

by Mark Alessio

statement, given the results of the dramatic results of the election (which saw the Liberals gain a sweeping majority and the incumbent Progressive Conservative Party get only two seats), he said: "Democracy works in Canada because people can change governments." Kwok spoke of the 'beauty of democracy.': "It was such a drastic outcome and yet the system allows for a smooth transfer of power."

The experience opened many of the students eyes to another way of government. Says Lam: "Feeling the atmosphere of democracy was a unique experience in my life. I've lived in Hong Kong for many years and we have no choice." She pointed out that although Canadians were not overtly enthusiastic compared to Americans, 70 per cent of Canadians voted in the election. "Canadians are very aware of their civil rights and that's something that people in Hong Kong could learn from. In last year's elections in Hong Kong, the turnout rate was only 30 per cent."

Overall, students said they considered the trip a great success. Commission spokesperson Reeder adds that he was particularly impressed with FOY: "They are enthusiastic and extremely well-organized, and I hope we can continue to work together in the future." ♦




Weather was perfect for a cycle through Vancouver's Stanley Park.

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