO (13), 48% YES (14),



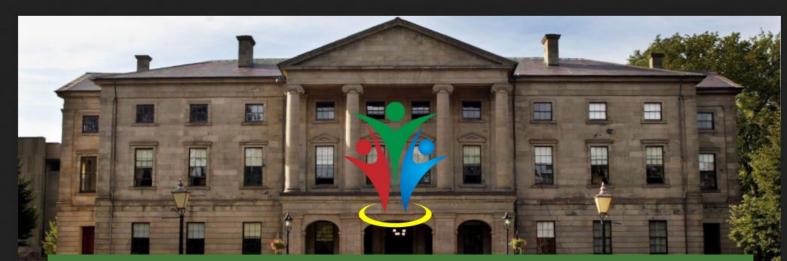












PEI's Legislature

Votes YES to a motion for a

Citizens' Assembly on Proportional Representation

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