

JUL - 3 2019

Mr. Anton Boegman Chief Electoral Officer Elections BC PO Box 9275 Stn Prov Govt Victoria BC V8W 9J6

Dear Mr. Boegman:

This letter is to confirm that government considers it a priority to develop the amendments needed to implement the voting modernization proposal recommended in the *Report of the Chief Electoral Officer on Recommendations for Legislative Change*, submitted to the Legislative Assembly in May 2018.

As you know, the *Election Act* is in the Ministry of Attorney General's legislative portfolio, and staff in my ministry will be leading the work needed to develop proposed amendments to the Act. Ministry staff look forward to continued consultations with Elections BC as they work on developing the amendments needed to implement the voting modernization strategy described in your report.

The report projects that following the adoption of legislation, Elections BC would require 18-24 months of lead time before it would be possible to conduct an election using the voting modernization tools and strategies proposed in the report. With the next scheduled provincial general election in October 2021, government will work to ensure that the necessary legislative amendments will be introduced for the Legislative Assembly's consideration in a timeframe that supports Elections BC's implementation needs. It should also be acknowledged that developing the necessary amendments is a technically complex project.

If adopted by the Legislative Assembly, the amendments would represent the most significant update to the voting administration procedures in the *Election Act* in at least 20 years. I hope that other Members of the Legislative Assembly will join me in supporting this initiative to enhance Elections BC's ability to serve British Columbia voters.

Yours truly,

David Eby, QC Attorney General

Mr. Andrew Wilkinson, QC, MLA

Dr. Andrew Weaver, MLA

Ministry of Attorney General

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