

**BUREAU OF MUNICIPAL RESEARCH**

"TO PROMOTE THE MOVEMENT TOWARD EFFICIENT CITIZENSHIP"

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OPEN LETTER

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TORONTO 2

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF TORONTO

Toronto, December 27, 1932.

Ladies and Gentlemen:-

The two "questions" to be voted on at the approaching elections, calling for a reduction in the number of Aldermen and a change in the date of election, differ in public importance.

The former is the first step in an essential change in the constitution of Council, suggested for many years by the Bureau. The Bureau would suggest that before marking your ballots on these two "questions" you consider the following:-

## (1) Reduction of the number of Aldermen.

- a. In what way would the business of the City suffer by a reduction?
- b. Would a reduction tend to lower or raise the standard of personnel of Council?
- c. Would a reduction tend to reduce or increase time wasted in unfruitful discussion?
- d. Would a reduction tend to facilitate or make more difficult business administration of the business affairs of the municipality?
- e. Would a reduction tend to reduce or increase civic expenditure?

## (2) Changing date of Election from January 1st to the First Monday in December.

- a. Would this date make it easier for a large section of the electorate to vote without making it harder for an equally large section to do so?
- b. Would an election early in December without the distraction of the Christmas season, rather than first of January, make it easier to discuss public questions?
- c. Would an earlier date make it more difficult to prepare a reasonable estimate of expenditures for the current year, and therefore militate against the discussion of the budget of the next year at the current elections?
- d. Which is more important, an earlier election or an earlier passing of the estimates?
- e. With the one year term as at present, would the action of Council during December be weakened or strengthened?

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) G. H. Muntz  
 President

(Sgd.) H. L. Brittain  
 Managing Director.