

NEWS RELEASE

May 20, 2025

ELECTIONS YUKON KICKS OFF INFORMATION CAMPAIGN ON ELECTORAL REFORM VOTE


Yukoners will vote in a plebiscite about electoral reform during the 2025 Territorial General Election, scheduled for November 3, 2025.

The plebiscite and its materials are being finalized. More information, including an education campaign, will be launched in the near future.

At the polls, Yukon electors will be issued two ballots. One will be to vote for their member of the legislative assembly and the other will be to vote on the plebiscite question.

The specific wording of the question will be released in a regulation by early summer. It will be whether Yukoners want to change the voting system from the First-Past-the-Post system, where the candidate with most votes wins, to a Ranked Vote system, where candidates are ranked by preference. In a Ranked Vote system, if the top candidate does not receive 50%+1 of the vote, the lowest ranked candidate drops off and their second and lower preferences are reallocated to the remaining candidates. This process continues until one candidate has 50%+1 of the votes.

In both systems, while voters are electing a single candidate from their district to represent them, the method of voting is different. Neither system use proportional representation.

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The plebiscite follows from the work of the Special Committee on Electoral Reform (May 2021 – April 2023) and the Legislative Assembly in examining ways of electing territorial governments including whether to keep the current system or adopt a different one. An outcome of this work was to establish a Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform to examine Yukon's electoral system and issue recommendations. The Citizens' Assembly convened from May to September 2024 and tabled a report to the Legislative Assembly in October 2024. Reports from the Special Committee and Citizens' Assembly are available at electionsyukon.ca.

Elections Yukon will provide information in an impartial manner to support voters' informed choice on the plebiscite question.

For more info go on plebiscite and the Territorial General Election visit electionsyukon.ca.

QUOTE

"Administering a plebiscite is a new mandate for Elections Yukon. It will provide Yukon voters with an opportunity to vote on an important question on Yukon's voting system. More to come in the weeks ahead on the question and information to support an informed choice.

For now, it is important to know that the plebiscite vote will be held as part of the territorial election, that voters will also get a plebiscite ballot, and all voting options are the same as for the territorial election. Same time, same place, same process. Just an additional question.

Elections Yukon is centre of electoral information. Visit electionsyukon.ca and follow us on social media for key information and updates."

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