
From: John LeDuc [REDACTED]
Sent: October 17, 2021 11:38 AM
To: Hebb, Gordon; Office of the Legislative Counsel
Cc: Premier; garyburrillmla@gmail.com; info@carmanekerr.ca; info@iainrankin.ca
Subject: Bill no 1 - Election s Act (amended)

**** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE ****

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Hello,

Please consider this a written submission to Law Amendments Committee (LAC) concerning Bill No 1 Election Act (amended)

We would like to congratulate the government for establishing a fixed election date for Nova Scotia provincial elections through an amendment to the Elections Act. This is an important step in improving procedural fairness and accountability which are foundations to our democratic system. It is also important to recognize that Nova Scotia is the last jurisdiction to establish fixed election dates and speaks to our unfortunate history of partisan politics and reluctance by all parties to strengthen democracy by improving procedural fairness and accountability in governance. The intent of Bill 1 is very positive with the caveat that the proposed date for fixed elections in July needs to be re-considered.

We would ask that the LAC consider recommending amending the proposed date for fixed election from the third Tuesday in July to a more inclusive date in October for the following reasons.

1. The proposed July date is at the height of summer holidays where the public is focused on travel ,family affairs,well earned vacations etc. and as such not fully engaged in civic matters and the electoral process. The establishment of a fixed election date must be established with a goal of improving civic engagement, thoughtful deliberation of issues, and increased participation in the electoral system. This is why no other province, territory or the federal government has a fixed election date in July and August. (see chart below -source Wikipedia)

