



Remodeling the Fundamentals: What's at Stake as Ontarians Consider Changing the Electoral System?

Monday, September 17, 2007, 8:30 to 10:00 a.m., Following IPAC Annual General Meeting at 8:00 a.m.

Metro Central YMCA, 2nd Floor Auditorium, 20 Grosvenor Street, Toronto M4Y 2V5

A light breakfast will be provided

Guest Speakers:

Peter Russell Professor of Political Science, Specializing in Judicial, Constitutional and Aboriginal Politics (Former President of the Canadian Political Science Association)

Andrew Stark Professor of Strategic Management and Political Science, University of Toronto

Melissa Williams Professor of Political Science and Director, Centre for Ethics, University of Toronto (*Moderator*)

On October 10, 2007, Ontarians will vote on whether to keep the present "first past the post" electoral system or change to a form of proportional representation, "mixed member proportional." Proponents of the change say it will remedy poor representation, lack of accountability, and excessive concentration of power in the executive. Will it?

■ What's wrong with the current system? How many votes are "wasted" as smaller parties get fewer seats than their share of the popular vote warrants?

■ Will the change make governments more responsive? Will it increase the number of political parties? Will it improve the representation of women and minorities? What can we learn from countries that have such systems?

■ Will it change the relationship between politicians and public servants? Will legislators get more resources and play a bigger role in setting policy and preparing legislation? How will public servants serve coalition governments, with ministries headed by members of different parties?

■ Will some advantages of the current system be lost? Will it make governments less stable?

Probe for answers in a stimulating fireside chat with this panel of scholars and observers.

■ **Peter Russell** taught political science at the University of Toronto from 1958 to 1996 and frequently comments on public affairs in the news media. He is the author of *Constitutional Odyssey: Can Canadians Become a Sovereign People?*

■ **Andrew Stark** is a specialist in management ethics, Canadian constitutional politics and public administration at the University of Toronto. He has been a policy adviser in the Prime Minister's Office and a guest scholar at the Brookings Institution. He wrote *Conflict of Interest in American Public Life*.

■ **Melissa Williams (Moderator)** teaches history of political thought, contemporary democratic theory and multiculturalism at the University of Toronto. Recently she introduced a course on ethics and the public sphere. She is the author of *Voice, Trust and Memory: Marginalized Groups and the Failings of Liberal Representation*.

To Register:

Prepayment required by cheque or Visa/Amex/Mastercard

Mail registrations to:

IPAC Toronto Regional Group
c/o Kit Chapman
123 Scadding Avenue, Ste 803,
Toronto M5A 4J3

Or

Fax to: (416) 363-5612

For further information:

please contact
Kit Chapman
at 416-363-6509 x1
email: ipac-trg@sympatico.ca

Fax to: (416) 363-5612 No faxes after 9:30 p.m. Cover sheet is unnecessary

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<input type="checkbox"/> IPAC Member \$25			<input type="checkbox"/> Students \$15			<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member \$35		
*No refunds for cancellations after September 11. Faxed registrations constitute commitment to pay the registration fee in full. All registrations will be confirmed to the email address provided on this form.								