

**Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform Fonds**

**MsC 87**

In  
Special Collections,  
Simon Fraser University Library

Finding aid with file descriptions prepared by:  
Beata Bergen, July 2007

## **Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform [ CAER] fonds**

July 2003-Dec. 2004

55.3 cm of textual records and other material

### **Administrative History:**

The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform, (CAER) membership was of 161 British Columbia residents, randomly chosen from the province's 79 electoral districts. The mandate of The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform was to examine a variety of models for the election of members of the Legislative Assembly and to propose recommendations on whether British Columbia should keep its current system for provincial elections or whether it should adopt a new model.

In September 2002, Gordon Gibson was appointed by the government to advise on the mandate and make up of a citizens' assembly. Gibson's, *Report on the Constitution of the Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform* was completed on December 23, 2002. On April 30, 2003, The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform was created. On May 16, 2003, Jack Blaney, former president of Simon Fraser University, was appointed to the chair of the CAER by the B.C. Legislature. The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform held fifty public hearings in May and June of 2004. In addition, over 1430 individuals made 1603 written submissions to the Assembly. The deliberation sessions were held from September to November 2004. The adoption of a new voting system, called "BC-STV" or "single transferable vote" system was recommended. On May 17, 2005 a provincial referendum was held to allow citizens to vote on whether the BC-STV system should be adopted for use in provincial elections.

### **Scope and Content:**

The fonds consists of print submissions made by individuals to The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform, electronic records made by the CAER, video recordings of plenary sessions, interviews with CAER members, details of the BC-STV system, and animations of the procedure for the BC-STV, and a printed technical report.

#### **Notes:**

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the fonds.

*Physical description:* 44 optical discs, 4 CD-ROMs, 17 videocassettes, 1 book

*Immediate source of acquisition:* The materials were acquired by SFU Special Collections from The Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform in one accession in 2004.

*Finding Aids:* Series and file descriptions are available.

*Associated material:* Related material held at the British Columbia Archives.

### **Series 1: Submissions from the Public**

July 2003-Sept. 2004

55.3 cm of textual records

The series consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAER, mostly via the Assembly's website, discussing the local issues and concerns of citizens regarding changes to the way voting in elections is conducted, and the results counted.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned series name.

### **Series 2: Electronic Resources**

Jan. 2004-Dec. 2004

44 optical discs

4 CD-ROMs

1 videocassette : beta cam

The series consists of DVDs of the CAER Learning Phase weekends, Deliberation Phase weekend meetings, plenary meetings, photographs, final report, technical report, preliminary statement, video describing the CAER, interviews with CAER members, animation of description of BC-STV and public website; CD-ROMs with presentations and animations, MSWord and .pdf file versions of fact sheets, news features, .jpg file photographs, animations; and a beta cam SP-NTSC cassette with background shots of the CAER's work.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the content of the series.

### **Series 3: Video Recordings**

Jan. 2004-Dec. 2004

16 videocassettes

The series consists of video recordings of CAER's plenary sessions, video of a Knowledge Network program concerning the CAER, electoral review, a description of the CAER, interviews with CAER members, details of the BC-STV and animations.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the content of the series.

### **Series 4: Technical Report**

December 2004

1 book

The series consists of a CAER technical report.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the content of the series.

## **File Descriptions**

### **Series 1: Submissions from the Public**

#### **87.1.1 Submissions**

July 18, 2003-January 13, 2004

4 cm of textual records

File consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAER.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

#### **87.1.2 Submissions**

January 12, 2004-March 27, 2004

4 cm of textual records

File consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAER.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

#### **87.1.3 Submissions**

March 29, 2004-April 23, 2004

3 cm of textual records

File consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAER.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

#### **87.1.4 Submissions**

April 23, 2004-May 9, 2004

3 cm of textual records

File consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAER.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

#### **87.1.5 Submissions**

May 9, 2004-June 6, 2004

6.3 cm of textual records

File consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAER.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

**87.1.6 Submissions**

June 7, 2004-June 23, 2004

5 cm of textual records

File consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAER.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

**87.1.7 Submissions**

June 23, 2004-August 9, 2004

6 cm of textual records

File consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAER.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

**87.1.8 Submissions**

August 1, 2004-August 12, 2004

5 cm of textual records

File consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAER.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

**87.1.9 Submissions**

August 12, 2004-August 13, 2004

6 cm of textual records

File consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAERY.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

**87.1.10 Submissions**

August 13, 2004-September 1, 2004

7 cm of textual records

File consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAER.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

### **87.1.11 Submissions**

August 15, 2004-September 27, 2004  
6 cm of textual records

File consists of print submissions made by individuals to the CAER.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

## **Series 2: Electronic Resources**

### **87.2.1 Learning Phase Weekends**

January 11, 2004-March 26, 2004  
13 DVDs

File consists of DVDs with Learning Phase Weekends (2 discs per weekend, 3 for weekend 6).

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

### **87.2.2 Deliberation Phase: Citizens' Assembly Weekend Meetings**

September 11, 2004-November 28, 2004  
23 DVDs

File consists of DVDs with records concerning Deliberation Phase Citizens' Assembly Weekend Meetings.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

### **87.2.3 Citizens' Assembly Plenary Meetings and Certificate Presentations**

October 23, 2004-November 27, 2004  
3 DVDs

File consists of DVDs with records concerning Deliberation Weekend 4, at which decision was made to recommend the single transferable vote, (STV) as the best alternative electoral system. Also included are certificate presentations of November 27, 2004.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

### **87.2.4 Photographs Taken by Kent Kallberg**

November 2004  
1 DVD

File consists of one DVD with photographs in .jpg files of Premier Gordon Campbell awarding certificates to each Citizens' Assembly member, as well as of the final session of the CAER, and of the CAER in action.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

### **87.2.5 Making Every Vote Count**

March 21, 2004-December 21, 2004

1 DVD

File consists of one DVD with Final Report, Technical Report and Preliminary Statement.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

### **87.2.6 Making Every Vote Count**

December 15, 2004

1 DVD

File consists of one DVD with video [11:06] describing the Citizens' Assembly, interviews with members, details of the British Columbia - Single transferable vote, (BC-STV), and a [4:22] description, using animation of the BC-STV and the vote counting process.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

### **87.2.7 Making Every Vote Count**

2004

1 CD-ROM

File consists of 1 CD-ROM with presentations and animations. Presentations include MS PowerPoint presentation on Citizens' Assembly and its recommendations, and a .pdf version of the same presentation with notes and handouts, and a MS PowerPoint and .pdf version of BC-STV presentation with notes and handouts. Animations include shockwave flash files (.swf) playable with QuickTime software, of the two vote counting systems considered: BC-STV and First Past the Post (FPTP).

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

### **87.2.8 Making Every Vote Count**

2004

1 CD-ROM

File consists of one CD-ROM with MSWord and .pdf versions of fact sheets, MSWord version of news features, .jpg photographs of the CAER, with details of each photograph in a MSWord file, shockwave flash files playable with QuickTime animations of BC-STV and FPTP and MSWord version of contact names for news media after December 2004.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

**87.2.9 Making Every Vote Count: Public Website**

November 23, 2003-December 21, 2004

1 DVD

File consists of one DVD with a complete archive of the CAER website, from its launch to its last update.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

**87.2.10 Making Every Vote Count**

December 23, 2004

1 DVD

File consists of one DVD with an archive of the members' website without discussion forum.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

**87.2.11 Citizens' Assembly Submission Attachments and Presentation Summaries**

January 2004

1 CD-ROM

File consists of one CD-ROM with files in MSWord and .pdf formats.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

**87.2.12 Citizens' Assembly Public Hearings**

2004

1 CD-ROM

File consists of one CD-ROM with 44 of the 50 hearings. Digital voice editor software is included. Software must be loaded from the CD to listen to the recordings.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

**87.2.13 Media B-Roll**

2004

1 Beta cam SP-NTSC cassette

File consists of one Beta cam SP-NTSC cassette with background shots of the Citizens' Assembly's work released for TV stories.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.



## **Series 3: Video Recordings**

### **87.3.1 Citizens' Assembly Plenary Sessions**

January 24, 2004-January 25, 2005

4 videocassettes (ca. 30 min. each)

File consists of video recordings of CAER plenary sessions.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

### **87.3.2 CAER Plenary Sessions**

January 10, 2004-March 21, 2004

6 videocassettes (ca. 30 min. each)

File consists of video recordings of plenary sessions. Each weekend session has been condensed to one cassette.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

### **87.3.3 CAER**

March 2004-April 2004

1 videocassette (16 min., 55 sec.)

File consists of video recordings of programming broadcast by the Knowledge Network: vignette, and electoral review.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

### **87.3.4 Making Every Vote Count**

December 15, 2004

1 videocassette (15 min., 28 sec.)

File consists of one videocassette with video of description of CAER, interviews with members, and details of the BC-STV, and with animation of description of BC-STV and the counting process.

*Source of supplied title:* Title taken from previously assigned file name.

### **87.3.5 Citizens' Assembly**

January 10, 2004-January 11, 2004

4 videocassettes (4 hr., 45 min.)

File consists of video recordings of the CAER Learning Phase.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.

## **Series 4: Technical Report**

### **87.4.1 Making Every Vote Count**

December 2004

1 book

File consists of the following technical report:

Citizens' Assembly on Electoral Reform. *Making Every Vote Count: The Case for Electoral Reform in British Columbia*. Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication Data, 2004.

*Source of supplied title:* Title based on the contents of the file.