

An Open Letter from Fair Vote Canada

September 28, 2008

Stephen Harper, Leader
Conservative Party of Canada

Stéphane Dion, Leader
Liberal Party of Canada

The Politics of Fear is Misleading and Polarizing.

Which of You Will Change the Sad Face of Canadian Politics?

Dear Sirs:

On behalf of all Canadians who want to believe in democracy, allow me to express my enormous frustration with this election campaign.

The leaders of our two largest political parties are acting more like fear mongers than true leaders.

Stéphane Dion, you say Canadians must vote for the Liberal Party, or Stephen Harper, with a phony majority government, will ruin Canada as we know it.

Stephen Harper, you say Canadians must vote for the Conservative Party, or Stéphane Dion as head of a phony majority Liberal government will ruin Canada as we know it.

Is Canada truly in such terrible danger, or are both of you simply avoiding the core question that any Canadian would ask:

'Why should a leader and party without true majority voter support be allowed to seize command of Parliament and impose law and policy on all Canadians?'

Why is it that you defend and perpetuate a system of election and government which lacks the legitimacy conferred by majority voter support?

What do you say to the nearly eight million orphan voters in this country – more than half the active electorate, many of whom support your own parties – who on October 14 will again cast votes which elect nobody to the House of Commons? To Conservative voters who will elect hardly any representatives in urban centres and to Liberal voters who will elect no one in the prairie provinces?

Which of you on October 1 and 2 will say to the cameras that before the next election you will bring in proportional representation, making all Canadian voters equal citizens with equal votes and equal representation in the House of Commons, thus ending the need for fear and hate campaigns designed to gain that slight advantage in the popular vote that will result in a phony, underserved majority of seats in Parliament?

Canadians would be delighted to hear you pledge that your government will make this the last unfair and undemocratic federal election. Any leader who makes that pledge would be deserving of the votes from millions of currently orphaned voters on October 14.

Yours for a democratic Canada,

Barbara Odenwald, President
Fair Vote Canada

Websites: Fairvote.ca and orphanvoters.ca

[Fair Vote Canada](http://FairVoteCanada.ca) (FVC) is a national multi-partisan citizens' campaign to promote voting system reform. FVC was founded in 2001 and has a National Advisory Board of distinguished Canadians from all points on the political spectrum.