

# ELECTIONS BC

## News Release

For Immediate Release

Date: June 9, 2005

### Chief Electoral Officer Announces Results of the Referendum on Electoral Reform

**Victoria** – Chief Electoral Officer Harry Neufeld announced today the final results of the Referendum on Electoral Reform. Elections BC administered the referendum in conjunction with the May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2005 provincial general election in accordance with the *Electoral Reform Referendum Act* and the *Referendum Act*.

Two thresholds were set by the *Electoral Reform Referendum Act* in order for the referendum results to be binding on government:

- (a) at least 60% of the valid votes cast in support of the question stated on the referendum ballot, and
- (b) in at least 48 of the 79 electoral districts, more than 50% of the valid votes cast in support of that question.

Based on the final results, only one of the two thresholds was met.

Voters voted 'yes' by more than 50% in 77 of 79 electoral districts. Of the total valid votes cast, 57.69% voted 'yes' on the referendum question. Final referendum results by electoral district are available on Elections BC's website at <http://www.elections.bc.ca/elections/ge2005/finalrefresults.htm>.

Under the *Electoral Reform Referendum Act*, the Chief Electoral Officer is required to announce the referendum results, rather than the Attorney General as required by the *Referendum Act*.

Elections BC is a non-partisan Office of the Legislature responsible for the impartial administration of provincial elections and referendums, voter registration and voter education.

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**For more information:**

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