

*To Cathy
Saunders
4/22/17*

Subject: Ranked Ballot presentation April 22, 2017
From: bill brock
To: billandsharonbrock
Date: Friday, April 21, 2017 7:39 PM

**Corporate Services Committee
Ranked Ballot Presentation**

The debate on ranked balloting appears to have been decided on two options. Approve for this election or delay until 2022 election. The third is to do nothing at all!

Brief index:

Introduction

Email to Councillor Morgan / City Clerk Saunders 3/01/17

Email from Cathy Saunders, City Clerk 3/01/17

Email from Councillor Josh Morgan 3/10/17

~~Copy of submission to LF Press 4/18/17~~

~~Copy of stats already submitted; noting 6 potential losses~~

~~LF Press article Larry Cornies "Ranked Ballot opens hornet's nest"~~

~~7/29/16 (excerpt)~~

~~Meslin LF Press London leads on ranked ballots~~

BOTTOM LINE: No to ranking!

I have the right to select a candidate of my choice to win!

This is the only measurable accountability in Municipal

Governance.

The games played will be even greater than now!

Don't confuse with Federal or Provincial where someone else picks the candidate! Don't demean our vote! Create a system using new technology that makes it easier for people to vote!

Subject: Ranked Ballot Presentation
From: bill brock
To: billandsharonbrock
Date: Friday, April 21, 2017 7:07 PM

Ranked Ballot Presentation

April 22, 2017.

London is unique. Nobody else has this.

Ranked ballot intended to get better winners which is similar to compensation task force trying to engineer better Councillors!

Reasonable to indicate if incumbent running most votes for those opposing will be shared between them in ranked balloting not picking incumbent as second choice!

In 2010 the incumbent won because top 3 opponents split the vote. If one had not run the incumbent would have lost! Last election 2 candidates agree the incumbent could be beat if the vote wasn't split between them.

One dropped out the incumbent lost and now the winner is a councillor and the drop out is chair of a Commission. Ranked balloting allows ganging up on incumbent to split the vote.

This system could be used by any group (political or otherwise) or special interest to get people elected who might oppose Police, BRT or Bike lanes. They could also support LRT, special treatment for downtown or supportive of mixed housing downtown. Based on last election several candidates were encouraged and supported to run by a former Mayor. Ranked balloting enhances this possibility significantly!

First past the post holds people accountable for the person elected whether they voted or not. It is interesting that current Council is willing to spend millions on a 30 + year social engineering project to tell us how to live, where to work and play but wouldn't look at the great deal of new technology to see how more people could be given easier access to voting. This would ensure greater accountability and less deviousness because citizen influence currently is limited to ward councillor. Note need 8 to control what happens. Finally, if time permitted I could show examples as to why with this group London would be worse off. We don't need a give me a hug Councillor we need Councillors that will act in the best interests of real needs of their constituents and the greater need of all Londoners. The uniqueness of this means you stop giving special treatment to special interest groups! Don't take away my right to pick the one person I want and live with the results!

From: bill brock
Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2017 9:36 AM
To: Saunders, Cathy <csaunder@london.ca>
Cc: Morgan, Josh <joshmorgan@london.ca>
Subject: Ranked Ballot

Cathy, Josh

just looking at documents on ranked ballot; question about process. Is there a document that allows a comparison as to pros and cons of first past the post and ranked ballot? Does the proposal identify the difference between local municipal elections and other levels where vote is between parties?

Bill B.

Attachments

- image001.png (6.08KB)

Subject: RE: Ranked Ballot

From: Saunders, Cathy (csaunder@london.ca)

To: billandsharonbrock

Cc: joshmorgan@london.ca;

Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2017 9:44 AM

Mr. Brock:

Our staff report outlines some of the challenges.

It is not staff's role to advocate for one method or the other. We must be neutral.

I believe providing information on pros and cons would make it appear that we are advocating.

Staff will implement the methodology that is chosen by Municipal Council.

Cathy



Cathy Saunders, MPA, RPP

City Clerk

City Clerk's Office

City of London

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P: 519.661.2500 x 4937 | Fax: 519.661.4892
csaunder@london.ca | www.london.ca

Subject: Re: Ranked ballot voting position paper

From: Morgan, Josh (joshmorgan@london.ca)

To: billandsharonbrock,

Date: Friday, March 10, 2017 1:13 PM

Thanks for this Bill,

Also it was Shawn Lewis who make the comment about better councillors today, not me (maybe we sound the same on the radio).

Ranked Balloting isn't about 'getting better councillors', it is about the most preferred candidate ~~A~~ winning. Whether that makes them a "better councillor" or not really depends on how you assess what a good councillor is. I would agree that A ranked ballot election produces a better democratic result.

Thanks,

Josh

Josh Morgan
City Councillor – Ward 7
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Send from my mobile device

Subject: Letters to the Editor Opinion
From: bill brock
To: lfp.letters@sunmedia.ca;
Cc: billandsharonbrock
Date: Tuesday, April 18, 2017 8:46 PM

No Ranked Ballot

In Canada democracy gives the right to vote in Municipal elections to each citizen so qualified!

First you can decide to vote or not. Secondly you can vote for the person you wish. The winner

gets the most votes. There is no minimum. There is no political parties; each candidate stands on their own merits.

Ranked balloting allows any like minded people to manipulate the election by splitting the vote and invoking voting such as 1, 2, or 3 with the minimum of 50% of votes cast the rule. This means the 2nd or 3rd would probably win! Ranked balloting becomes a game either to stop a competitor or protect an incumbent.

Democracy is not a game. Being able to count 1 to 3 isn't a validation. Candidates aren't numbers.

Last election Councillor Helmer won against Orser as Cheryl Ruth (London Transit Chair) stepped aside so they wouldn't split the vote. Mayor Brown in race for Mayor didn't face the now Deputy Mayor Hubert as Hubert chose not to challenge him.

The decision of Councillors has been to have public input; noting the majority already support ranked balloting; so like the BRT issue decision already made, the formal vote is all that remains. The last Canadian census had a 97.5% response (mandatory) up from the previous 67.5%. The question Council refuses to address is why not use technology to involve more voters. Also, in Municipal elections you cannot limit the number of candidates.

If you want to get more people involved wouldn't it be better to go after voters than undermine those who put their name up free of special interests; not as a 14 member family but interested in ensuring the base of their ward vote is used to make all of London better. Stay with the best democracy municipal politics currently provides.

Bill brock
London

City Clerk indicated it is not their role or the role of Councillors unless they approve doing so to have a discussion on pros and cons.

A review of the 2014 election results generates some interesting data on voting procedures. The data is the basis for this position paper being prepared.

Mayor 57.7% of vote; 15 candidates; 259,133 / 111,937 or 43.2% voted.

Ward 1 50.7% of vote; 4 candidates; 17,859 / 5678 or 31.8% voted.

Ward 2 39.0% of vote; 3 candidates; 17,449 / 5696 or 32.6% voted. other 2 had 34 & 27%.

Ward 3 52.5% of vote; 5 candidates; 31.1% voted.

Ward 4 59.2% of vote; 6 candidates; 31.7% voted.

Ward 5 57.4% of vote; 8 candidates; 42.6% voted.

Ward 6 28.3% of vote; 7 candidates; 32.2% voted. others got 23.4 / 18.3 / 13.0 / 10.2 / 0.6 %

Ward 7 56.7% of vote; 5 candidates; 40.6% voted.

Ward 8 83.1% of vote; 2 candidates; 42.6% voted.

Ward 9 46.2% of vote; 7 candidates; 47.5% voted. others got 22.9 / 14.3 / 12.5 / 2.4 / 1.3 / 0.4 %

Ward 10 51.5% of vote; 3 candidates; 39.2% voted.

Ward 11 54.2 % of vote; 6 candidates; 40.6% voted.

Ward 12 48.5% of vote; 3 candidates; 33.0 voted. others got 44.2 / 7.4 %

Ward 13 40.0 % of vote; 7 candidates; 28.7% voted. others got 24.3 / 16.6 / 6.9 / 4.8 / 4.5 / 2.9%

Ward 14 39.0% of vote; 6 candidates; 37.5% voted. others got 24.8 / 17.9 / 12.9 / 3.5 / 1.9%

Note: Ranked balloting could have resulted in 6 second place finishers winning. Wards 2, 6, 9, 12, 13, 14.

Note: Mandatory voting is better ! Source Andrew Coyne; London Free Press Sept. 10, 2016.

2016 census had a 97.8% responses verses 2011 volunteer response was 68% .

"Democracy isn't just for the better educated or the well informed. It is for everybody!"

It is one thing to raise an issue as this Council is doing; with their biasness pushing the time button. Simplicity is not being able to write down 1,2, or 3. It is to know and understand the people behind the taking away your democratic right to vote or not to vote.