

Parliament has set up a Special Committee to consult Canadians on Electoral Reform.

CUPE members voted to support for Proportional Representation at the 2015 Convention.

This is our chance to turn that support into action.

Let's work together to build a better democracy in Canada.

Here's what you can do

- Let Parliament know you support Mixed Member Proportional Representation at cupe.ca/MMP-petition
- Get in touch with CUPE Political Action at politicalaction@cupe.ca to see how you can be involved in your riding.
- Follow **CUPE National** on Facebook www.facebook.com/cupescfp and Twitter [@cupenat](https://twitter.com/cupenat)

For more information

- The Special Committee on Electoral Reform (parl.gc.ca/Committees/en/ERRE);
- The Canadian Labour Congress (clc-ctc.ca);
- The Every Voter Counts Alliance (www.everyvotercounts.ca).



OUR ELECTION SYSTEM IS UNFAIR.

Canadians feel like their **votes don't matter**.

People feel like their **voices aren't being heard**.

BUT WE CAN MAKE IT BETTER!

CUPE



The way federal elections work now is called “first past the post.”

That means that the candidate who wins the most votes in a riding wins. No matter how tight the race was, the votes for all the other candidates don't matter. Those votes don't factor in to how the government is formed.

Parties win majority governments with less than 40 per cent of overall votes. Other parties end up with few or no seats, even if they win a substantial part of the popular vote across the country.

That's why countries like Scotland, Germany and New Zealand made the switch to Mixed Member Proportional.

And we can do it, too. We can do it now.



Mixed Member Proportional Representation (MMP) is a much fairer way to elect governments than the way we do it now.

Voters want every vote to count, but they also want an MP who has a personal connection to their riding. With MMP you get the best of both worlds: **one ballot, two votes.**

One vote is for your choice of local candidate and it works exactly the way elections work now: the candidate with the most votes wins.

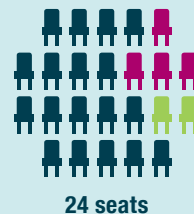
Your second vote is for the party of your choice. The parties will have a ranked list of candidates who will be elected in order based on this vote. The votes are tallied and the proportion of votes determines how many of these seats each party gets.

LET'S LOOK AT AN EXAMPLE

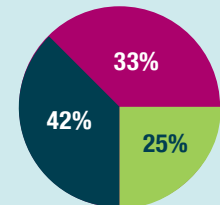


First past the post

Let's say there's a small country with **24 seats** in parliament. Under the first past the post system, you could get an election result that looks like this:

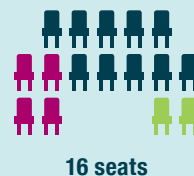


Even when the popular vote looks like this:

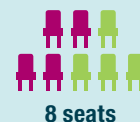


Mixed Member Proportional One ballot, two votes.

First vote: Two thirds of the seats are for local elections. The candidate with the most votes wins that riding's seat, exactly as it works now. This is the first **16 seats**.



Second vote: One third of the seats are for list MPs. The votes for each party are counted and this determines how many of these **8 seats** each party gets.



When the seats from the two votes are combined, the result is a parliament that more closely reflects the proportions in the popular vote.

