

Managing Provincial Elections

Dr. Keith Archer
Chief Electoral Officer of British Columbia
January 22, 2016
9:00am-4:30pm

Purpose: The purpose of this workshop is to introduce students to election policy and administration

1. Introduction to election administration

- a. Roles and responsibilities
- b. The business model of voting – is the model broken?

Required Readings (find these readings on course reserve: <http://reserves.concordia.ca/>)

Richard D. Balasko, "The Nature and Functions of Electoral Management Bodies," The Informed Citizens' Guide to Elections: Electioneering Based on the Rule of Law, Special issue, Journal of Parliamentary and Political Law (Toronto: Carswell, 2015), pp. 65-78. <http://reserves.concordia.ca/ares/ares.dll/plink?1441D26F>

Harry Neufeld, "Changing the Canadian Voting Services Model," , " The Informed Citizens' Guide to Elections: Electioneering Based on the Rule of Law, Special issue, Journal of Parliamentary and Political Law (Toronto: Carswell, 2015), pp. 79-91. <http://reserves.concordia.ca/ares/ares.dll/plink?1441D2DF>

2. Voter registration, turnout and apathy

- a. Why is a voters list important?
- b. Whose job is it to bring out the vote?
- c. Does low turnout matter?

Required Readings (find these readings on course reserve: <http://reserves.concordia.ca/>)

Keith Archer, "Removing Barriers to Voter Participation: The Role of Election Management Bodies in Citizen Engagement," , " The Informed Citizens' Guide to Elections: Electioneering Based on the Rule of Law, Special issue, Journal of Parliamentary and Political Law (Toronto: Carswell, 2015), pp. 135-144. <http://reserves.concordia.ca/ares/ares.dll/plink?1441D332>

3. Electoral boundaries redistribution

- a. The right to vote as the right to "effective representation"
- b. Principles of boundaries redistribution, special circumstances and community of interest

Required Readings

British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commission, Final Report, September 24, 2015, available at: http://bc-ebc.ca/docs/reports/BC-EBC_Final_Report-Sept_24_2015.pdf, pp. 1-21.

4. Are we ready for internet voting?

- a. BC's Independent Panel on Internet Voting

Required Readings

British Columbia Independent Panel on Internet Voting, Recommendations Report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, February 2014, available at: <http://www.internetvotingpanel.ca/>