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LETTER: Our electoral system befuddles

North Shore News

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Dear Editor:

In my humble opinion, pollsters will have difficulty in being accurate in their forecasts both federally and provincially. Why?

The term “vote conflict” comes to mind. In the old days we used to vote for whomever we thought would do their best for our community. Now, unfortunately we are forced to vote for whomever we hope will inflict the least amount of damage.

The conflict arises from the power that the party leader has over his elected members. For example, in West Vancouver, we have a Conservative MP, John Weston, who has done an admirable job for his community. Sadly for him, we have a prime minister who has ambitions to dismantle the democracy that exists in Canada. Until this (election) year, he and his lawyers have fought veterans in court.

When he was not prime minister, he stated that he would not act the same as Liberals and appoint senators as favours. Once in power, he reversed direction. If I vote for Mr. Weston, I am in effect voting for Harper — big conflict. If I vote for Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, I vote for Justin Trudeau, who is a pale imitation of his father.

I have not voted Liberal since Paul Martin. The Liberal leaders since then have been gifts to the Conservatives. Sad to say, Justin appears to utilize his mouth prior to engaging his brain. I blame his team for not correcting that major fault.

Give us a political system where the leader can be deposed by his elected officials — and we solve the conflict both federally and provincially.

If I do not vote, after 55 years of voting, I would feel guilty. Help!

**Harry Mayor
West Vancouver**

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