



Interim Report Submission from Paul Briones

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:28 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Paul

Last Name

Briones

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

43 - Edmonton-South West

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

46 - Edmonton-South West

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Communities of interest
- Geographical features
- Effective representation
- Projected growth
- Naming of electoral boundaries

Submission

Thank you for keeping the Edmonton/Calgary riding entirely within municipal boundaries.

By preserving the integrity of the city and avoiding the creation of hybrid ridings—where urban communities are combined with rural areas—you have produced a fair and balanced electoral map. This approach recognizes that urban and rural communities often have very different needs, priorities, and concerns. Keeping them separate ensures that residents are represented by someone who can more effectively understand and advocate for their shared interests, thereby upholding the fundamental democratic principle of effective representation.

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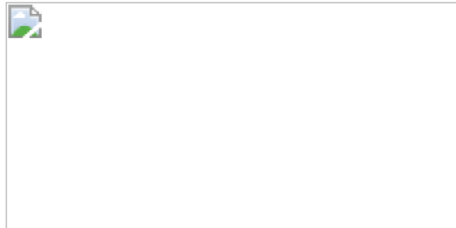
Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Eileen Poole

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:27 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Eileen

Last Name

Poole

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Sherwood Park

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

84 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

85 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Central Alberta concerns

- Communities of interest
- Geographical features
- Effective representation
- Projected growth

Submission

Dec 19, 2025

To the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

I am writing as a resident of Strathcona-Sherwood Park to provide feedback on the proposed electoral boundary changes.

I strongly oppose the Commission's proposal to remove Heritage Hills from our constituency and to add Beaumont and parts of Leduc County. These changes do not reflect our community of interest, and I urge you to reconsider based on the following factors:

· **Heritage Hills Belongs Here:** Heritage Hills is an integral part of our community. Families there utilize Sherwood Park schools, recreation centres, and services. Removing this neighbourhood disrupts natural school catchments and splits a community that functions as one unit.

· **Beaumont is a Distinct Community:** While Beaumont is a vibrant community, its economic and social ties are to Leduc and Edmonton, not Sherwood Park. Furthermore, Strathcona County is a Specialized Municipality with a unique service delivery model that differs significantly from the City of Beaumont. Merging them forces one MLA to represent two incompatible municipal frameworks.

· **Population Targets Will Be Met Naturally:** Our constituency is currently sitting at approximately 51,000 residents, which is within the legal variance. With the rapid growth occurring in Ardrossan and Hillshire, we are projected to reach the provincial target of 55,000 naturally without requiring major boundary shifts.

· **Economic and Commuter Patterns:** Our riding is tied together by the Industrial Heartland and Refinery Row. In contrast, Beaumont's transportation corridors and commuter flows point toward Leduc and Edmonton.

Recommendation: Please abandon the proposal to attach Beaumont and remove Heritage Hills. If the Commission determines that adding population is strictly necessary, I submit that Tofield is a much more logical addition. Residents of Tofield already commute to Sherwood Park for work, shopping and services, creating a genuine community of interest that does not exist with Beaumont. Please keep our boundaries stable and allow our natural growth to meet your targets.

Sincerely,

Eileen Poole

[Redacted Signature]

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EBC-2025-2-802

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Interim Report Submission from Robert E. Wanner

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:26 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Robert E.

Last Name

Wanner

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Medicine Hat

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

57 - Cypress-Medicine Hat

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

74 - Medicine Hat-Cypress

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Southern Alberta concerns
- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Communities of interest
- Geographical features
- Effective representation

Submission

DECEMBER 18-25 DRAFT BOUNDARIES SUBMISSION

Thank you to all the Commission Members and staff for your service to Alberta. Respectfully I submit my feedback to the Commission's Interim October 25th Report.

The Commission's task is to ensure effective representation across the province." (Page 3)

Firstly, please allow me to make some grammatical/factual error corrections /editorial comments.

On Page 70

The report identifies former MLA Hon. R. Renner and myself R. Wanner, former MLA and AB Speaker. Who is not mentioned is that former MLA the Honourable Deputy Premier Jim Horsman and former Speaker Dr. David Carter also made submissions. Medicine Hat had presentations by a cross section of citizens with no political affiliation plus some from multiple political parties sharing a goal of 'effective representation' for S.E. Alberta. (Additionally on June 13 Justice Miller commented Medicine Hat " ... the attendance here (Medicine Hat) tops the charts. We have more people in the opening session here than I think we've had in any of the Calgary sessions." (For comparative purposes only four persons made submissions in Brooks the day before.)

The report (Page 70) states that the proposed boundaries ".... follows the good practice of aligning with county boundaries..." That is not correct. Cypress County is divided between Medicine Hat - Brooks and Medicine Hat Cypress as is the City of Medicine Hat.

Respectfully I submit that S.E. Alberta including Medicine Hat and all Populations within Cypress County have not been treated fairly and equitably with respect to their municipal boundaries. The Interim Report for the S.E. Region HAS NOT ACHIEVED EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION.

Below are the key facts articulating why a revision of proposed boundaries is critical.

Page 7 and Page 8 emphasising 'effective representation' references section #3 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Justice McLachlan ruling "...that one person one vote principle is not mandated - in fact, it is forbidden." However the Interim Report Appendix E emphasises at some length how the proposed Boundaries have so successfully achieved the population average target. That leaves the clear impression that '...effective representation principle' was less important.

Of all the major urban centres in Alberta, Medicine Hat is a distinct minority that does not have at least one regional urban seat.

Lethbridge has two urban

Red Deer has two urban

Grande Prairie has one Plus One rural

St Albert is a prominent population within Strathcona County with its municipal

boundaries respected.

Spruce Grove and Stoney Plain bound each other with both cities' boundaries respected. They are essentially an urban seat.

Airdrie is divided into East and West but to compare them to Medicine Hat and S.E. Alberta is a stretch at best. Both Airdrie and the surrounding rural areas are in close proximity and most importantly are in the 'magnetic field of Calgary' therefore of common interest.

Fort McMurray is vastly different from S.E. Alberta. It is not a city. Their boundaries are Wood Buffalo Regional Municipality and those boundaries are respected. The history, geography, commerce, and population are vastly different. Also many of the more rural first nations are most accessible by air service. Furthermore the presentations in Fort McMurray were all in favour of the proposed boundaries. NOT SO IN MEDICINE HAT.

Medicine Hat's diverse and significant submissions seem to not be reflected in the report. On PAGE 69

The report states that "... many submissions requested the electoral divisions be kept as is. I was not able to find from either the oral and verbal submissions in Medicine Hat and Brooks submissions that support the 'many claim'.

The most troubling comment on PAGE 69 was because Lethbridge got two ridings, Medicine Hat can't get at least one.

"Keeping the Medicine Hat electoral divisions hybrid but the Lethbridge electoral divisions purely urban also reflects that submissions concerning both were clearly divided. The Commission understands arguments both ways and, therefore, is compromising by keeping Medicine Hat hybrid and Lethbridge purely urban at this time."

Compromising justice and fairness and effective representation must be decided equitably. Was this reasoning rationalized in some fashion as "practical necessity (Page 10 Supreme Court - Carter)?

The rationale for carving out an irrational portion of Medicine Hat's City Centre to the Brooks Constituency rather than respecting one of the key principles of Major water ways (The South Saskatchewan River) I respectfully submit is not defensible. It is not understandable to the electorate and seems to add another piece of evidence to the commission's over zealous use of population numbers rather than contributing to overarching principle of "Effective Representation"

Some Conclusions and Recommendations

The fact that the Commission made the cosmetic name change from Brooks and Cypress to a lead name of Medicine Hat is appreciated.

It is acknowledged that many submissions received by the Commission recommended one urban riding for Medicine Hat. It needs to also to be noted that several submissions recommended one urban riding North to the # 1 Highway and one rural riding south of # Highway.

By doing so the S.E. Region will have done more than its part. Having assisted the Commission with its challenge of creating one rural riding and transparent and defensible rationale why the older established sections of the City of Medicine Hat deserve better effective representations.

Finally I would suggest that Brooks as a growing city distinct from Medicine Hat deserves to be bounded by similar surrounding rural and smaller towns and territory which might be achieved by shifting your solutions from an east - west perspective to a north south region. The allocation of Bow Island and County

Forty Mile with its already daily connections to Medicine Hat and Cypress County would be a sound decision.

Respectfully

Robert E. Wanner Speaker of the 29th Alberta Legislature

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DECEMBER 18-25 DRAFT BOUNDARIES SUBMISSION

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Below are the key facts articulating why a revision of proposed boundaries is critical.

- **Page 7 and Page 8** emphasising 'effective representation' references section #3 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Justice McLachlan ruling "*...that one person one vote principle is not mandated - in fact, it is forbidden.*" However the Interim Report **Appendix E** emphasises at some length how the proposed Boundaries have so successfully achieved the population average target. That leaves the clear impression that '...effective representation principle' was less important.
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- By doing so the S.E. Region will have done more than its part. Having assisted the Commission with its challenge of creating one rural riding and transparent and defensible rationale why the older established sections of the City of Medicine Hat deserve better effective representations.

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Respectfully

Robert E. Wanner Speaker of the 29th Alberta Legislature



Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Shannan Little

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:25 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Shannan

Last Name

Little

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Lethbridge

Interim Report Considerations

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What is your current electoral division?

72 - Lethbridge-West

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

70 - Lethbridge-West

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Effective representation

Submission

I am writing to express my support for maintaining the current Lethbridge-West and Lethbridge-East constituencies as outlined in the Interim Report. I believe this configuration continues to effectively represent residents of the City of Lethbridge, and the surrounding areas, and reflects established communities of interest, unique constituency attributes, and existing municipal boundaries.

Thank you for considering my comments as part of your review process.

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from WALLACE Cullen

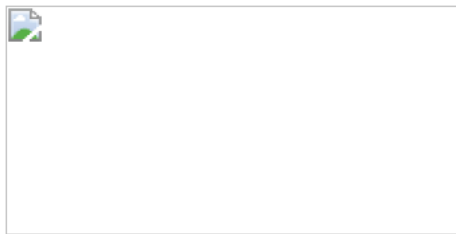
From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:25 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

 1 attachment (15 KB)

Boundaries WMC1.docx;



First Name

WALLACE

Last Name

Cullen

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Sherwood Park

Interim Report Considerations

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What is your current electoral division?

84 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

85 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Communities of interest
- Geographical features
- Effective representation

Submission

Dec 19, 2025

To the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

I am writing as a resident of Strathcona-Sherwood Park to provide feedback on the proposed electoral boundary changes.

I strongly oppose the Commission's proposal to remove Heritage Hills from our constituency and to add Beaumont and parts of Leduc County. These changes do not reflect our community of interest, and I urge you to reconsider based on the following factors:

- **Heritage Hills Belongs Here:** Heritage Hills is an integral part of our community. Families there utilize Sherwood Park schools, recreation centres, and services. Removing this neighbourhood disrupts natural school catchments and splits a community that functions as one unit.
- **Beaumont is a Distinct Community:** While Beaumont is a vibrant community, its economic and social ties are to Leduc and Edmonton, not Sherwood Park. Furthermore, Strathcona County is a Specialized Municipality with a unique service delivery model that differs significantly from the City of Beaumont. Merging them forces one MLA to represent two incompatible municipal frameworks.
- **Population Targets Will Be Met Naturally:** Our constituency is currently sitting at approximately 51,000 residents, which is within the legal variance. With the rapid growth occurring in Ardrossan and Hillshire, we are projected to reach the provincial target of 55,000 naturally without requiring major boundary shifts.
- **Economic and Commuter Patterns:** Our riding is tied together by the Industrial Heartland and Refinery Row. In contrast, Beaumont's transportation corridors and commuter flows point toward Leduc and Edmonton.

Recommendation: Please abandon the proposal to attach Beaumont and remove Heritage Hills. If the Commission determines that adding population is strictly necessary, I submit that Tofield is a much more logical addition. Residents of Tofield already commute to Sherwood Park for work, shopping and services, creating a genuine community of interest that does not exist with Beaumont. Please keep our boundaries stable and allow our natural growth to meet your targets.

Sincerely,

Wallace Cullen

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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- [Boundaries-WMC1.docx](#)

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Interim Report Submission from Barbara Baer Pillay

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:25 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Barbara

Last Name

Baer Pillay

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

33 - Edmonton-Gold Bar

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

Proposed electoral boundaries as a whole

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Effective representation
- Projected growth

Submission

Submission to the Alberta Electoral Commission 2025, December 18

Good Day. My name is Barbara Baer Pillay and I reside in the riding of Edmonton-Gold Bar. My family and I have lived in this riding since 1989. From 1979 to 1989 we lived in three different places in Alberta, all of which were different and therefore had different needs and attributes. I was a resident of a small city, a medium sized town and finally I lived and worked on Indigenous Reserve Land; all north of Edmonton. When I returned to Edmonton, the city of my birth and childhood, I ended up living once again in the riding of Edmonton-Gold Bar though this time I was old enough to vote. I have always been interested in geography and how it shapes our lives, and politics and how it shapes us as well.

Our system of government stands on the pillar of one person, one vote and the ideal is that each MLA represents the interests of similarly populated areas in number and in interests. That is an ideal that is hard to match but after reviewing the proposed electoral map, I must commend you on sticking to that ideal as much as possible while also understanding that urban interests and issues are different than rural interests and issues as I can attest to through my lived experience. Also, I appreciate that the commission has noted the rapid growth in the two main urban areas, a growth that will likely continue and have a great deal of effect on their areas for at least the next ten years. I don't need to remind you that the decisions that the Legislature makes today bind us for a decade so again I commend you in increasing the number of seats in Calgary and Edmonton by one; though I would argue that it may be more effective to increase the seats in the two main urban areas by two each, to keep in line with the eventual actual population of these two urban areas.

I would also like to thank you for not expanding on the rural/urban or hybrid ridings as they are called, as I would definitely point out that in a hybrid setting, the many more urban votes would effectively quash the much fewer rural votes so that their specific issues will be of much less concern to the MLA as he/she owes electoral success to the urban, not rural voters! Spending most of my life in Edmonton with some 10 years of rural experience, I can attest that some main concerns of we rural folk were the roads, highways in our area and the distances travelled to secure appropriate medical care. These would not be anywhere on the list of priorities of an urban voter.

Now as an urban voter in Gold Bar – in what could be called the inner circle of Edmonton, our concerns can also be transportation related but not around highways, though we do like well -maintained highways as well but cities have to have transportation systems that can move a lot of people quickly, efficiently and safely, ie public transit, in addition to appropriate infrastructure for cars and heavy transport trucks. All of this infrastructure is expensive as inner circle

Edmonton is dealing with new construction for multi-family dwellings so that we don't keep tearing up our agricultural land for new subdivisions that will require the building of new services, new roads etc. Infill construction is a great idea but it has its own issues like gentrifying the neighbourhoods in which it is taking place so that they are eventually, no longer an affordable option for home ownership. This is not an issue in mainly rural areas. But it is a matter in question in our Gold Bar riding because of parts of the riding have been developed for 70 to 80 years and more, now. Besides some concerns about gentrification, I wonder about the lifespan of our underground infrastructure like sewers and water pipes etc. While the outer circles of the cities have brand new infrastructure under their homes, the inner circles may be dealing with the complete opposite problem. I see that Edmonton's inner circle is actually losing a riding with a few areas being lumped together. Being an Edmonton life-timer and my father before me, I know a bit about the older communities and again, I wonder how effectively one MLA can represent the concerns of McCauley and Glenora – two districts on opposite ends of the economic track. Will McCauley lose out to high-income Glenora just like rural would lose out to urban concerns?

These are just a few of my thoughts regarding the conclusions of your hard work so far. I thank you for your commitment to getting the electoral boundaries 'right' as truly, having fair representation is the basis of our democracy and our trust in the system. No one wants to lose their voice because of where they live.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Baer Pillay

Resident of Edmonton Gold Bar

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Interim Report Submission from Heather Johnson

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:24 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Heather

Last Name

Johnson

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Foothills county

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What is your current electoral division?

12 - Calgary-Foothills

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

24B - Okotoks-Diamond Valley

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Naming of electoral boundaries

Submission

I wish to oppose the second option which removes Diamond Valley and adds a chunk of SW calgary . The concern is it may diminish the rural representation in our constituency. There was a strong mandate in foothills county municipal election to preserve the rural aspects of this area and I think the current boundaries (or similar) is best suited to represent the will of the residents.

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Joseph Schow

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:24 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Joseph

Last Name

Schow

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Cardston

Interim Report Considerations

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What is your current electoral division?

54 - Cardston-Siksika

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

56 - Cardston-Taber-Warner

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Southern Alberta concerns

- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Communities of interest
- Effective representation

Submission

To the Members of the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

I am writing as a southern Alberta resident to share my views on how electoral boundaries in the region might best be drawn to support effective representation. In my view, greater weight should be given to shared regional interests and lived connections than to existing municipal boundaries. An electoral district that brings together portions of Lethbridge with the Crowsnest Pass, Waterton Lakes National Park, and the communities of Cardston, Magrath, Raymond and Stirling would meaningfully reflect the realities of life in southern Alberta and the intent of the Electoral Boundaries Commission Act.

Section 14 of the Act directs the Commission to pursue effective representation and permits consideration of communities of interest—economic, social, and regional—as well as geography, including natural features and patterns of human movement (s.14(2)(a) and (c)). Taken together, these factors point clearly to the existence of a cohesive regional community across southern Alberta that extends beyond municipal boundaries.

Social and family relationships in this part of the province are highly interconnected. It is common for families to have members living in several different southern Alberta communities, often moving between them over time for work, education or family reasons. Many residents grow up in smaller towns and later settle in Lethbridge, while remaining closely tied to relatives, faith congregations and community organizations throughout the region. These longstanding connections form a shared social network that aligns with the Act's recognition of social and regional communities of interest.

Economic activity further binds the region together. Lethbridge serves as the principal centre for employment, healthcare, post-secondary education and specialized services for much of southern Alberta. Residents of Cardston, Raymond, Magrath, Stirling, and nearby rural areas regularly commute to Lethbridge while continuing to live and participate in community life elsewhere. This pattern of daily movement and economic reliance reflects a unified regional economy contemplated under section 14(2)(a).

Education is another important point of connection. The University of Lethbridge and Lethbridge Polytechnic draw students from communities across southern Alberta, creating shared educational and social experiences that extend well beyond city limits. These institutions function as regional hubs, reinforcing long-term ties among students, families and communities throughout the area.

Cultural and faith traditions also play a significant role in shaping regional identity. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has deep historical roots and an active presence in Cardston, Raymond, Magrath, Stirling and

Lethbridge. This shared heritage has contributed to strong patterns of cooperation, volunteer service and civic participation across municipal boundaries - further reinforcing a sense of common regional belonging.

Geography and shared use of the landscape support this regional perspective. Waterton Lakes National Park and the Crowsnest Pass are central to the recreational, cultural and historical life of residents throughout southern Alberta. These areas are widely used by families, schools and community groups from across the region, reflecting shared patterns of travel and activity consistent with section 14(2)(c) of the Act.

The Electoral Boundaries Commission Act does not require districts to align strictly with municipal borders. Instead, it grants the Commission flexibility to balance population equality with communities of interest and geographic realities in order to achieve effective representation (s.14(1) and s.14(2)). In southern Alberta, an electoral district designed around regional connections and shared daily experience would better reflect this purpose than one drawn primarily along municipal lines.

I respectfully encourage the Commission to consider this regional approach when evaluating southern Alberta boundaries, recognizing the shared interests, relationships and identity that link these communities together.

Thank you for your time and for the careful work you undertake on behalf of Albertans.

Sincerely,

Joseph Schow

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Submission and supporting materials regarding Northern Alberta electoral boundaries

From Bonnyville Cold Lake St. Paul [REDACTED]
Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:20 PM
To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

 3 attachments (14 MB)

Electoral Boundary Proposal for Bonnyville Cold Lake St. Paul from MLA Cyr.pdf;
Northern Alberta Electoral Boundaries submission (Final Dec 18 1600).pdf; Preserving Effective Representation in Northern Alberta Dec 2025 combined.pdf;

Dear Members of the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

I am writing to forward a letter from Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul MLA Scott Cyr for your consideration, along with the accompanying background materials referenced in that correspondence.

These documents have already been submitted through the Commission's online portal. They are also being sent by email, attached here, simply to ensure nothing was lost or disrupted due to a technical or electronic issue.

The attached materials include:

- MLA Cyr's current letter responding to the Commission's interim report
- His earlier submission regarding Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul, included again for ease of reference
- A joint submission from northern MLAs concerning the preservation of effective representation in Northern Alberta, as referenced in the letter

These materials are provided to ensure the Commission has the full context and supporting documentation related to the points raised.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if anything further is required.

Kind regards,



Philip Schienbein
Constituency Assistant for
MLA Scott Cyr - Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul



Electoral Boundary Proposal for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul

Scott Cyr, MLA

Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul

Submitted to the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission

May 22, 2025

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1. Introduction

This proposal is submitted in accordance with the mandate of the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission to ensure effective and fair representation for all Albertans. As the elected Member of the Legislative Assembly for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul, I am requesting that the western boundary of the constituency be redrawn to follow exactly the boundaries of the Municipal District of Bonnyville No. 87 and the County of St. Paul No. 19, including I.D. 349 (Cold Lake Air Weapons Range).

These changes have been presented to Glenn van Dijken, MLA for Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock, whose electoral district would be affected by the proposed adjustment, and he has been receptive to the potential changes.

2. Current Representation Challenges

Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul is currently serving an excessive population. Based on the 2021 census data, and excluding on-reserve First Nations populations, the total population is at least 61,829—well above the 58,504 upper limit derived from the 2017 electoral division average (46,803 with a 25% variance).

If we factor in off-reserve populations living provincially and continued migration to the area, the figure likely exceeds 70,000, creating an imbalance in representative access and effectiveness.

3. Population Data and Underrepresentation

The Electoral Boundaries Commission Act permits a population variance of ±25% from the provincial average population per constituency, which was established as 46,803 during the 2017 redistribution. This allows for a minimum of 35,102 and a maximum of 58,504 residents per electoral district.

The Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul constituency, as currently drawn, exceeds this upper limit significantly. Based on 2021 Statistics Canada data, the combined population of the Municipal District of Bonnyville, the City of Cold Lake, the Town of Bonnyville, the County of St. Paul, the Towns of Elk Point and St. Paul, and the various Metis settlements and First Nations (excluding on-reserve populations) totals approximately 61,829.

This figure is already 3,325 residents over the recommended limit. If more recent population increases are considered—based on continued economic growth, housing development, and school enrollments—our best estimate places the actual figure closer to 66,000 to 68,000 today. Including the on-reserve populations and federally excluded shadow population (discussed below), the actual service burden on this constituency could exceed 75,000 people.

To illustrate the breakdown more clearly:

| Jurisdiction | 2021 Population (census) |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| City of Cold Lake | ~16,302 |
| Town of Bonnyville | ~6,404 |
| MD of Bonnyville (excluding Cold Lake) | ~12,847 |
| County of St. Paul No. 19 | ~6,306 |
| Town of St. Paul | ~5,863 |
| Town of Elk Point | ~1,400 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Village of Glendon | ~516 |
| Fishing Lake Métis Settlement | ~551 |
| Elizabeth Métis Settlement | ~594 |
| Kehewin First Nation (on-reserve only) | ~1,183 |
| Frog Lake First Nation (on-reserve only) | ~1,850 |
| Cold Lake First Nations (on-reserve only) | ~1,322 |
| Saddle Lake First Nations (on-reserve only) | ~6,691 |
| Subtotal (excluding off-reserve) | ~61,829 |

This does not include the off-reserve populations of Cold Lake First Nations, Kehewin, and Saddle Lake Cree Nation, which could collectively add thousands more to the service demands of the local MLA.

The challenge here is not just statistical—it's practical. An MLA serving a population that far exceeds the legislated limits cannot effectively engage, advocate, or respond to constituents in a timely or personal manner. Constituency offices become overwhelmed, and the quality of democratic engagement suffers. With the added administrative and community demands placed on MLAs in rural constituencies—where services are farther apart and local governance often involves a higher number of distinct municipalities and First Nations—overrepresentation hits especially hard.

This overpopulation is not a temporary or transitional issue—it is systemic and projected to grow further. Without adjustment, Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul will remain among the most overpopulated constituencies in the province and will continue to violate both the letter and spirit of Alberta's representation laws.

4. Shadow Population Impact

Our constituency experiences a significant and ongoing impact from the shadow population, driven by our thriving oil and gas sector. Many skilled workers reside in the region temporarily while retaining homes elsewhere.

The shadow population is composed primarily of rotational workers, contract staff, and temporary employees who are attracted to the region by major oil sands, thermal, and gas extraction projects as well as infrastructure construction. These individuals often work fly-in/fly-out or drive-in/drive-out shifts and do not permanently relocate their families to the area, but they nonetheless require and consume local infrastructure, services, and community support.

Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul is uniquely positioned as a regional employment hub for northeastern Alberta. It contains a concentration of industrial activity that draws non-resident labour from across the province and country, particularly during project ramp-ups. Despite their temporary residence, these individuals impact local housing, transportation, healthcare, policing, emergency response, and recreational infrastructure.

A report prepared for the Northern Alberta Development Council (*Shadow Populations in Northern Alberta*, pages 13–14)¹ estimates that the Cold Lake region serves a population 29.5% higher than reported by federal census data. Municipal Affairs permits shadow populations to be counted in municipal censuses, but federal statistics do not account for them.

This discrepancy in population reporting significantly underrepresents the true service burden and democratic demand placed on the local MLA. While I understand the Commission is bound by federal numbers, it is essential to acknowledge that the population we serve in practice is vastly greater than the data suggests. This has real implications for the MLA's ability to provide effective representation.

5. Projected Population Influx – 4 Wing Cold Lake

The federal government's F-35 program will soon be hosted at 4 Wing Cold Lake. Based on analogous U.S. deployments scaled to Canada's smaller but concentrated base strategy, the anticipated population increases are significant:

| Category | Estimated Numbers |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Regular Military Personnel | 1,500–2,000 |
| Construction Staff (temp.) | 300–500 |
| Technical Contractors | 150–250 |
| Civilian Support Staff | 100–200 |
| Total Additions | 2,050–2,950 |

These numbers do not include dependents. Factoring in families, the estimated population increase could reach between 6,000 and 9,000 individuals over the coming years.

¹ <https://www.nadc.ca/Docs/Shadow-Populations.pdf>

6. Economic Anchors and Future Growth

The Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul constituency is supported by a robust and diverse economic base, centered on two major pillars: agriculture and the energy sector. Together, they underpin the region's demographic stability and forecasted growth, making this area unique among rural Alberta constituencies.

The agricultural sector is deeply entrenched in the local economy, with both large-scale commercial operations and family-run farms producing grain, canola, cattle, and other livestock. These operations support a substantial network of supply-chain businesses including machinery sales and maintenance, input suppliers, transport companies, and agri-services. The dependable nature of agricultural employment provides year-round economic stability and fosters long-term residency in the region.

The energy sector—particularly oil and gas—remains the region's largest growth driver. Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul is home to some of Alberta's most strategic thermal oil operations and SAGD (steam-assisted gravity drainage) facilities, including projects run by Imperial Oil, Cenovus, CNRL, Osum, and Husky. These developments continue to attract significant private investment and are forecast to grow production in the next decade.

For example:

- Imperial Oil's Cold Lake Expansion Project proposes to increase production through in-situ solvent-assisted SAGD technology.
- Cenovus' Christina Lake Project and CNRL's Wolf Lake expansion are expected to increase regional employment and economic activity substantially.
- Husky's Tucker Thermal Project and Osum's Orion site have ongoing drilling and development phases that project continued worker influx through 2035.

The direct employment created by these projects is complemented by indirect jobs in construction, transport, logistics, hospitality, retail, and regional services. Economic multipliers from oil and gas wages fuel a local economy that supports a broad range of secondary businesses.

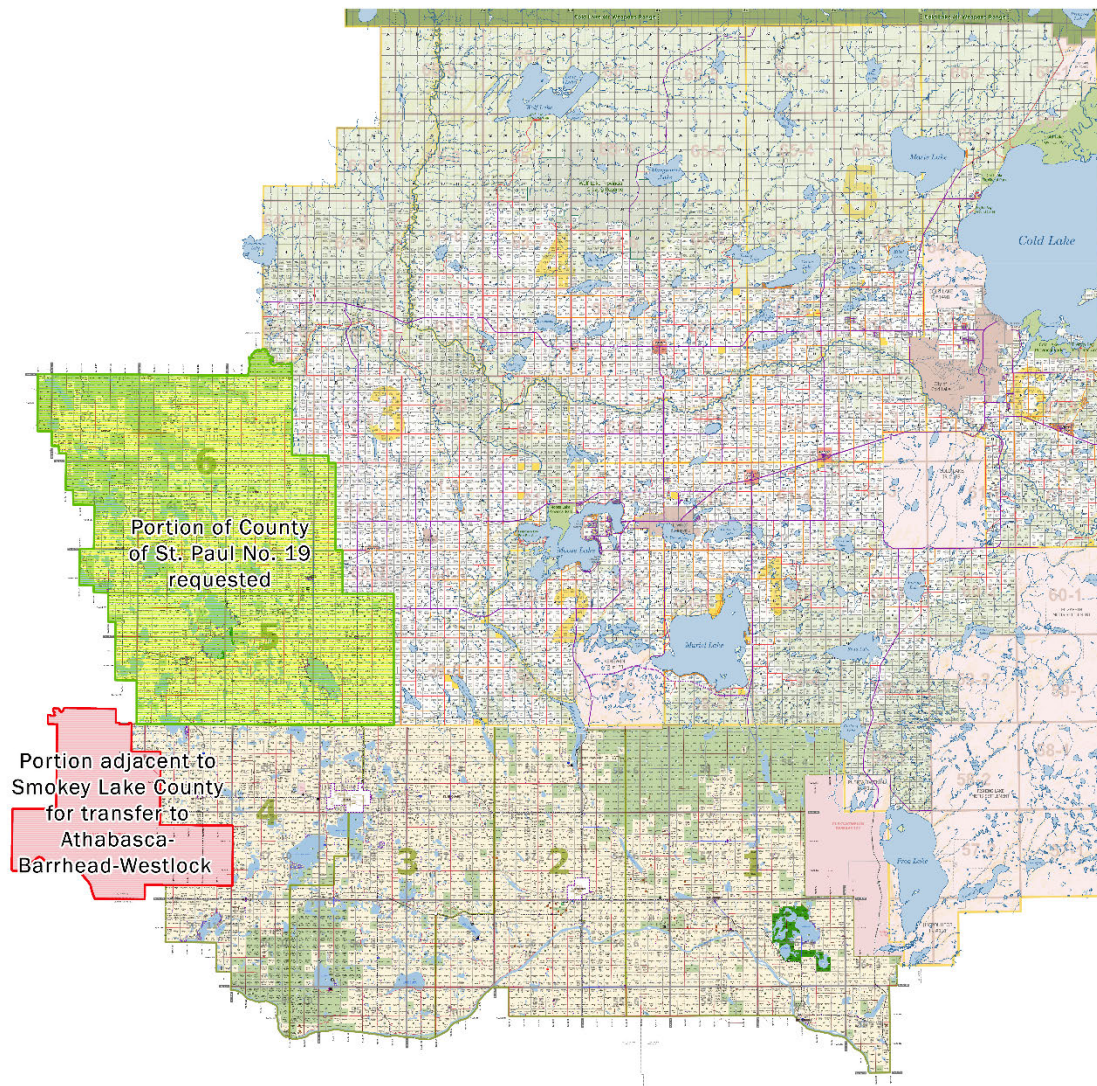
In addition, the province and private sector are actively investing in transportation, broadband, housing, and workforce training infrastructure to support and sustain this growth. The Cold Lake Regional Utility Services Commission and Bonnyville Regional Water Services Commission have undertaken major capital projects to meet increased demand for potable water and wastewater capacity.

All these factors contribute to steady in-migration from across Alberta and Canada, adding to the resident and shadow population alike. The long-term economic outlook for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul is therefore one of sustained growth, not contraction. This contradicts any assumption that the region is rural and stagnant; on the contrary, it is rural and thriving.

Failure to recognize the scale and permanency of this growth—alongside the realities of the shadow population—leads to underrepresentation of tens of thousands of Albertans. The

economic dynamism of this constituency must be accounted for when establishing boundaries that will shape representation for the next decade.

7. Proposed Boundary Changes



The above image is focused on the area of the proposed changes and does not show the northern part of the constituency, I.D. 349 which is part of both the current Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul constituency and the MD of Bonnyville and should remain so.

I am requesting the Commission adjust the western boundary of Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul to follow the full legal boundaries of:

- The Municipal District of Bonnyville No. 87 including its I.D. 349 (Cold Lake Air Weapons Range)
- The County of St. Paul No. 19

This realignment would:

- Transfer Saddle Lake Cree Nation from Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul and place it within Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock
- Reintegrate the northwestern portion of the County of St. Paul into Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul (currently part of Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock)

This change would reduce the constituency population by 6,691 (via the removal of Saddle Lake) and increase it slightly (by approx. 500–600) via the return of small communities including Mallaig (pop. ~210), Ashmont, McCrae, Boyne Lake, St. Vincent, Abilene, and Owlseye. The new total would be approximately 55,729—within the legal threshold for the moment.

Municipal and Electoral Clarity

The proposed boundaries would align electoral districts with municipal boundaries, eliminating confusion among residents. In the last election, residents in the northwestern portion of the County of St. Paul were unsure which constituency they belonged to.

The northwestern portion of the County of St. Paul naturally clusters with the MD of Bonnyville and the remainder of the County of St. Paul in terms of geography, service access, and economic ties. The current constituency boundaries do not follow any coherent geographical, cultural, or political rationale.

This adjustment was presented to MLA Glenn van Dijken, whose constituency would pass the northwestern portion of the County of St. Paul to Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul, and he has been receptive.

Saddle Lake Cree Nation and Representation

The scale of our overall population means that neither Saddle Lake residents nor the rest of the constituency are being adequately represented.

Demographically, Saddle Lake contributes 6,691 people to the current constituency population. This is over 10% of the total, and when added to the already high base population pushes Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul well past the legal population ceiling.

By transferring Saddle Lake to Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock, the population variance would be reduced from an overage to within the legislated limit. This adjustment not only enhances fairness but also enables more localized representation for Saddle Lake itself.

Saddle Lake residents vote on-reserve and do not experience the same polling confusion seen in the northwestern part of the county. Including them in a less overpopulated neighbouring constituency would allow for more equitable representation for all concerned.

This adjustment was presented to MLA Glenn van Dijken, who would receive Saddle Lake within Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock, and he has been receptive.

8. Conclusion and Request

To ensure fair representation and reduce systemic overpopulation in Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul, I respectfully request the Commission:

- Realign the constituency boundary to match the MD of Bonnyville and it's I.D. 349 and County of St. Paul precisely
- Transfer Saddle Lake Cree Nation to Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock
- Reinstate the northwestern portion of the County of St. Paul from Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock

These changes would restore demographic balance, enhance service alignment, and ensure communities are represented coherently and effectively. Thank you for your work and dedication to democratic fairness.

Sincerely,
Scott Cyr, MLA
Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul

Dec 18, 16:00

Proposal Regarding Changes to Alberta Electoral Boundaries in Northern Alberta

Introduction

This document presents a set of proposals responding to the interim report of the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission. The signatories express concern about the planned reduction of electoral districts in Northern Alberta, arguing that such changes would undermine effective representation for its citizens and violate key considerations outlined by the Commission, prior commissions and the courts.

Population Rules and Special Cases

The population of any proposed electoral division must not exceed 25% above or below the average population of all districts. Exceptionally, up to four divisions may have populations up to 50% below the average if they meet at least three of five criteria (e.g., large area, distance from Edmonton, absence of large towns, presence of Indigenous communities, boundary with the province).

Concerns with the Interim Report

The signatories argue that reducing the number of Northern Alberta electoral districts would harm effective representation, especially given the region's unique characteristics:

- Economic Importance: Northern Alberta is the source of much of Alberta's oil and gas wealth.
- Population Dynamics: The region has a significant 'shadow population' (workers who do not reside full-time), a high proportion of eligible voters, and remote indigenous reserves and Metis Settlements.
- Geographical Challenges: Very large distances and limited transportation and communication infrastructure make effective representation difficult. Northern Alberta contains about two thirds of Alberta's land mass and about one tenth of its population.

The signatories of this proposal believe that their recommendations will ensure effective representation for the citizens of the electoral districts of Northern Alberta.

A key aspect is maintaining the existence of the Lesser Slave Lake electoral district, which helps prevent Northern Alberta from losing too many electoral districts — a loss that would dramatically undermine effective representation for its citizens and will have profound

long-term effects on Alberta's polity. Past Electoral Boundary Commissions have found that not having a Lesser Slave Lake electoral district prevents having effective representation across roughly 66% of geographic Alberta which makes up the nine electoral districts of Northern Alberta.

Northern Alberta, while less populated than other regions, is a major contributor to Alberta's wealth, especially through oil and gas production in areas like the oil sands, the Montney field, and the new Clearwater resource near Lesser Slave Lake.

When the Commission proposed removing the Lesser Slave Lake electoral district, it quickly became clear that this would create electoral districts unable to meet the standards for effective representation, particularly regarding access to communication and transportation.

The Boundary Commission must consider factors such as population density and growth rate, but these can be misleading if not viewed alongside other important elements. For example, Northern Alberta has a significant "shadow population"—people who work there but do not live full-time in the region.

Additionally, a disproportionately high number of adults in Northern Alberta are eligible voters, unlike some other areas where the population has fewer adults proportionately and many adults are not citizens and cannot vote. This means that an electoral district in Northern Alberta may have fewer residents than an electoral district in Calgary or Edmonton, but more actual voters and voter turnout.

The signatories argue that the duty of effective representation is greater for citizens and voters than for those who are not yet eligible to vote. Therefore, the responsibilities of a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA) should consider, if not prioritize, the eligible voting population.

Also, Northern Alberta has all of Alberta's remote indigenous reserves and Metis settlements. Indigenous communities in other parts of Alberta are all closer to major population centers than those that exist in Northern Alberta. The effective representation needs of remote indigenous and Metis communities are more complex than those of similar communities located closer to Alberta's major urban centres.

Other factors the Commission should consider include the unique communities of interest in rural Northern Alberta. Within a single electoral district, residents may have very different lifestyles and needs, unlike in urban, suburban or exurban areas where experiences are more similar. Communities of interest should be defined not just by municipal boundaries, but by where people send their children to school, which courthouses and hospitals they use, and where they access government services.

In rural Northern Alberta, these experiences differ greatly from those in the larger cities and southern and central Alberta. It is common for residents of rural Alberta to drive at least an hour to reach essential services, and in some electoral districts, such as the two Fort McMurray electoral districts, Peace River, and Lesser Slave Lake, travel times can be several hours long.

Finally, the Commission must pay close attention to the availability of communication and transportation. In rural Northern Alberta, communication options are limited—there are only two daily newspapers left (mostly online), a few radio stations that have news services, and many communities lack even a weekly newspaper. Face-to-face contact with constituents is one of the critical ways to communicate and in those regions that is made challenging due to transportation difficulties. These realities make effective representation in the north much more complex and must be considered in any boundary changes.

Proposed Boundary Adjustments

To ensure the Boundary Commission can develop a model where electoral districts fall within plus or minus 25% of the average population of 54,900, we have proposed changes based on the existing 2017 boundaries rather than those suggested in the interim report.

The interim report's proposed boundaries were rejected because removing the Lesser Slave Lake electoral district resulted in a variety of problems to effective representation in the north. For example, the proposed Peace River electoral district is wildly impractical. The new configuration would have forced the MLA to travel more than two hours on poor roads outside their own electoral district, just to reach a major population center in their electoral district - Wabasca Big Stone Cree Reserve and its associated communities.

We believe as a matter of principle that a requirement of a well drawn electoral district should be that its representative should not have to leave the electoral district to access another part of the same district.

Our proposal results in 7 electoral districts that are within plus or minus 25% of the 54,900 mean population and 2 electoral districts that use the section 15 (2) exemption. However, it should be noted that the two 15(2) districts have been drawn to have populations over 30,000.

Lesser Slave Lake Electoral district: (New population 31,300)

Our proposal recommends starting with the current boundaries of the Lesser Slave Lake electoral district and expanding it to include:

- The remaining population of Big Lakes County and the County of Lesser Slave River
- A portion of Woodlands County, specifically the area that borders the Athabasca River and includes the village of Fort Assiniboine

This expanded electoral district would have a population of approximately 30,000 people, which brings it above the 50% threshold for median electoral district size—a threshold it previously did not meet.

With these changes, the Lesser Slave Lake electoral district would consolidate the following areas:

- All of Northern Sunrise County and the Municipal District (MD) of Opportunity
- Nearly all of Big Lakes County and the entire MD of Lesser Slave River
- The towns of Swan Hills and Fort Assiniboine

The electoral district would also encompass many Indian reserves and Métis settlements, maintaining the essential characteristics of the historic Lesser Slave Lake electoral district. Importantly, the proposed electoral district meets several criteria outlined in Section 15(2) of the Electoral Boundaries Commission Act:

- It is geographically large -15(2)a
- Its closest point (Fort Assiniboine) is about 160 kilometers from the Edmonton Legislature by highway -15(2)b.
- It contains no town with a population over 8,000 – 15(2)c
- It includes multiple Indian reserves and Métis settlements – 15(2)d

Although the electoral district does not border another province, these adjustments help create a sustainable electoral district.

Additionally, these changes enable further adjustments to neighboring electoral districts to better serve the region's representation needs.

Peace River and Central Peace-Notley Electoral districts :

2017 Peace River. (New population 43,000)

Grows by portions of 2017 Central Peace - Notley that is North of the farmed area north Peace River to the Dunvegan Bridge then north of Hwy 2 to the junction of Hwy 684 and then north of Hwy 684 to the Peace River to Peace River electoral district. Town of Fairview remains in Central Peace - Notley. (Approx +500)

Gives up the portion of Peace River electoral district the lands south of Township Road 822 / Harmon Valley Road to Central Peace - Notley (Approx - 500)

2017 Central Peace - Notley (New population 31,750)

Gives up the portions of 2017 Central Peace - Notley that is North of farmed area north the Peace River to the Dunvegan Bridge then north of Hwy 2 to the junction of Hwy 684 and then north of Hwy 684 to the Peace River to Peace River electoral district. Town of Fairview remains in Central Peace - Notley. (Approx -500)

Gets the portion of Peace River electoral district the lands south of Township Road 822 / Harmon Valley Road. (Approx +500)

Get's from Grande Prairie - Wapiti electoral district part of the area east of Hwy 2 and north of Hwy 43. (Approx +1000)

These changes combined would take Central Peace - Notley into roughly 31,700 people, and Central Peace - Notley would then meet the requirements of 15(2)a for size, 15(2)b for distance from the legislature, a 15(2)c in that no town is bigger than 8,000 people, 15(2)d because of reserves, and then it would also include a 15(2)e because it would have a boundary with the province of Alberta.

The loss of those 1,000 people to Grande Prairie -Wapiti would still leave Grande Prairie Wapiti with roughly 50,500 constituents and that's well within the boundary of being within the plus or minus or minus the 54,900 mean.

If the electoral District Commission saw fit, they could reconfigure the boundary between Grande Prairie proper and Grande Prairie - Wapiti to make an equalizing adjustment or to convert both Grande Prairie ridings into hybrids.

Fort McMurray Electoral districts:

Fort McMurray - Wood Buffalo (New population 47,700)

Fort McMurray- Lac La Biche (New population 44,800)

- Adjust boundaries between Fort McMurray-Wood Buffalo and Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche to balance populations and improve clarity.
- Transfer Buffalo Lake and Kikino Métis settlements, and White Fish Lake Reserve to Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock.

We recommend making minor adjustments to the boundaries between Fort McMurray - Wood Buffalo and Fort McMurray - Lac La Biche. Specifically, this would involve moving four neighborhoods (Cornerbrook, Woodland, Castle Ridge and Timberline) from Fort McMurray - Wood Buffalo into Fort McMurray - Lac La Biche within the urban area of Fort McMurray north of the Athabasca River. This change would decrease the population of Fort McMurray - Wood Buffalo by 2,800 and increase the population of Fort McMurray - Lac La Biche by the same amount, resulting in a clearer and more logical division between the two electoral districts.

Reducing the size of Fort McMurray - Wood Buffalo is appropriate because its population is primarily concentrated around Fort McMurray, but the electoral district also includes Fort Mackay and the very remote community of Fort Chipewyan. Access to Fort Chipewyan is extremely limited, often requiring charter flights or travel on an ice road that is only available for a few months each year. With a population of approximately 47,700, Fort McMurray Wood Buffalo would be better positioned to provide equitable and effective representation, especially given the challenges of serving remote and transient populations, including those living in work camps near resource extraction sites.

To balance these changes, we propose that Fort McMurray - Lac La Biche transfer the Buffalo Lake and Kikino Métis settlements, as well as the White Fish Lake Reserve, to the electoral district of Athabasca - Barrhead - Westlock. This adjustment would shift about

2,100 people, offsetting the population that Athabasca - Barrhead - Westlock previously transferred north to Lesser Slave Lake. This makes sense because Buffalo Lake, Kikino, and White Fish Lake Reserve are all located in Smoky Lake County, which is mostly within Athabasca - Barrhead - Westlock electoral district.

As a result, Fort McMurray - Lac La Biche would be composed almost entirely of areas within the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo and Lac La Biche County, including the Heart Lake and Beaver Lake Reserves.

Bonnyville-Cold Lake (New population 53,200) and Athabasca-Barrhead-Westlock (New population 50,500):

In his initial presentations to the Boundaries Commission, MLA Scott Cyr proposed moving the entire County of St. Paul into his electoral district.

However, we believe this change would bring MLA Cyr's electoral district population too close to the provincial average, which may not be ideal. One important factor the Commission should consider, as outlined in Section 14(a) is the rate of population growth.

There are strong indications that the Cold Lake area will experience significant growth in the coming decade, largely due to planned changes at CFB Cold Lake, including the new Canadian Forces Fighter Jet Program.

We believe the sections of St Paul County should remain in Athabasca - Barrhead - Westlock as should some portion of the Saddle Lake Reserve.

If a rural electoral district is already at or above the average population and is expected to grow further, this could diminish effective representation for the northern region as a whole. Increasing the population of Bonnyville - Cold Lake beyond what is appropriate would reduce the available population for other northern electoral districts, negatively impacting representation in areas such as Athabasca - Barrhead - Westlock, Central Peace - Notley, the two Grande Prairie electoral districts, Lesser Slave Lake, Peace River, and the two Fort McMurray electoral districts.

We believe that the changes we have suggested will lead to a more equitable arrangement and improve representation across the region.

We also believe that by transferring some of the northern and remote populations out of Athabasca - Barrhead - Westlock, this electoral district will shift closer to Edmonton. This adjustment enables the Boundary Commission to make minor changes that allow northern communities located within an hour to an hour and a half of Edmonton or the Legislature to be included in electoral districts that are geographically closer to these areas.

By not adopting MLA Cyr's proposal to add a larger population base to Bonnyville - Cold Lake —though we appreciate his generosity in being willing to take on the population —the Boundary Commission can better balance the needs of the nine northern electoral districts. This approach helps ensure that more than half of Alberta's land area, and a disproportionate share of its economic wealth, are effectively represented.

Our model results in only two special case electoral districts in the north—Central Peace - Notley and Lesser Slave Lake—which have historically held this status. With these changes, the north retains nine electoral districts (excluding West Yellowhead), meaning nine out of Alberta’s 89 electoral districts would represent the majority of the province’s physical area, while the remaining 80 electoral districts would cover the minority of Alberta’s geography.

Importantly, the combined population of these nine northern electoral districts on average would fall within plus or minus 25% of the provincial average. Only two would be considered special cases, and even these would be less exceptional than they have been in the past. Overall, these changes support the Boundary Commission’s strategic direction toward more balanced and effective representation.

Rationale for Hybrid Electoral districts

The signatories support the concept of hybrid electoral districts and want the Electoral Boundaries Commission to create more of them.

Hybrid electoral districts combine urban and rural areas within a single electoral district. We appreciate the Commission’s efforts in its interim report to establish more hybrid electoral districts, including those that extend into the Capital Region and Greater Calgary Metro Region. Creating electoral districts that include both parts of the capital region and the greater Calgary metropolitan area alongside rural communities is a positive step.

We believe that expanding hybrid electoral districts into these urban centers is essential for ensuring effective representation for both northern and rural Alberta. This approach is supported by the same “communities of interest” argument that justifies underpopulated electoral districts in the nine northern electoral districts. Communities of interest should not be defined solely by municipal boundaries or property tax jurisdictions, but rather by where people go to school, work, and access hospitals, courthouses, and government services.

In and around the capital region, residents of places like Sherwood Park, St. Albert, downtown Edmonton, Spruce Grove, Leduc, and Beaumont share similar lived experiences and community of interests. They work in the same areas, go to the same schools, use the same hospitals and courthouses, and access the same government offices. This is not the case in deep northern Alberta and rural Alberta, where communities are more isolated and have different needs.

Recognizing communities of interest based on how people interact with government and access services aligns with the criteria outlined in Section 14b, and should also be considered under Section 14f when planning electoral districts.

Furthermore, since rural Alberta plays a crucial role as an economic driver and as the host for the economic drivers for the province, the Commission should be sensitive to the unique needs of rural communities, ensuring that rural electoral districts are generally

closer to 25% below the average population, while urban districts should be above average due to the relative ease of effective representation in urban areas, suburban areas and exurban areas.

Increased hybrid electoral districts will be needed over time to allow effective representation and an effective voice for Albertans living in rural and remote areas.

Importance of Voter Proportion in Electoral Districts

In addition to our earlier arguments, we urge the Boundary Commission to pay particular attention to Section 14F and other relevant factors.

One key consideration is the proportion of adults who are citizens and eligible voters, compared to those who are not yet citizens and therefore cannot vote. If the Commission focuses solely on total population, without considering the number of eligible voters, it may create situations where, for example, a electoral district in northern Alberta with 45,000 people has 35,000 voters—largely because these rural areas tend to have fewer children. In contrast, a electoral district in Edmonton or Calgary might have 60,000 residents, but a lower number of voters due to a higher proportion of new Canadians, permanent residents, refugees, temporary foreign workers, and international students. These communities often have more children and non-voters than voters.

This observation is not meant to diminish the needs of those who are not eligible to vote, who also deserve and generally have representation. Permanent residents, temporary foreign workers and international students are entitled to respect and support from elected officials, whether out of generosity or in anticipation of future citizenship. However, if citizenship is to have real meaning and value, it should be considered among the factors that shape legislative districts.

Canada has generously extended many rights to newcomers, especially following the Supreme Court's *Singh* Decision in the 1980s, which ensured that almost all Charter rights apply to all residents.

Still, certain rights—such as voting, obtaining a passport, and running for office—are reserved for citizens. If the right to vote is not valued as an “other factor the commission considers appropriate,” the significance of citizenship is diminished. We believe Alberta and Canada are best served when the proportion of citizens and eligible voters in an electoral district is taken into account. While we are not suggesting this should be the sole criterion, we ask the Commission to recognize that, in rural areas where population growth has slowed, adults make up a higher proportion of the population and that the adult population is much more likely to be eligible voters than in urban areas where more newcomers live. This is not to undervalue the contributions of non-citizens, but rather to highlight a factor the Commission should consider.

Attached to this, is the argument about the duty of fair representation to remote indigenous and Metis communities in the North as discussed earlier. An approach to

redistricting that only places value on pure population numbers diminishes the commitment to voters and especially to indigenous and Metis voters and the duty of reconciliation.

Conclusion

The proposed changes aim to balance effective representation across Alberta, particularly in the north, by adjusting boundaries to reflect population, geography, and community interests. The document advocates for a model that maintains two special case electoral districts where necessary and supports the strategic direction of the Boundary Commission towards more hybrid and equitable electoral divisions.

Legislative Framework

Part 2 – Redistribution Rules of the Act sets forth the direction as to how the Commission does its work:

13 The Commission shall divide Alberta into 89 proposed electoral divisions.

14 In determining the area to be included in and in fixing the boundaries of the proposed electoral divisions, the Commission, subject to section

15, shall take into consideration the requirement for effective representation as guaranteed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and in doing so may take into consideration

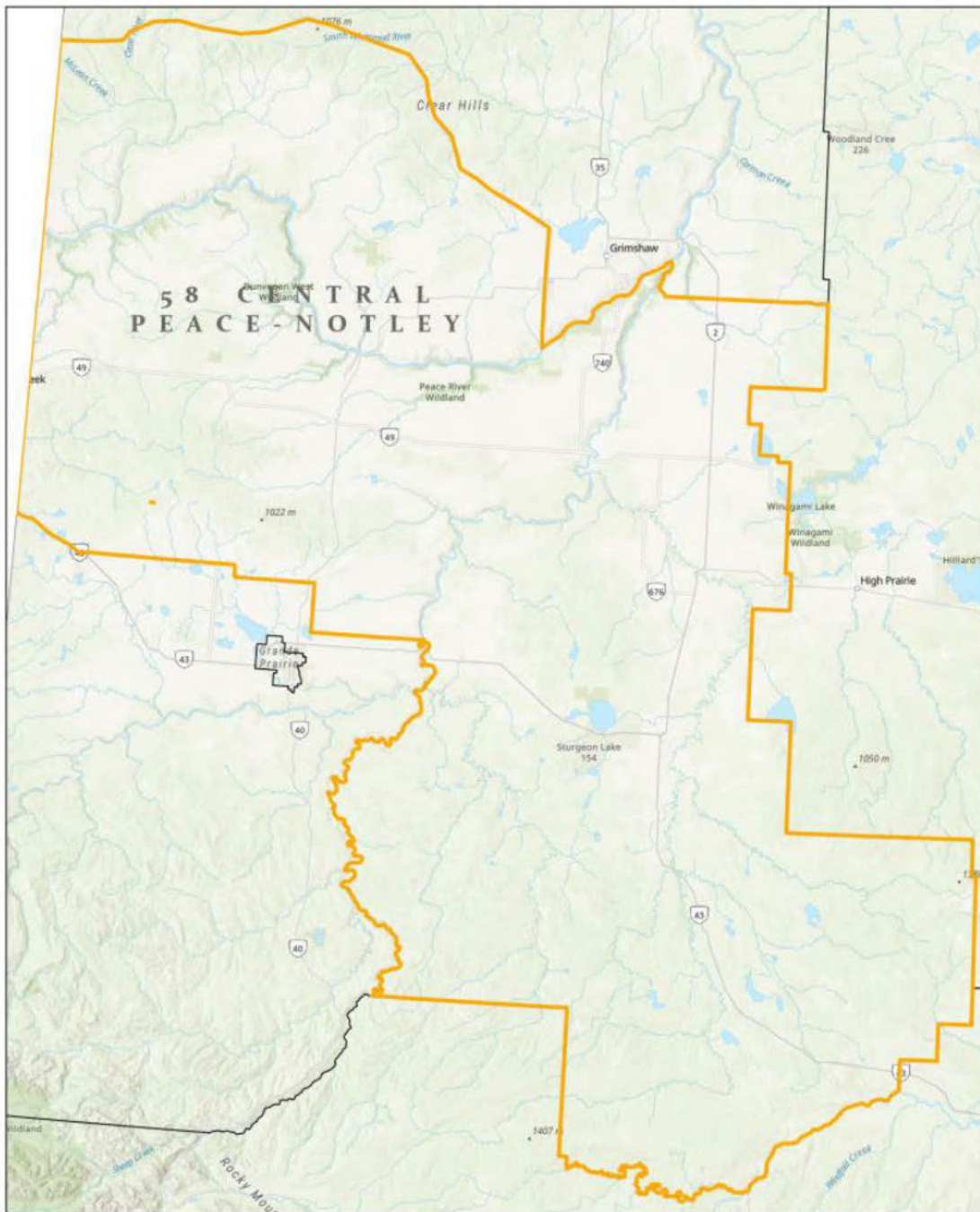
- a. sparsity, density and rate of growth of the population,*
- b. communities of interest, including municipalities, regional and rural communities, Indian reserves and Metis settlements,*
- c. geographical features,*
- d. the availability and means of communication and transportation between various parts of Alberta,*
- e. the desirability of understandable and clear boundaries, and*
- f. any other factors the Commission considers appropriate.*

15(1) The population of a proposed electoral division must not be more than 25% above nor more than 25% below the average population of all the proposed electoral divisions.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), in the case of no more than 4 of the proposed electoral divisions, if the Commission is of the opinion that at least 3 of the following criteria exist in a proposed electoral division, the proposed electoral division may have a population that is as much as 50% below the average population of all the proposed electoral divisions:

- a. the area of the proposed electoral division exceeds 20 000 square kilometres or the total surveyed area of the proposed electoral division exceeds 15 000 square kilometres;*
- b. the distance from the Legislature Building in Edmonton to the nearest boundary of the proposed electoral division by the most direct highway route is more than 150 kilometres;*
- c. there is no town in the proposed electoral division that has a population exceeding 8000 people;*
- d. the area of the proposed electoral division contains an Indian reserve or Metis settlement;*
- e. the proposed electoral division has a portion of its boundary coterminous with a boundary of the Province of Alberta.*

(3) For the purpose of subsection (2)(c), The Municipality of Crowsnest Pass is not a town.



OLD: CENTRAL PEACE-NOTLEY

Old Provincial Electoral District: 55



0 12.5 25 50 KM

Forecast Population: 31,741



NEW: 58 CENTRAL PEACE-NOTLEY

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, CGIAR, USGS



OLD: FORT MCMURRAY-LAC LA BICHE

Old Provincial Electoral District: 60



0 10 20 40 KM

Forecast Population: 44,797



NEW: 65 FORT MCMURRAY-LAC LA BICHE

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, CGIAR, USGS



OLD: FORT MCMURRAY-WOOD BUFFALO

Old Provincial Electoral District: 61



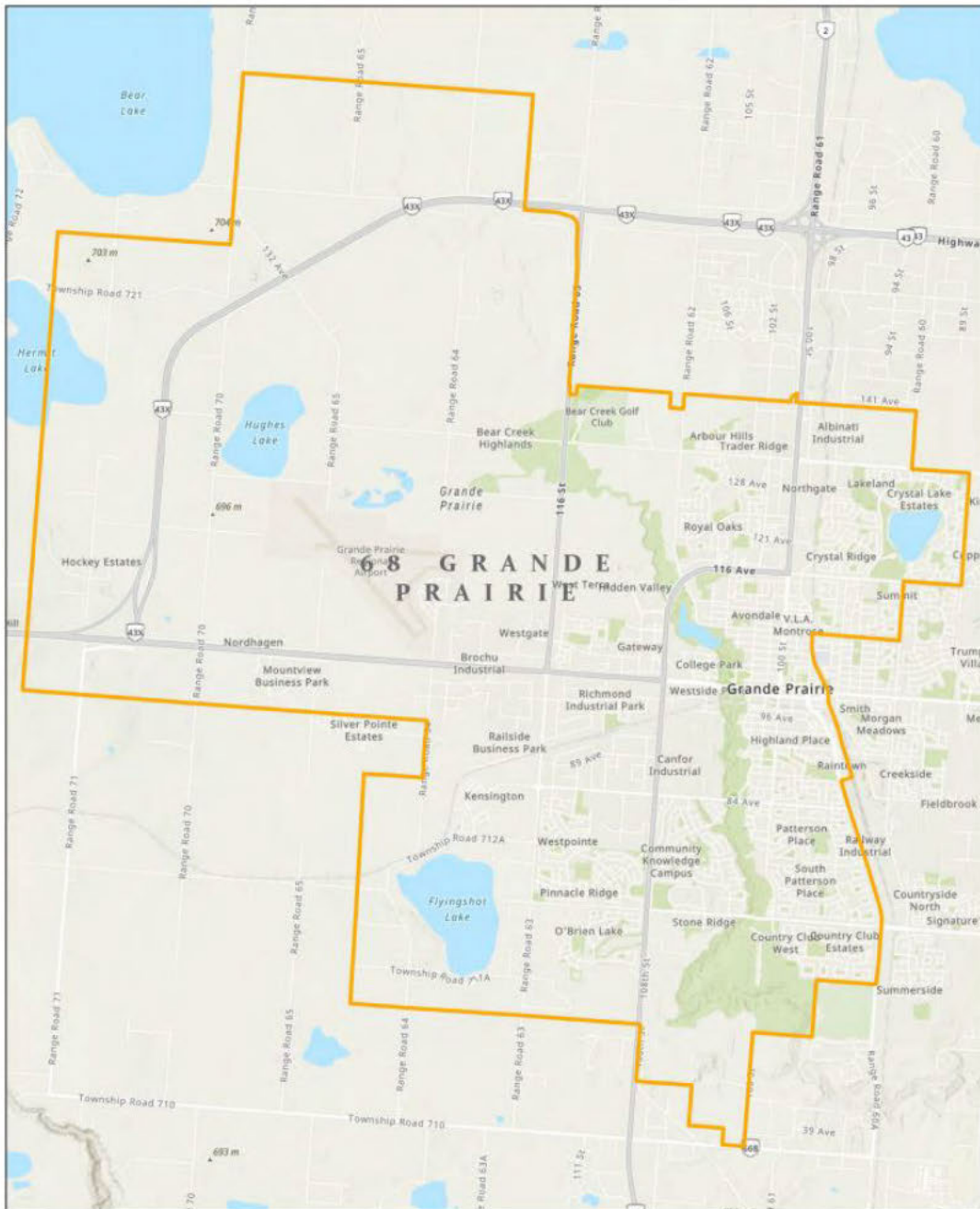
0 15 30 60 KM

Forecast Population: 47,679



NEW: 66 FORT MCMURRAY-WOOD BUFFALO

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, CGIAR, USGS



OLD: GRANDE PRAIRIE

Old Provincial Electoral District: 63



0 0.5 1 2 KM

Forecast Population: 49,741



NEW: 68 GRANDE PRAIRIE

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, FEMA



OLD: GRANDE PRAIRIE-WAPITI

Old Provincial Electoral District: 64



0 5 10 20 KM

Forecast Population: 50,454



NEW: 69 GRANDE PRAIRIE-WAPITI

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, CGIAR, USGS



OLD: LESSER SLAVE LAKE

Old Provincial Electoral District: 70



0 12.5 25 50 KM

Forecast Population: 31,301



NEW: 73 LESSER SLAVE LAKE

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, CGIAR, USGS



OLD: PEACE RIVER

Old Provincial Electoral District: 77



0 15 30 60 KM

Forecast Population: 43,063



NEW: 80 PEACE RIVER

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, CGIAR, USGS



OLD: BONNYVILLE-COLD LAKE-ST. PAUL

Old Provincial Electoral District: 51



0 5 10 20 KM

Forecast Population: 53,204



NEW: 55 BONNYVILLE-COLD LAKE-ST. PAUL

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, CGIAR, USGS



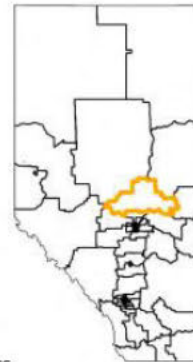
OLD: ATHABASCA-BARRHEAD-WESTLOCK

Old Provincial Electoral District: 49



0 12.5 25 50 KM

Forecast Population: 50,562



NEW: 53 ATHABASCA-BARRHEAD-WESTLOCK

Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community, Esri, CGIAR, USGS



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

December 18, 2025

Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission
#100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, AB
T5G 2Y5

Dear Honourable Justice Dallas K. Miller and Members of the Commission,

At the outset, I would like to note that my previous submission to the Commission is attached again for ease of reference. That submission provides additional background and context regarding Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul and was adopted in its entirety by the constituency. The Commission’s proposed boundaries for Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul closely reflect that submission, and I am pleased to see that the Commission has adopted this approach.

Overall, the Commission’s proposal for Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul is sound and workable, and I support it as presented. There is however one overriding consideration: Northern Albertans feel the region should not lose an additional constituency. The north has already absorbed the loss of the Lac La Biche–St. Paul–Two Hills riding in the 2016-17 Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission report. The loss of yet another northern constituency like Lesser Slave Lake would be extremely difficult for effective representation and would place an unsustainable burden on the remaining northern MLAs.

I fully understand the concerns raised by North Central and Northwestern MLAs, having experienced a similar process when my constituency was reconfigured from Bonnyville–Cold Lake to Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul. I have also attached, for reference, a document, “*Proposal Regarding Changes to Alberta Electoral Boundaries in Northern Alberta*” submitted to the Commission by a group of northern MLAs. The core premise of that proposal, that the Commission should avoid removing another northern constituency, is one that I largely support. The proposal also advances several redistricting propositions, that, if the commission were to consider, could affect the boundaries of the Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul constituency in the commissions current draft. However, for clarity, it is important to note that the proposal contains what appears to be unintentional errors as they relate to my May submission to the Boundary Commission. There are two main concerns.

First, the proposal suggests that my original submission involved adding constituents to Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul. In fact, the proposal advanced would have transferred

[REDACTED]

approximately 6,700 constituents out of this constituency to Athabasca–Barrhead–Westlock. By aligning the western boundary of Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul with the County of St. Paul boundary, the constituency would have taken on only an estimated 500 to 700 additional residents. The net effect would therefore have been a reduction of roughly 6,000 constituents overall, not an increase. According to the Interim Boundary Report to the Speaker, the proposed boundaries in my May submission would reduce the constituency numbers to 55,809 residents, placing it much closer to the provincial average at approximately 1.6 percent above.

Second, while the main proposal does not reflect this change, the maps attached to the proposal show the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range being moved from Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul to Fort McMurray–Lac La Biche. Removing the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range from my constituency would raise serious concerns and should not be advanced. Such a change is not defensible from a communities-of-interest, service, or operational perspective for the following reasons:

- **Exclusive access and services:** All practical access to, and services for, the Air Weapons Range flow from Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul. The only public roads into the range are 897 from 4Wing and the La Corey North Resource Road extending north of Cold Lake, which the MD of Bonnyville paves and maintains year-round (including dedicated winter road crews).

There are no public road links or service infrastructure connecting the range to Fort McMurray–Lac La Biche, underscoring that support for CLAWR is managed entirely through our constituency.

- **Shared Economic & Social Interests:** The municipalities of Cold Lake and the MD of Bonnyville have a significant interest in CLAWR. CLAWR contributes to this regional economy – for example, many oil sands in-situ projects operate on the range (Imperial Oil, CNRL, Cenovus, etc.), drawing workers and contractors from Cold Lake and the MD.

The workers, support services, and business impacts of these projects largely flow to Cold Lake/Bonnyville (where companies have offices and staff). For effective economic representation, the range’s economic activities should remain tied to the constituency where they are managed.

- **Administrative alignment & taxation:** Provincial governance and revenue arrangements for CLAWR have long been tied to the Cold Lake region. In 2012, Alberta formed Improvement District 349 (covering the range) as a result of negotiations with local municipalities, ensuring the City of Cold Lake received a share of oil and gas tax revenues from the range to offset the costs of servicing 4 Wing Cold Lake. In 2021, I.D. 349 was dissolved and the range lands were formally annexed into the MD of Bonnyville, confirming that all local administration and fiscal oversight for this area now resides within the Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul constituency. These steps reflect a deliberate provincial policy to integrate the range with our local governance structures.
- **Historic and community ties:** For over 70 years, the Cold Lake area’s development and identity have been inextricably linked to the Air Weapons Range. The establishment of the Cold Lake air base in the 1950s spurred rapid growth in local communities. The range itself



has no independent civilian community or purpose apart from the base and oil extraction – its workforce, economic benefits, and social impacts are all centered on Cold Lake and surrounding municipalities. Separating CLAWR from the Cold Lake region would ignore these deep historical ties and community-of-interest linkages.

- **Strategic defence integration:** Generally, large military installations in Canada are kept within single ridings along with their supporting communities. For example, at the federal level, the entire CFB Cold Lake (4 Wing and CLAWR) area is contained within one riding, ensuring unified federal representation. The Cold Lake Air Weapons Range and CFB Cold Lake were developed together in the 1950s as an integrated military unit and they now form Canada's largest fighter training complex.

Major defence exercises like Maple Flag are run from CFB Cold Lake over the co-located range, directed by the base's training centre. Keeping the range and the base in the same constituency preserves coherent representation of this unified defence community.

- **Taxation and Revenue Sharing:** Significant industrial activity occurs on CLAWR, mainly from oil and gas operations. The MD of Bonnyville collects property taxes from these operations and, by provincial agreement, redistributes the revenue to local municipalities in the Cold Lake region.

Specifically, the MD transfers portions of the CLAWR tax revenue to the City of Cold Lake, the Town of Bonnyville, and the Village of Glendon, after a small share for administration and road maintenance. This unique revenue-sharing deal (often called the "ID 349 funding model") is vital to the finances of Cold Lake and neighboring communities. It was a hard-won regional solution designed to benefit the Lakeland area. If CLAWR were moved to a different constituency, the MLA for that new constituency would not represent those recipient communities, potentially creating misalignment in priorities.

Keeping the range in Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul ensures the MLA remains directly invested in the proper oversight of this funding model, since all beneficiary municipalities are in the riding.

- **Indigenous Ties:** The CLAWR lands overlap with traditional territories of Indigenous peoples who are based in the Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul constituency. Notably, the Cold Lake First Nations (CLFN) and Frog Lake First Nation have historic connections to the Primrose Lake area.

When CLAWR was established in 1953, Indigenous families were displaced from those trapping and hunting grounds. In recent decades, CLFN pursued settlement agreements for these impacts, and they partner with local governments on environmental stewardship in and around the range. These First Nations and Métis communities (e.g. Elizabeth and Fishing Lake Métis Settlements) reside in Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul. Keeping CLAWR in the constituency means Indigenous stakeholders deal with one consistent representative for both their home communities and their interests on the range.



It respects the historical alliances and understandings built between CLFN and the Cold Lake/Bonnyville municipalities regarding the range's use. Moving the range to a different constituency could marginalize those historical Indigenous perspectives by placing their ancestral lands under an MLA who does not otherwise interact with their communities.

- **Effective representation:** Given that the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range has virtually no residents (officially 0 in 2016, and only 15 in 2021), transferring it to another constituency provides no population advantage. Instead, it would fragment the region and detach the range from its natural community of interest, while burdening another MLA with a distant territory that they cannot readily access or represent.

Such a change would risk undermining coherent and effective representation. By keeping CLAWR within Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul, the Commission would ensure one MLA can continue to responsibly oversee both 4 Wing Cold Lake and its associated range as a unified whole, maintaining clear accountability and community alignment.

- **Local Oversight of Public Safety:** Although CLAWR itself has no permanent residents, safety issues (wildfire risk, environmental hazards, etc.) on the range directly impact nearby communities. The MD of Bonnyville volunteer fire services and the Cold Lake emergency responders are the ones likely on call for incidents in and around CLAWR.

These services fall under the Cold Lake/Bonnyville regional governance. Having one MLA responsible for both the communities and the range provides cohesive advocacy for resources (e.g. firefighting equipment, disaster relief funding) needed to keep the area safe.

In summary, relocating the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range to Fort McMurray–Lac La Biche as shown in one of the maps would not be appropriate, as its only connection to that constituency would be a boundary line. Removing the range would fragment a clearly defined and long-established community of interest, create confusion, and undermine effective representation without providing any population benefit.

For the Commission's information, the City of Cold Lake has also submitted a letter requesting that the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range remain in the same constituency as CFB Cold Lake. That correspondence reflects the City's longstanding operational, economic, and community relationship with both the air base and the range, and it is included immediately following this submission in the same PDF for ease of reference.

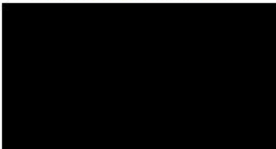
While I am content with the boundaries I previously put forward and remain comfortable with the existing configuration, I also recognize that difficult trade-offs may be required. If preserving a northern constituency ultimately requires Bonnyville–Cold Lake–St. Paul to relinquish a portion of its western boundary, that is a sacrifice that many in the constituency would likely accept. That position is offered in good faith and in recognition that losing another northern constituency would be far more damaging to effective representation across Northern Alberta. Preserving meaningful representation for the north must remain a central objective.



I believe there would also be value in appearing before the Commission again, by videoconference if helpful, to speak directly to these matters. A further opportunity to present would allow for clarification, context, and discussion, particularly as the Commission weighs difficult trade-offs affecting Northern Alberta as a whole.

Thank you again for your careful consideration of these points and for your continued commitment to fair and effective representation across Alberta.

Yours sincerely,



Scott Cyr, MLA

Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission
#100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, AB
T5G 2Y5

Via email: info@abebc.ca

December 19, 2025

Dear Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission:

The City of Cold Lake would like to offer its feedback regarding both Options A and Options B as presented in the Alberta Overview – Option A and Alberta Overview – Option B in the Commission's interim report.

The City of Cold Lake would like to express its support for the boundary of the Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul riding as it is displayed in both options.

The interdependent relationship between the City of Cold Lake, 4 Wing Cold Lake and the Cold Lake Air Weapons Ranged cannot be understated. It is critical that the recently annexed Cold Lake Air Weapons Range (CLAWR) continue to be included in a single riding to assure that all opportunities associated with the upcoming modernization of Canada's fighter jet fleet and the modernization of the CLAWR are captured for the good of Alberta and the greater Cold Lake region.

We should note that the recent annexation of the former I.D. 349 into the M.D. of Bonnyville was the result of a sustainability agreement for the City of Cold Lake, which also includes additional support for other municipalities in our region. The sustainability agreement, made through an order in council, shares property tax revenue with the City and other signatories. Any significant change to this agreement would quickly trigger a sustainability crisis for the City of Cold Lake.

Also of note is that, as the proud home of 4 Wing Cold Lake, roughly one third of the City's population is comprised of men and women stationed at the Royal Canadian Air Force Base, which is located within the City's corporate limits. It is the men and women stationed at this base who access, maintain, operate, and work on the CLAWR. Thus, the inclusion of the CLAWR within the same provincial riding within which both the City and 4 Wing Cold Lake are located continues to be a natural fit.

.../2

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

-2-

Severing the CLAWR from our provincial riding would be worrying from the perspective of both the sustainability of the City of Cold Lake and the efficient and effective representation of 4 Wing Cold Lake's interests provincially.

In summation, it is the City of Cold Lake's position that a number of crucial issues necessitate the continued inclusion of the CLAWR within our provincial riding:

- The CLAWR is accessed from the Cold Lake side, and cannot be accessed in a meaningful way from its west, east, or northern borders
- The people who work on the CLAWR by and large call Cold Lake its home, as they are stationed at 4 Wing Cold Lake
- The CLAWR is managed and operated through 4 Wing Cold Lake, which exists within the City of Cold Lake's corporate limits.
- The CLAWR revenue sharing agreement is critical to the ongoing sustainability of the City of Cold Lake

It is thus our community's opinion that both Option A and Options B, which continue to include the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range within the boundaries of Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul, represent natural boundaries for our provincial representation.

We thank you for your work, and the opportunity to provide our community's feedback.

Sincerely,



Bob Mattice
Mayor

Cc: The Honourable Mickey Amery, Minister of Justice
Mr. Scott Cyr, MLA for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ALBERTA

Gurtej Singh Brar, MLA
Edmonton Ellerslie

December 19, 2025

Dear Members of the Electoral Boundaries Commission,

I am writing as Member of the Legislative Assembly for Edmonton–Ellerslie, representing a highly diverse and densely populated community, I appreciate the opportunity to participate in the second round of public consultations for the 2025 Electoral Boundaries Commission. I am participating to support a fair and effective electoral map for Edmonton that reflects population growth, respects municipal boundaries, and ensures meaningful and manageable representation for residents.

I would like to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to the Commission for recognizing the significant population growth in Edmonton and for proposing the creation of a new provincial riding of Edmonton-South East. This decision reflects a strong commitment to effective representation and acknowledges the realities faced by fast-growing urban communities. By adding a new seat, the Commission has helped ensure that residents can be better represented and that the workload for Members of the Legislative Assembly remains manageable. This is critical for maintaining accessibility, responsiveness, and strong advocacy for constituents.

I would also like to thank the Commission for avoiding the creation of hybrid urban–rural ridings. By keeping Edmonton ridings fully within municipal boundaries, the proposed map respects the principle that communities with shared services, infrastructure, and urban challenges should be represented together. This approach strengthens democratic accountability and clarity for voters.



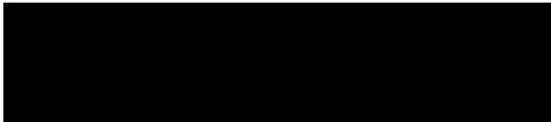
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ALBERTA

Gurtej Singh Brar, MLA
Edmonton Ellerslie

While I am grateful for the creation of the new riding, I would like to respectfully raise a concern regarding the proposed name, Edmonton South East. Based on conversations with a Councillor Jo-Ann Wright and several community representatives, there is a shared view that this name may be confusing and overly generic, particularly given Edmonton's existing geographic identifiers.

Following these discussions, I would like to recommend that the new riding be named Edmonton–Decoteau. This name would honour Alexander Decoteau, an important figure in Edmonton's history and a source of pride for the city. Alexander Decoteau joined the Edmonton Police Force in 1909 and became Canada's first Indigenous police officer. He was also an accomplished athlete, holding numerous long-distance running records across Western Canada, and proudly represented Canada in the 5,000-metre event at the 1912 Summer Olympics. Naming the riding Edmonton–Decoteau would recognize his contributions to public service, sport, and Canadian history, while also reflecting Edmonton's commitment to inclusion and reconciliation.

Once again, I would like to thank the Electoral Boundaries Commission for its careful work, its recognition of Edmonton's growth, and its commitment to fair and effective representation. The proposed boundaries and the creation of a new riding are important steps toward ensuring that Alberta's democracy continues to serve its people well. Thank you for considering my submission.



Gurtej Singh Brar MLA
Edmonton-Ellerslie



Interim Report Submission from David Deng

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:18 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

David

Last Name

Deng

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Chestermere

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

56 - Chestermere-Strathmore

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

Multiple electoral boundaries

What are the multiple electoral boundaries you are making a submission about?

Calgary-Chestermere

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Communities of interest
- Effective representation
- Projected growth

Submission

To the Members of the Electoral Boundaries Commission,

I am submitting these comments as a resident of West-Chestermere, living in the area immediately adjacent to Calgary. My community is very connected to Calgary for work, services, and daily life, and these connections are the reason I believe in the importance of community-focused approaches to electoral boundaries.

My recommendations are framed around the importance of prioritizing communities of interest and practical representation, over strict population and municipal border guidelines.

Chestermere's rapid growth, especially on the west side, along with the expansion of Calgary's eastern neighbourhoods, is substantial. So many families have moved to this area because of housing affordability, access to employment, and proximity to Calgary's amenities.

I strongly support the concept of hybrid ridings that combine urban and neighbouring communities. They reflect how people actually live and work. Chestermere and the nearby eastern Calgary neighbourhoods are a clear example of this.

First, many Chestermere residents commute into Calgary every day for work, particularly to the Shepard and Foothills Industrial Parks. Calgary's eastern industrial corridor is a regional employment hub for Chestermere and surrounding communities.

Secondly, my daily commute relies on Glenmore Trail, Stoney Trail, and 17th Ave, which link Chestermere and Calgary as a shared transportation ecosystem. This is the case for most Chestermere residents as well. This is a prime example why we should have hybrid ridings; 17th Ave is in desperate need of being twinned. However, currently the way the boundaries sit, our Chestermere MLA does not represent the portion of 17th Ave belonging to Calgary and is disconnected from Calgary City Council, and the Calgary MLAs aren't motivated to advocate to the Calgary City Council to twin their portion because they don't cover Chestermere so it's not really their constituents that would benefit. An MLA that represents part of Calgary and part of Chestermere would be best positioned to have the right connections in Calgary City Hall, and the motive to advocate for its twinning.

Thirdly, we rely on Calgary for shopping, professional services, and most recreation activities, particularly the East Hills shopping complex. The two cities really share an economic space in this region that ignores municipal boundaries.

Finally; hospitals, specialized medical clinics, and provincial offices serving Chestermere residents are all located in Calgary. Chestermere is too small to offer any of these services and is 90% residential, making Calgary truly integral to daily life in our community.

Hybrid ridings acknowledge that communities of interest extend beyond municipal lines. Chestermere is functionally part of the Calgary region, and including it in a riding that also covers adjacent Calgary neighbourhoods would better reflect how residents live.

I support the Commission's approach to considering factors beyond strict population parity. Effective representation is not just a matter of equal numbers, it really depends on service access, commuting patterns, and economic and community interaction.

The Commission should consider the anticipated residential and employment growth in this region, the transportation connectivity, the interaction between urban and adjacent suburban communities, and the economic and social identities within a single riding.

As a resident of West-Chestermere, I see firsthand how our daily lives, employment, and services, are intertwined with Calgary. Hybrid ridings with a focus on communities of shared interest provide a more accurate and effective framework for representation than strict population formulas and boundaries drawn along municipal lines.

I would encourage the Commission to apply these points in Calgary's eastern corridor, creating ridings that reflect both the growth and functional connections of communities like Chestermere.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Respectfully submitted,
David

Terms

- By clicking this box, you are aware that your submission, name, and the municipality you identify in your submission, may be made public. You will not be able to make a written submission via the webform without verifying you have read this disclaimer.

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Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780-690-2125
Toll-free 1-833-777-2125
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Interim Report Submission from Felicity Pirker

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:17 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Felicity

Last Name

Pirker

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Grande Prairie

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

63 - Grande Prairie

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

63 - Grande Prairie

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Northern Alberta concerns

- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Effective representation

Submission

Submission to the Electoral Boundaries Commission: Grande Prairie

I am a resident living in the city of Grande Prairie. I am asking that the current boundary be further adjusted so that all residents within the City of Grande Prairie are included in one urban riding. I am pleased that the commission has kept Grande Prairie as an urban riding this reflects how Grande Prairie has grown and how it functions today.

Grande Prairie is the main hub in the Northeast portion of the province surrounded entirely by the county of Grande Prairie. People who live in the city face more urban issues like housing, transit, infrastructure, and public safety. These are very different from the concerns of nearby rural communities in Grande Prairie–Wapiti.

City services such as schools and regional health care services face pressures that are not the same as in rural areas. We are also experiencing a larger influx of newcomers from other parts of Canada and internationally. The cultural landscape and increasing pressures on the regional systems are quite different than in neighbouring towns and farms. Also, in my personal experience, people who live in Grande Prairie but have a GP Wapiti MLA representing them find this confusing and feel that the GP Wapiti MLA represents mostly rural constituents. Keeping all of Grande Prairie in one urban riding and Grande Prairie Wapiti to include more rural areas would allow both areas to be well represented for their unique needs.

Thank you, ,

Felicity Pirker

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Joseph Ruether

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:16 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Joseph

Last Name

Ruether

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Calgary

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

25 - Calgary-Varsity

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

28 - Calgary-Varsity

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Hybrid electoral divisions

- Geographical features
- Effective representation
- Projected growth

Submission

I wished to be able to participate at an in-person hearing, but my work schedule won't allow it. As such, I am making a submission via the written method. I hope that the Commission will accept my praise for allotting Calgary two more seats. I am sure that there will be no lack of voices pushing you to reverse that decision, but I hope you don't. The matter of fact is that people work and live in Calgary and other urban centres like it. We need an electoral map that reflects that. A map such as this isn't meant to be carved in stone. It is meant to change as people shift and the province changes. With that being said, I want to urge you to add another seat to Calgary. Over my life in the city, Calgary has changed completely. It is growing at an unprecedented rate. If you don't add a seat now, in another decade, Calgary will be back to square one.

On the topic of Calgary-Varsity specifically, I hope that you reconsider changing our boundaries. The Commission should account for the rapid population growth that's going to be occurring in the University District once it's completely built out. If it doesn't, Calgary-Varsity - the students, professors, young families, new immigrants - that live here won't have their voices heard. They deserve that, just like any other part of the city or the province.

I also want to thank you for not creating rural ridings as I've heard them being called. I rarely commute to one of the bedroom communities outside of Calgary and I could not imagine being included with them in a riding. They are very different from the city itself with different concerns and priorities. As such I feel that they should be maintained as separate constituencies. I think you used your judgement fairly and wisely and should continue to do that in the final map.

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Wendy Coogan

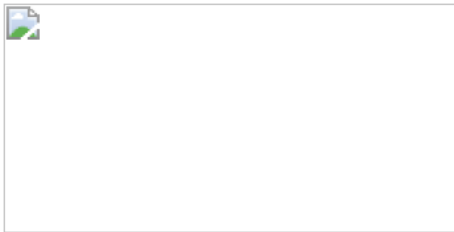
From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:15 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

 1 attachment (58 KB)

Electoral Boundary Submissions 1.pdf;



First Name

Wendy

Last Name

Coogan

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Grande Prairie

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

63 - Grande Prairie

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

63 - Grande Prairie

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Northern Alberta concerns
- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Effective representation

Submission

Submission to the Electoral Boundaries Commission:

I would like to thank the Commission for keeping Grande Prairie as an urban riding in the interim

map. As a resident of the city, I believe this decision reflects the reality of how Grande Prairie

has grown and how it functions within the region. I am writing to request that the provincial

boundary be changed to include all population within the municipal city boundary of Grande

Prairie.

Grande Prairie is the only major city in northwest Alberta and serves as a hub for health care,

post-secondary education, shopping, industry, and social services for a large surrounding area,

including parts of northeastern British Columbia. Living in the city means dealing with urban

issues such as transit, housing density, infrastructure, public safety, and access to services.

These are very different from the issues facing the surrounding rural communities in Grande

Prairie–Wapiti.

Since 2017, the city has continued to grow and change. New neighbourhoods have been built,

housing has become denser, and there has been ongoing commercial and industrial

development. Grande Prairie has also become more diverse and younger, with more families,

students, and newcomers choosing to live here. These changes have increased the range and

complexity of issues facing city residents. For example, schools are overcrowded in Grande

Prairie, in contrast with some rural schools having vast reductions in students and struggling to

stay open. Health care delivery is also vastly different from a regional hospital in Grande Prairie

to small hospitals and health centres in rural communities. The funding and service delivery

requirements need MLAs who can accurately understand and represent these unique

perspectives. I was formerly a Registered Nurse, working in a variety of rural and urban

communities and have experienced these differences. I grew up in a rural community 65 km

away from Grande Prairie and have lived in GP for 20 years. The growth and diversity of the

population within the city has emphasized that Grande Prairie is now a much more urban city.

From a regional perspective, the surrounding areas will still be well represented by MLAs in rural

ridings. Having one dedicated urban riding for the region's single major city makes sense and

allows rural MLAs to focus on rural concerns, while the urban MLA can focus on city-specific

needs.

One estimate of population puts GP Wapiti as having about 6000 more residents (noted in the

interim report), thus, moving city of Grande Prairie residents to one urban riding could leave the

two ridings within the allowable variance of +/- 25%.

As the Grande Prairie Constituency Association President, I have heard from many residents

who live within the Grande Prairie municipal boundary and are represented by the Grande

Prairie Wapiti riding. They generally find this confusing. The vast majority would prefer to be

represented by an MLA elected in Grande Prairie as their needs are similar to others who live in

the city.

In my view, keeping all of Grande Prairie as an urban riding is a practical and fair choice. It

respects communities of interest, reflects the city's growth, and supports effective representation

for both urban and rural residents.

Sincerely,

Wendy Coogan

File (Optional)

- [Electoral-Boundary-Submissions-1.pdf](#)

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Gillian Robinson

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:14 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Gillian

Last Name

Robinson

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Sherwood Park

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

84 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

85 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Northern Alberta concerns

- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Communities of interest
- Effective representation
- Projected growth

Submission

Hello, thank you for adding an electoral division to the region of Edmonton. This will address some of the past growth. In fact, South Easy Edmonton requires 2 new electoral divisions to address the current growth for fair representation.

I am also writing about Strathcona-Sherwood Park. Strathcona-Sherwood Park should stay as is, and not be joined with Beaumont. Strathcona County has a unique history, and services are coordinated throughout the community. Our shared history makes sense for keeping our ED together. The division line of Clover Bar Road also makes sense for political organizing and representation, please do not change this. Together, we make a strong community of Strathcona County.

Adding Beaumont would be confusing, as Beaumont and Strathcona County do not have shared services, hockey arenas, recreation services, or other municipal services. Beaumont should have its own voice and remain separate from our ED. Beaumont would find that the voices of Strathcona County residents overpower them when decision-making or consensus building is happening.

Thank you for your time in considering my thoughts, and creating more representation for the area of Edmonton and keeping local representation consistent and community-oriented.

Gillian Robinson

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Interim Report Submission from Myke Atkinson

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:12 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Myke

Last Name

Atkinson

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Calgary

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

25 - Calgary-Varsity

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

Proposed electoral boundaries as a whole

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Hybrid electoral divisions

- Communities of interest
- Geographical features
- Effective representation
- Projected growth

Submission

RE: Feedback on Proposed Boundary Changes

Dear Members of the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed electoral boundaries. I appreciate the Commission's commitment to ensuring fair and effective representation for Albertans.

First, I want to commend the Commission for keeping the electoral boundaries of Calgary aligned with municipal boundaries. By avoiding hybrid ridings and respecting municipal lines, you have upheld the democratic principle of effective representation and maintained the integrity of our communities.

As a city councillor, I can certainly recognize the importance of additional seats to meet the demands of a growing city. Calgary has operated with 14 wards since 1976, when the population was approximately 470,000. Today, our population has grown significantly, to over 1 million people, and adequate representation is essential for a functioning democracy. Adding seats to growing city is welcomed and serves as a reminder a similar effort is overdue for Calgary's ward system.

The provincial boundaries as proposed, and as they relate to Ward 7, amount to relatively minor changes, which is appreciated.

However, our city continues to experience rapid growth, and projections indicate that this trend will persist. To maintain fair representation and ensure that funding for essential services—such as schools, healthcare, transportation, and public safety—aligns with population realities, I strongly encourage the Commission to consider adding another provincial electoral division within Calgary.

Additionally, Ward 7 currently spans five different provincial electoral divisions. This fragmentation creates inefficiencies in intergovernmental affairs, complicates collaboration on shared priorities, and makes it harder for residents to navigate representation. Consolidating boundaries to reduce this overlap would strengthen coordination and improve service delivery. Further, having similar boundaries across jurisdictions helps maintain a clear and engaged electorate, reducing confusion and fostering stronger democratic participation. Having said that, the proposed boundaries still result in five different provincial electoral divisions, albeit new and different ones.

It is equally important to keep communities of interest intact. Our neighborhoods share cultural, economic, and geographic ties that foster cohesion and effective advocacy. Disrupting these connections would risk diminishing the voices of residents and weakening community engagement.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to this process. Your efforts are vital to strengthening democratic representation in Alberta, and I appreciate your consideration of these points.

Yours Truly,

Myke Atkinson,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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December 19, 2025

POSSE No. 641229431

Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission
Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, AB T5G 2Y5

Dear Honourable Justice Dallas Miller and members of the Commission,

RE: Provincial Electoral Boundaries Review - City of Edmonton Submission

The City of Edmonton has reviewed the interim report on provincial electoral boundaries redistribution and has significant concerns regarding two key proposed changes - the creation of a hybrid riding on the west periphery and the consolidation of established ridings in the urban core. While we recognize the difficult task of balancing factors to accommodate population shifts, including the 2019 land annexation, our perspective based on the recommendations in the Commission's interim report is that the current proposal compromises the goal of effective representation for our growing, big city urban context.

The proposal to create a hybrid electoral division (Edmonton-West-Enoch), blending urban West Edmonton, Enoch Cree Nation, and Parkland County, risks a fundamental misalignment of representative concerns. In the proposed electoral division, the Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) for this hybrid riding would represent a major municipality, a First Nation government, and both urban and rural constituents with fundamentally differing needs across policing, transit, infrastructure, and intergovernmental relations. The priorities of the communities in the proposed hybrid electoral district are too diverse to be effectively served by a single MLA.

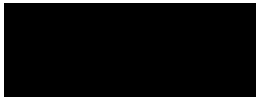
Merging Edmonton-Glenora and Edmonton-Riverview, which reduces central Edmonton electoral divisions from six to five, is a major concern. This reduction risks weakening the political voice of these distinct core communities, which contain an estimated 35 per cent of the city's housing and population. Maintaining central representation is critical due to rapid housing growth in those districts. City data on dwelling units from 2021 to Q3 2025 show these districts accounted for approximately 23 per cent of the city's total growth (over

14,000 units/36,000 people). In 2025 alone, they contributed approximately 35 per cent of the city's growth (nearly 5,000 units/12,000 people), indicating strong infill growth in our redeveloping communities which we expect to continue.

To ensure truly effective representation for our growing, complex urban environment, we urge the Commission to adopt solutions that keep Edmonton's electoral districts within city boundaries, without further consolidation of our already dense and diverse central electoral districts which are growing in population.

We appreciate the immense challenge before the Commission and value the commitment to a non-partisan review. It is on this critical basis of achieving effective representation that we offer our feedback, confident that the voice of every Edmonton resident will be robustly preserved.

Sincerely,



Andrew Knack
Mayor, City of Edmonton

Cc: Edmonton City Council
Eddie Robar, City Manager
Aileen Giesbrecht, City Clerk
City of Edmonton Intergovernmental Affairs



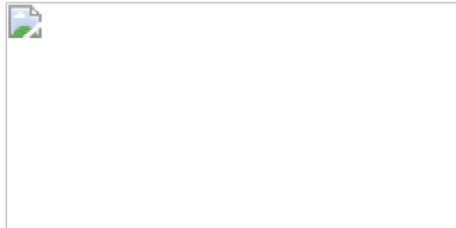
Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Ed Vandenberg

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:10 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Ed

Last Name

Vandenberg

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Enchant

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

54 - Cardston-Siksika

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

Multiple electoral boundaries

What are the multiple electoral boundaries you are making a submission about?

Cardston-Siksika, Lethbridge-West, Mcleod-Livingston, Lethbridge-East

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Southern Alberta concerns

Submission

I am a rural resident but am very much affected by decisions that effect Lethbridge. Lethbridge is the hub for the rural surrounding. I do business in Lethbridge, my health care is based in Lethbridge, retail purchases are made in Lethbridge, my children attend post-secondary education in Lethbridge and much of my entertainment is centered in Lethbridge. In short my personal well being is dominated by the type of city Lethbridge is. If Lethbridge does poorly I am much affected. Lethbridge interests affect me in many facets of my life.

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Sally Cooper

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:03 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Sally

Last Name

Cooper

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

29 - Edmonton-City Centre

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

32 - Edmonton-City Centre

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Northern Alberta concerns

- Effective representation
- Projected growth

Submission

Thank you for taking on such an important task in helping to ensure all Albertans are fairly represented.

Thank you as well for avoiding the creation of hybrid urban/rural ridings wherever possible. The unique interests of those diverse environments should be allowed to have their own voices in government.

Although I am happy to see that Edmonton you are proposing one new riding for Edmonton, given the city's growth over recent years I would ask you to consider adding one more. This could be accomplished by reversing the decision to remove a riding in central Edmonton.

While there was a temporary population drop in that area, it largely was due to covid-related remote working arrangements people to move farther away from the core without commuting. The Federal Government, a major employer in Edmonton, is planning to discontinue remote work, so there likely will be people moving closer to downtown.

Two other factors will increase the population in the area: the Blatchford development, and the City of Edmonton densification initiative. The residential development of the Blatchford airport lands will bring thousands of residents to the central area of Edmonton over the next few years.

Proceeding much more quickly is the densification initiative. Older neighbourhoods close to downtown are seeing rapid deployment on formerly single-family lots infill structures of two to ten residential units. The population of some communities in central Edmonton could triple or quadruple in the next five to ten years. Given these upcoming developments, I ask you to reconsider removing a riding in this area.

Thank you again for the important work you are doing and for considering my submission.

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Lorraine and Gary Hanson

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:02 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Lorraine and Gary

Last Name

Hanson

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Sherwood Park

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

81 - Sherwood Park

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

79 - Sherwood Park

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Geographical features

- Effective representation
- Projected growth

Submission

We feel more consideration is needed when you attempt to take 2 areas separated by the city of Edmonton and have little in common. Beaumont and Leduc have little in common with Sherwood Park, Strathcona County, or Fort Saskatchewan. It makes more sense to keep Heritage Hills and adding Tofield as we have economic ties with the Heartland and Refinery Row. This also relates with the population goal you're striving for, with the current growth in Ardrosen and Hillshire, keeping Heritage Hills and adding Tofield you achieve your goal. This ties together Economic Interests, Geographical features, Effective representation and Projective growth.

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Sarah Geisler

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:02 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Sarah

Last Name

Geisler

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Strathcona County/Sherwood Park

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

84 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

85 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Communities of interest

Submission

I have been a resident of Sherwood Park for over 35 years, and have extensive family history in rural Strathcona County going back nearly a century which gives me a deep understanding of our diverse community needs. I appreciate the great challenge put before the Commission given the rapid and uneven growth of Alberta's population, and I thank members for the opportunity to put forward a response to the interim report.

Based on the Commission's intent indicated in the report relative to keeping communities of interest together, I am concerned that the proposed extension of the Strathcona-Sherwood Park constituency into urban Beaumont does not meet this goal. Strathcona County is fairly unique in the province as a specialized municipality, and shares few interests and needs with those of residents in the City of Beaumont.

It is challenging enough for one MLA to meet the needs of this large urban/rural constituency with our multiple hamlets, but to also try and represent the needs of residents within an entirely different municipality would reduce the effectiveness of our representation.

As a parent with multiple children in the Elk Island school system, I worry that one representative being stretched between two large unconnected school districts could mean competing for large investments like new school construction. Our local MLA being focused on helping our school system meet local education needs, versus juggling the needs of both Elk Island public/Catholic with those of Black Gold school division, is important to me.

Similarly, when it comes to advocating for limited provincial grants and municipal funding, I would want an MLA able to be fully invested in understanding the needs and priorities of our specific community of interest, as opposed to having to divide their attention and support between two municipalities with very different needs.

I appreciate the Committee being willing to understand and consider the feedback from Albertans when finalizing our future boundaries, and thank you for your time in reviewing all of the input shared.

Sarah Geisler
Sherwood Park resident, Strathcona-Sherwood Park

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19 December 2025

Electoral Boundaries Commission
#100 – 11510 Kingsway Avenue
Edmonton, AB T5G 2Y5

Sent Via Email: info@abebc.ca

Dear Electoral Boundaries Commission,

Re: Interim Report on Proposed Electoral Boundaries

I'm writing to you as a long-time resident of the community of Ritchie, in the riding of Edmonton-Strathcona, and as an active citizen.

I would first like to applaud the Electoral Boundaries Commission ("EBC") for the fine work that it has put into its October 2025 Interim Report (the "Report"). The Report goes a long way towards achieving the primary goal of effective representation while also recognizing that the value of a citizen's vote should not be unduly diluted. By transferring two rural ridings with declining population rates to growing urban centers, the EBC has made the difficult, but correct, choice to ensure effective representation in Alberta. I also applaud the EBC's focus on keeping communities of interest together. This includes the creation of a new Indigenous focused riding of Mackenzie and by avoiding some of the more politically motivated arguments for hybridization. However, the report is not flawless.

Effective representation requires two additional ridings in Edmonton. In its current draft, Edmonton residents have the most diluted votes in the province by a wide margin. While absolute parity is neither possible nor desirable, only four ridings in Alberta have a variance above +11%, all in Edmonton. Given the history of Edmonton's vibrant political culture and the growth it will continue to experience in the years ahead, this dilution of Edmonton voters is unfair and cannot be justified by the EBC's rationale.

Electoral Division of Mackenzie

As an Indigenous rights lawyer with clients in northeastern Alberta, I commend the EBC's recommendation to create the riding of Mackenzie. Albertans have long considered how to improve Indigenous representation in the Legislature. Creating a new riding with a primarily Indigenous population promotes the principle of effective representation, taking into consideration factors such as geography, community interests, and minority representation. It also advances the constitutional imperative of reconciliation, which should always inform government actions that affect Indigenous peoples. It ensures that

Alberta's cultural mosaic and sui generis rights holders are better represented in the Legislature.

Rural – Urban Hybridization

I would also like to thank the EBC for somewhat shying away from largely partisan calls to further hybridize ridings between rural and urban areas. Effective representation, and within it, factors such as communities of interest and geography, require a separation between urban and rural.

I grew up in Lac La Biche, Alberta, and worked in the oil industry to pay for university. I was a provincial political candidate there in 2012. My family continues to own property there. I have also worked as a government relations consultant for several rural counties, including Lac La Biche County and the County of Grande Prairie. I have also worked for rural-based industry associations. I am familiar with the differences that mark urban and rural life in Alberta. They are important and should be respected.

When the Lac La Biche-St. Paul-Two Hills constituency was dissolved and the Fort McMurray-Lac La Biche constituency was created, the dynamics of political representation in Lac La Biche changed, and not for the better. Before this change, the issues faced by Lac La Biche County were on par with the other residents in the riding. They now play second fiddle to Fort McMurray and the preoccupation of its political leaders with the oil and gas industry. Furthermore, whereas the previous constituency held out hope that an MLA could come from Lac La Biche, the new boundaries make that a near impossibility.

It should also be noted that having a predominantly rural riding in and near Fort McMurray would facilitate a second riding with a large Indigenous population. Having travelled to Fort Chipewyan, Conklin, Anzac, and Janvier many times, it strikes me that the cultures of these communities, which are all either mostly Indigenous or have large Indigenous populations, are more similar to Lac La Biche than to Fort McMurray.

The Six Central Edmonton Ridings Should Not Be Consolidated

While I do believe that the EBC has done a relatively good job overall, I cannot countenance the removal of an Edmonton riding given the history of Edmonton's vibrant political culture, and the explosive growth it is likely to experience in the years ahead. Furthermore, the rationale provided by EBC is unconvincing.

Expected Population Growth

To justify the unsympathetic removal of a riding from Edmonton's core, the EBC placed significant weight on its observation that Edmonton is overrepresented in the urban core relative to provincial and city averages. My concern is that the EBC has placed too much

weight on a particular observation at one point in time rather than on overall trends and expected population growth. My experience in Ritchie suggests that inner-city neighbourhoods are experiencing revitalization. Meanwhile, the massive growth rates in Edmonton's suburbs can be expected to slow as Canada places more restrictions on international immigration. Overall, the city is likely to see much more balanced growth going forward.

On page 33 of the Report, the EBC states that “[o]ne of the most striking features of the population redistribution within Edmonton has been the overrepresentation of the urban core compared to provincial and city averages.” This statement suggests that central Edmonton has been overrepresented for some time. This is not the case. For example, the last electoral boundary redistribution in 2017 had Edmonton-Strathcona on par with the provincial average.

Between 2016 and 2021, Edmonton's annual growth rate was only 1.6%. Between 2016 and 2021, my own community of Ritchie had an annual growth rate of 1.4%. As I will explain below, I suspect it is much higher now. The growth rates between Edmonton's core and the rest of the city have only started to diverge in a somewhat extreme way since 2022.

As a result of Edmonton's suburban population growth and other factors, successive Edmonton City Councils have placed tremendous focus on densification in our urban core. New zoning bylaws have been put in place. The transportation network has been improved, and new LRT has been or will be constructed. These policies are leading to densification. For example, across my back alley, where there used to be two 1950s bungalows, a developer has received approval to build a 5-7-storey apartment building.

My own community of Ritchie is a good example of what's happening in Edmonton's core. In 1971, it had a population of 5,785 and was full of families. As these families aged, the natural population declined. In 1996, the community hit a low of 3550. Since then, the population has steadily risen, with its steepest increase in recent years. In 2021, it sat at 4480, and I suspect it is much higher today.

The story of my neighbour Mary and me illustrates Ritchie's transition. Mary is now in her 80s and has lived in the same small bungalow for over 50 years. She raised a family there. Her husband recently passed away, but she has found a way to maintain the place. Ritchie has many such retirees. I first moved into a small apartment building in Ritchie in 2008. A retiree who lived beside Mary sold her tiny bungalow to a developer, who built a duplex in 2016. I purchased the duplex in 2017. My wife and two children now live in one half, and my parents in the other. There are many duplexes and large new homes on my street. Mary's house will likely be replaced with a duplex soon. And so it goes.

I purchased the duplex because Ritchie is a vibrant and growing community. But this was not always guaranteed. It took vision from elected officials to make this a reality. This is the vision that the current Edmonton City Council has.

To illustrate this vision, let me tell you more about Ritchie. You see, around 2007, both the public and Catholic schools in Ritchie were slated for destruction. The child population was declining, and both school divisions believed bussing kids out was the best option (they had the same plans for other core communities as well). In 2010, a new Edmonton School Board was elected and put a stop to this plan to revitalize the core. Between 2015 and 2019, the provincial government sought to revitalize core communities with new schools, including a new public and a new Catholic school in Ritchie. The new schools have brought new families, along with new restaurants, new breweries, new bookstores, new condos, and new apartment buildings. The transformation is astonishing.

When I moved into Ritchie in 2008, there was barely a child on the street. It was largely the same until 2018. Today, you can't throw a stone without hitting a family walking their dog.

Ritchie is not the only inner-city community experiencing a similar revival.

Meanwhile, the national and international trends that have led to massive explosions in population growth in Edmonton's suburbs are starting to wane. New restrictions on immigration are likely here to stay for the foreseeable future. The price of oil is heading downwards and the city has only so much land on which to expand. Indeed, the 5-8% growth some suburban areas have recently experienced is surely not sustainable.

Edmonton will continue to grow at a pace faster than the rest of Alberta and many parts of Canada, given its strong economy, vibrant lifestyle, and relatively inexpensive housing. This growth, however, will likely be more spread out over all of Edmonton than it has been for the last few years.

Removing an entire constituency is a drastic measure that has profound impacts on communities of interest and their histories. While this was recognized by the EBC for the rural ridings that were removed, the same respect was not paid to Edmonton. This is unfortunate.

If the EBC is so concerned about the disparity between growth rates in Edmonton's core as compared to its suburbs, a relatively recent phenomenon, then the fairest and most responsible answer is to do what other commissions have done, and make the core constituencies bigger. Eliminating one and creating another somewhere else is extremely disruptive and has no obvious benefit to effective representation.

It should also be noted that adding two ridings to Calgary while only adding one to Edmonton, given that both have similar growth rates and are similarly situated, sends the wrong message to Albertans.

Finally, the EBC notes that “[n]o compelling reason could be offered as to why these electoral divisions were underpopulated compared to the province as a whole”. This statement is confusing. There are other ridings in urban areas that saw a decline in population compared to the provincial average, including Calgary-Elbow, which was 4% above the average in 2017 and is now only 0.4% above the average (its boundaries are not recommended for change). The core Edmonton ridings are now relatively underpopulated because they did not keep pace with the massive growth in other urban ridings in Edmonton, Calgary, Airdrie and elsewhere over the last handful of years. As I mentioned above, this is likely more a blip than a long-term trend.

The Core Edmonton Ridings Are Very Close to the Legislature

Another rationale the EBC gave significant weight to in justifying the removal of a riding from Edmonton is that these ridings are close to the Legislature. Distance from the Legislature is one of the factors the EBC must consider. The further a constituency is from the Legislature, the more time an MLA must travel to reach the Legislature and get home for constituency breaks. This loss of time to represent constituents must be factor into the calculation. As such, it is justified to dilute other voters’ voting power. To be fair, this dilution should affect all voters who are not plagued by unreasonably long commuting times. This dilution should not be born unequally by voters just because they live within some walking distance of the legislature. This is unreasonable.

To be fair, there should be determined some sort of threshold whereby voters below that threshold will have their votes diluted in order to compensate for unreasonable commuting times in other ridings. I suggest that this threshold be all voters within a 1 or 1.5-hour’ drive of Edmonton. It should not be those constituencies that border the Legislature.

There are many reasons why the threshold should not be those constituencies that border the Legislature. One is fairness. To be fair, there should be some corresponding benefit to the deprivation. Here, there is none. Ridings that border the Legislature are not better represented; they receive no special favours or services. Their relatively shorter commuting times, sometimes measured in tens of minutes compared to those ridings outside of Edmonton’s core, does not necessarily correlate into any better or more effective representation. In sum, having your vote diluted because you’re MLA’s travel home is 15 minutes versus 25 or even 1.5 hours hardly seems fair. While the Legislature is in session, all MLAs live in Edmonton. The travel time is only relevant on a few days of the year. It does not amount to a lot of lost hours.

The precedent that EBC's recommendation sets is also potentially dangerous. If EBC's rationale stands, it will justify a structural bias towards diluting the votes of those who live beside the legislature because of where they live. This type of discrimination is a potential affront to the *Charter*. If not, this bias still has the potential to persist indefinitely, even if the rationale for giving rural areas more relative voting power diminishes in the future. This danger can be avoided by setting a more transparent and fair threshold for sharing the relative burden of other voters "right to have the parity of the votes of others diluted, but not unduly, in order to gain effective representation or in the name of practical necessity". (*Carter* at para 14).

Too Many Edmonton Ridings Are Above the Provincial Average

As alluded to above, it is not fair that the EBC is asking Edmonton to take on such a relatively high burden when it comes to vote dilution compared to other voters in similar positions, notably Calgary.

It is recommended by the EBC that Edmonton take on 4 ridings with a variance above +11%. No other areas in the province have variances that high. Only one riding in Calgary, Calgary-Bhullar-Mcall, comes in over 10% above. As a result, over 40,760 Edmontonians in the newly proposed ridings have their votes notionally diluted. This compares to only 21,367 voters in Calgary if one compares the populations of the proposed boundaries to the provincial average. Factors such as proximity to the Legislature cannot justify this.

No justification is provided for the EBC's statement that an additional Edmonton riding would "... fail to provide effective representation for other parts of Alberta...". Use of the word "fail" suggests that any further movement towards voter parity in other parts of the province would mean that residents cannot be effectively represented. Surely things are not so black-and-white.

The Creeks Are Natural Boundaries for Edmonton-Strathcona

One of the factors to be considered is the presence of natural boundaries. Notwithstanding the EBC's observation that an arbitrary line can equally divide a portion of Edmonton, the Whitemud and Millcreek Creeks form easily recognizable and cognizable boundaries.

Rural Representation

Finally, I would like to say a few words about the differences between representing urban and rural constituencies. Since the Supreme Court of Canada's 1991 decision in *Carter*, many things have changed. Since then, the differences have narrowed in many respects that should be considered. There are also ways that rural and urban constituencies are more similar than different, which need to be recognized.

Much weight was placed by the EBC on the fact that rural constituencies have more civil society organizations and public institutions to deal with (such as schools). While this may be true, it should also be recognized that urban MLAs also have more organizations and events in their ridings than they have time to attend.

Edmonton-Strathcona has somewhere around a dozen schools, and probably the same number of churches. At least 7 community leagues with various events. Dozens of different industries, ranging from industrial plywood manufacturing to web design. This means that urban MLAs must be adept at understanding many industries, while some rural MLAs need only focus on a few.

While urban MLAs do not have to take as long to travel to events, they are also expected to attend more events in other ridings. In this way, rural MLAs don't have the benefit of getting help from other MLAs (as was highlighted by the EBC in their report), but this also means they are not expected to attend the events of other MLAs either.

The EBC also relies on the fact that rural constituencies are older, meaning that, on average, their population place more individual demands on their MLAs. It should also be considered that because urban MLAs have younger populations, their constituents are also more likely to have kids. As a father, I understand that constituents with kids have a very high need for public services like healthcare and education. This makes me much more likely to place demands on my MLA.

Urban ridings also have significant shadow populations. Urban MLAs must also represent urban Indigenous people, many of whom have no connection to their ancestral bands. This is a unique challenge not recognized by the EBC. Furthermore, many rural First Nations are starting to set up their own services, including clinics and child and family services, in places like Edmonton. In this way, Nations are increasingly calling on urban MLAs for support.

As the EBC correctly points out, there are also lots of ways that the rural disadvantages are being overcome by new technologies and advances in transportation. Indeed, Alberta has more paved roads than any other province, so I am told.

While I am not trying to overturn the Supreme Court's finding that rural constituencies are harder to represent, I do believe that some re-evaluation of the gulf between representing urban and rural constituencies is necessary in this day and age.

Conclusion

Again, I would like to commend the EBC for the good work they have put into this interim report. My main concern is that they reconsider their conclusion that Edmonton only requires one additional riding.

Sincerely,

Philippe Johnson, BSc (Hons), JD



Interim Report Submission from Jaret Hargreaves

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:01 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



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Jaret

Last Name

Hargreaves

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Municipality / City

Calgary

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

04 - Calgary-Buffalo

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

Multiple electoral boundaries

What are the multiple electoral boundaries you are making a submission about?

Calgary Buffalo, as well as ridings generally in the Calgary area

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Effective representation
- Projected growth

Submission

I would like to again offer my thanks for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed boundary changes as outlined in the Interim Report to the Speaker. It was a great honour to have been afforded the chance to speak in the last round and I was grateful to have been cited, as well.

The proposed changes have done an excellent job in considering the population changes in our area and the overall shifts in our city. Calgary Buffalo as a riding is geographically smaller, but its outline does make good sense, as does the addition of Calgary Confluence. Given the density of this region, I support that only a modest variance was made, in line with my previous suggestion. Calgary Buffalo is a distinctly urban riding and the proposed boundaries maintain the integrity of the community.

Though the addition of seats to the city is a positive step, two is not enough to achieve the stated goal of effective representation. Calgary's population has grown significantly since the last boundary update and models indicate that it will do so for the foreseeable future. I hope that you will consider this continued population growth as you develop the final map and add another seat to ensure effective representation not just for the present but over the number of years during which these boundaries will be in effect. I know that it's not easy to make the decision to remove a riding from another part of the province, but the reality of where people are increasingly moving to and living must be kept in mind.

I again offer my sincere thanks to the commission for its consideration, appreciate the continued effort that the members have put into this important process, and am looking forward to the next stages.

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EBC-2025-2-823



Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Raghuraj Chopra

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:01 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



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Municipality / City

Ardrossan

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

84 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

85 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Central Alberta concerns
- Communities of interest

- Geographical features
- Effective representation

Submission

I am opposed to the proposed changes to the riding of Strathcona-Sherwood Park for the following reasons:

- The population of our riding is sitting at about 51,000 residents, which is already within the legal variance. With Ardrossan and Hillshire growing quickly, we'll naturally reach the provincial target of 55,000 without any boundary changes.
- Residents of Beaumont primarily look to Leduc and Edmonton for schools, services, and employment, and have limited functional ties to Sherwood Park. Transportation and commuting patterns further distinguish the two communities: this riding is connected by county roads and oriented toward Edmonton's industrial base, while Beaumont's transportation corridors point toward Leduc and Edmonton rather than Sherwood Park. Municipal governance also differs significantly. Strathcona County operates as a specialized municipality with a distinct service-delivery model, whereas Beaumont has its own council and priorities, creating incompatible governance frameworks for a single MLA to manage effectively. Economic ties are likewise separate, with Sherwood Park residents working largely in the Industrial Heartland and Refinery Row, while Beaumont residents commute elsewhere. Stable boundaries matter, and this constituency has been consistent for years; abrupt changes would only create confusion about representation without better reflecting the communities' distinct needs.
- Removing Heritage Hills from the riding would be disruptive. Families in the area rely on Sherwood Park schools and services, and reassigning the community would undermine established school catchments and community cohesion. School boundaries are a significant consideration, and parents reasonably expect their MLA to represent both their neighbourhood and the schools their children attend.

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EBC-2025-2-824



Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Abigail Bernardo

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:01 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

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Municipality / City

Calgary

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

08 - Calgary-Edgemont

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

10 - Calgary-Edgemont

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns

Submission

As a resident who navigates these neighborhoods daily, I appreciate the opportunity to share how these changes affect our sense of community and representation.

I strongly support the inclusion of Arbour Lake into this electoral division. From a resident's perspective, this isn't just a map adjustment—it's a reflection of how we actually live. Arbour Lake fits naturally with the neighboring communities; we share the same daily rhythms and the area truly feels like one cohesive community.

Integrating Arbour Lake makes sense for several practical reasons:

- * Shared Hubs: Our lives revolve around the Crowfoot and Dalhousie areas.

Whether it's grocery shopping, doctor's appointments, or general errands, we use these amenities as a collective group.

- * Transit Connectivity: The "transit catchment" here is very logical. Residents from across these neighborhoods rely on the Crowfoot and Dalhousie LRT stations and the feeder bus routes that connect them. We are, quite literally, riding the same trains and buses every day.

- * School Communities: Robert Thirsk High School is a major anchor for our families. With roughly half of our high-school-aged kids attending Thirsk, including Arbour Lake alongside Hawkwood and Ranchlands brings these families and their school into the same riding. This makes it much easier to advocate for local educational needs.

I also want to commend the move toward clear, "box-like" boundaries using major roads like Shaganappi, Country Hills, Stoney, and Crowchild. It sounds simple, but it makes a huge difference. When the boundaries follow major landmarks, residents actually know who their MLA is without having to consult a complex map.

Furthermore, keeping this as a strictly urban riding rather than a "hybrid" (urban-rural) model is the right call. The issues facing Northwest Calgary—density, city transit, and urban infrastructure—are distinct. Maintaining this focus ensures our representative can stay tuned into specific municipal-provincial overlaps.

While the proposed adjustments improve community cohesion, I am concerned about the sheer volume of people these boundaries are beginning to encompass.

Given the rapid population growth in Calgary and across Alberta, I believe the Commission should advocate for adding more seats to the Legislative Assembly. While shifting lines helps in the short term, we are reaching a point where the ratio of constituents to MLAs is becoming too high. To ensure every Albertan has fair access to their representative and that ridings remain manageable in size, we need more seats to keep up with our province's growth.

The proposed changes to include Arbour Lake and streamline the boundaries

create a more compact and logical NW footprint. While this necessitates minor shifts in adjacent ridings, it reduces "voter confusion" by using high-traffic corridors as dividers. By consolidating the Arbour Lake/Hawkwood/Ranchlands corridor, we allow adjacent ridings to similarly focus on their own natural community hubs without being "split" by arbitrary residential lines.

Thank you for considering this perspective. I believe these changes will lead to a more engaged and better-represented community.

Sincerely,

Abi

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Interim Report Submission from Nathalia Schwind

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:55 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



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Municipality / City

Edmonton

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

33 - Edmonton-Gold Bar

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

Proposed electoral boundaries as a whole

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Communities of interest
- Effective representation

Submission

My name is Nathalia Schwind, and I am a resident of Edmonton - Gold Bar in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region. I am also a community planner with expertise in growth management and electoral boundary review, having recently participated in the electoral boundary adjustments for Rocky View County and Mackenzie County.

Thank you for the work involved in preparing the 2025–26 interim electoral map and for providing Albertans an opportunity to comment.

I am writing to raise a concern with the overall approach reflected in several of the proposed boundaries, particularly the repeated fragmentation of urban municipalities and urban service areas, followed by their recombination with very large surrounding rural geographies.

While individual boundary changes may be defensible in isolation, taken together they reveal a consistent pattern that raises serious questions about communities of interest, effective representation, and democratic fairness. Several proposed changes in the Edmonton Metropolitan Region illustrate this issue clearly:

1. Stony Plain and Spruce Grove, historically paired and functionally linked, are now separated, with Stony Plain placed into a division extending far west and south into predominantly rural territory, while Spruce Grove is assigned to a different, largely rural-oriented division.
2. Beaumont, a single urban municipality with shared services, growth pressures, and community identity, is proposed to be split in half, with the eastern portion grouped with a large rural area around Cooking Lake in Strathcona County, and the western portion grouped with Nisku, the City of Leduc, and the Kavanagh rural area.
3. Sherwood Park, the urban service area of Strathcona County, is also proposed to be divided across multiple electoral divisions, despite functioning as a coherent urban community.

These examples suggest that urban communities are not merely being adjusted at their edges, but actively broken apart and redistributed across multiple ridings with very different geographic and policy contexts.

Urban municipalities and urban service areas cannot be split without consequence. They are defined by shared infrastructure, transportation systems, housing pressures, economic activity, and social services. When a single urban community is divided between multiple electoral divisions:

1. Residents with identical day-to-day concerns are represented by different MLAs.
2. Advocacy on shared issues becomes fragmented.

3. Accountability is diluted, as no single MLA is clearly responsible for representing the full community's interests.

This runs counter to the principle of respecting communities of interest, even when population parity targets are technically met.

I want to be clear that my concern is not that urban and rural Albertans should never be represented together. Many mixed ridings are inevitable and appropriate in Alberta. However, the interim proposals frequently combine small or fragmented urban populations with very large rural territories, creating ridings that are both geographically expansive and socially heterogeneous. This creates real challenges:

1. MLAs must divide limited time and capacity across vast areas with very different needs.
2. Urban-specific issues risk being consistently deprioritized due to scale and voting dynamics.
3. Rural communities may also receive less focused attention when paired with larger population centres.

In such configurations, representation can become less effective for all constituents.

Electoral boundaries shape not only representation, but the practical competitiveness of democracy. Urban areas in Alberta tend to exhibit different political preferences than surrounding rural regions. When urban communities are fragmented and absorbed into large rural ridings, the effect is to systematically dilute the influence of both urban and rural voters, and reduce the likelihood that underrepresented viewpoints can ever achieve representation. This is not intended as a partisan accusation, but it is a structural concern. In a healthy democracy, boundary design should avoid outcomes that predictably limit political competition or entrench one set of viewpoints across large regions.

I respectfully request that the Commission reconsider the broader approach reflected in the interim map, particularly where it splits urban municipalities or urban service areas across multiple divisions, and attaches those fragments to expansive rural geographies. Suggested principles for revision include:

1. Keeping urban municipalities and urban service areas within a single division, wherever possible.
2. Prioritizing coherent regional communities as much as population parity
3. Balancing population requirements in ways that do not consistently fragment urban voters or diminish effective representation.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these concerns and for the important work you are undertaking to protect fair and effective representation for all Albertans.

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Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission
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December 12th, 2025

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the recently released electoral boundaries interim report and proposed map. It appears that the feedback that I had provided in June was completely disregarded. My submission outlined key considerations for the Peace River constituency, which I believe are essential for maintaining fair and effective representation.

In my June submission, I emphasized the following points:

1. **Community Integrity** – Communities that share economic, cultural, and social ties. This undermines the principle of keeping communities of interest intact, which is fundamental to equitable representation.
2. **Geographic Realities** – Peace River encompasses vast rural areas with unique challenges related to transportation, access to services, and regional governance. The new boundaries do not adequately reflect these realities, potentially diminishing the voice of rural residents.
3. **Population Balance vs. Representation** – While population equality is important, it should not override the need for effective representation in geographically large constituencies. The new map appears to prioritize numerical balance at the expense of practical representation.

Additionally, I am deeply concerned about the removal of a constituency in northern Alberta under the proposed map. This decision significantly reduces representation for residents in the north, where distances are vast, and communities are already underserved. Eliminating a northern seat further concentrates representation in urban areas, leaving rural and remote Albertans with diminished access to their elected officials and weakening their voice in provincial decision-making.

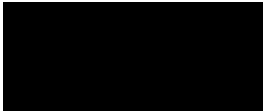
Furthermore, the creation of the *newly proposed riding of Mackenzie*, which is predominantly Indigenous, raises concerns about unintended segregation. While recognizing the importance of Indigenous representation, isolating these communities into a single riding risk marginalizing their voices rather than integrating them into broader provincial discourse. Electoral boundaries should foster inclusion and shared representation. The First Nations communities located near High Level share strong

social, economic, and cultural connections with the surrounding municipalities and neighboring communities in the northwest. These ties include shared access to services, regional trade, employment opportunities, and transportation corridors that link them closely to High Level and adjacent areas. In contrast, grouping these communities with other First Nations such as Peerless Trout, which is geographically distant and has distinct economic and cultural circumstances, does not reflect these realities. Such an approach risks creating boundaries that ignore existing relationships and regional cohesion, ultimately weakening representation and community integrity.

I respectfully request that the Commission revisit these concerns and incorporate them into your final report.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I remain committed to working collaboratively to ensure that electoral boundaries serve the best interests of all Albertans, including those in Peace River and across northern Alberta.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

Angela Cobick
Constituent of Peace River

Jillian Marino



December 19, 2025

Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW Edmonton, AB T5G 2Y5

RE: Feedback on the 2025-26 Interim Report – Edmonton-Gold Bar Perspective

To the Members of the Commission,

As a resident of the Edmonton-Gold Bar electoral division, I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for the tremendous amount of work and dedication the Commission has demonstrated in service of our province. The detail provided in this interim report reflects a deep commitment to the foundational democratic principles of Alberta, specifically by keeping the requirement for effective representation and relative population parity at the forefront of your decision-making process.

I would like to specifically commend the Commission on its efforts to minimize the use of hybrid or "blended" divisions where possible. In a rapidly changing province, maintaining the integrity of historic ridings and keeping established communities together is essential for ensuring that residents feel truly represented by an MLA who understands their specific local interests.

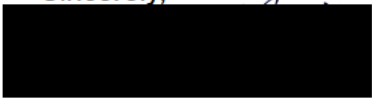
However, I wish to offer feedback regarding the recommendation to consolidate six electoral divisions in Edmonton's urban centre into five. While I understand the current population growth in these areas has been slower than in suburban regions, I strongly encourage the Commission to reconsider reinstating the sixth riding in central Edmonton.

As an employee of Edmonton Public Schools, I see firsthand the significant impact of the City of Edmonton's property development legislation, which now allows for infill housing of up to eight homes on a single property. This infill development is growing exponentially, revitalizing older neighborhoods and significantly increasing residential density. In my professional capacity, I witness the resulting overcrowding in our central Edmonton schools—a clear indicator that these regions are becoming much busier than current census estimates might suggest. Given this trend toward densification, a consolidated riding may soon become overburdened, potentially hindering effective representation for these revitalized urban communities.

As we approach the next provincial election, I also urge the Commission to prioritize clarity in voting divisions and to work diligently to minimize barriers that might prevent residents from easily accessing voting stations. Ensuring that boundaries are understandable and that voting remains accessible is vital to a healthy democracy.

Thank you for your time and for considering the concerns raised in this letter. I validate the immense complexity of the task you have undertaken and wish to again praise the Commission for producing such an excellent and comprehensive interim report.

Sincerely,



Jillian Marino



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ALBERTA

Honourable Jason Nixon, MLA, ECA
Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre

December 19, 2025

Electoral Boundaries Commission
Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, AB
T5G 2Y5

Dear Members of the Electoral Boundary Commission,

I am writing to provide comment on the interim report of the 2025 Boundary Commission. I appreciate the opportunity to respond to the decision of the commission to redistribute the existing riding of Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre into several new ridings. While I recognize the challenge facing the Commission in balancing multiple priorities to achieve effective representation, the decision to divide west central communities like Rocky Mountain House, Sundre, and their surrounding counties into ridings that stretch to the east will not reflect the unique characteristics of these communities. I believe that the principles of keeping local communities of interest together, uniting transportation corridors, and respecting the history of the region all highlight the need to adjust the boundaries to ensure effective representation of people living along the Eastern Slopes.

Communities of Interest

The proposed boundaries for west central Alberta will divide communities of interest in the region. I have had the honour of representing west central Alberta for over a decade in the Legislature, and have firsthand knowledge of interconnectedness of communities along the Eastern Slopes in this region. Both Sundre and Rocky Mountain House are regional hubs for residents and industries located to the west of these towns. For residents of west central Alberta, both of these towns act as gateways to the west, and have more in common with each other than with other communities further to the east. These towns share similar industries, including forestry, oil and gas, agriculture, and tourism, that are common along the Eastern Slopes and distinct from communities to the west.



In addition, the proposed boundaries risk cutting off critical service hubs from the Albertans who rely on these services. For Eastern Slopes towns like Rocky Mountain House and Sundre, services such as schools, hospitals, police, fire, and tourism services are all based in these towns, and serve all residents to the west until you reach the British Columbia border. These towns support not only the residents of the surrounding area, but the hundreds of thousands of visitors who use the Eastern Slopes for recreation each year. The current proposed boundaries risk dividing the representation of thousands of rural residents, creating a situation where they live in a different constituency from where they work, go to school, and access key services. A better alternative to the current proposal would be to keep Eastern Slopes communities together in the same boundaries, reflecting the role that Rocky Mountain House and Sundre hold as critical regional hubs.

Transportation Networks

The interim report proposes ridings that do not follow the transportation network in west central Alberta. Rocky Mountain House, Sundre, Clearwater County, and the M.D. of Bighorn are all connected by transportation networks that residents of these areas use every day. Highway 22 is a north-south high load corridor that runs from Cochrane to Rocky Mountain House. This corridor connects local economies in this region, as well as providing the primary transportation network between all these communities. Highway 40, also connects the backcountry, running north-south along the Eastern Slopes from south of Highway 1A to north of Highway 11, and is frequently used by industry and tourism to access some of the more remote areas of west central Alberta. Finally, Highway 11 is a major east-west economic corridor that connects Rocky Mountain House to Nordegg and Banff National Park. This is in contrast with the proposed Banff-Jasper constituency, which relies solely on the Highway 93 corridor that is frequently closed in winter and lacks any cell reception for most of its length, and is unrealistic to expect a single representative to travel that distance regularly. A constituency that includes Clearwater County, Rocky Mountain House, western Mountain View County, M.D of Bighorn, and Banff National Park reflect multiple major economic corridors that connect the people of west central Alberta and achieve the goal of effective representation.

Common Geography

The common geography of the Eastern Slopes, and its distinction from eastern communities, provides another reason to create a riding that includes the entire region. West Central Albertans share a unique identity that is closely linked to the hills, forests, rivers, and mountains. This geography is integral to the Indigenous communities who have called the landscape home for thousands of years. The Town of Rocky Mountain House, for example, was founded as a fur trading post in 1799 and served as a starting point for some of the earliest European exploration of the Rocky Mountains. The common geography also connects the Banff National Park to the region outside its boundary in MD of Bighorn, Mountain View County, and Clearwater County. The proposed maps divide this common landscape between several constituencies, and attach western mountain communities unnaturally to prairie communities to the east. The effective representation of the Eastern Slopes would be significantly improved by uniting the communities that share this common geography together under a single constituency.

History

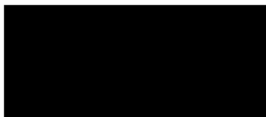
Finally, I will highlight the historical precedent for connecting Eastern Slopes communities in a single riding. The Commission interim report refers to the Carter decision, confirming that “‘history’ is a proper consideration in drawing electoral division boundaries.” In west central Alberta, Rocky Mountain House has been united with its surrounding county in the same constituency dating back to at least 1940, reflecting the town’s role as the central hub for Clearwater County. The Rocky Mountain House constituency also historically included Sundre and western Mountain View County, dating back 85 years. In addition, the west central Alberta riding has traditionally extended to include parts of Banff National Park, and it would be reasonable to continue to unite this similar geography. As Alberta’s population increases and the size of electoral divisions grow, it would be appropriate to build on existing history of the ridings in the region, instead of split this area apart.

Conclusion

The unique characteristics of west central Alberta and Eastern Slopes communities should not be overlooked as the Commission undertakes electoral boundary changes. In conclusion, I urge the Commission to consider creating a west central Alberta constituency that includes: the entirety of Clearwater County; O’Chiese First Nation 203, Sunchild First Nation 202, and Big Horn 144A; Rocky Mountain House; western Mountain View County, using the existing boundary between Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre and Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills as the dividing line with the exception of Cremona, which should be included with communities to the west of Highway 22; Sundre; M.D. of Bighorn; Stoney 142, 143, and 144; and Banff National Park, including the Town of Banff and the Banff Improvement District. A riding including these communities, which are connected by communities of interest, transportation networks, common geography, and history, would support the Commission’s goal of effective representation for the people of west central Alberta.

Thank you again for your service to Albertans.

Sincerely,



Hon. Jason Nixon, MLA, ECA
Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre



Interim Report Submission from Myrna Nerbas

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:49 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Myrna

Last Name

Nerbas

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Calgary

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

04 - Calgary-Buffalo

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

06 - Calgary-Confluence

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Communities of interest
- Effective representation

- Projected growth

Submission

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your interim report. I recognize how difficult it must be to try to balance competing interests and thank you for your efforts to do this.

I note the report considered population growth in recommending adding new ridings in Edmonton and Calgary. I respectfully ask the Commission to recommend an additional riding in Calgary to reflect the size of the population increase here.

Unfortunately I am disappointed in the recommended new riding of Calgary Confluence. I'm in the portion of it that lies west of the Deerfoot.

The only commonality that I can see is 3 small residential areas tucked in beside industrial areas. They are divided by the Bow River and two very busy thoroughfares, Deerfoot Trail and 17 Avenue SE. The areas themselves have different demographics and different communities of interests. Unfortunately I believe that means we will not have effective representation.

Thank you for considering my comments.

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Kenneth Vanderwell

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:48 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Kenneth

Last Name

Vanderwell

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Slave Lake

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

70 - Lesser Slave Lake

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

80 - Slave Lake-Westlock-Athabasca

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Northern Alberta concerns

- Effective representation
- Other concerns

Submission

Hello Commission,

My name is Ken Vanderwell, I am a business owner out of Slave Lake operating a lumber company since 1971 that is in the (70)-Lesser Slave Lake electoral division. I also was the only person who made an in-person presentation on preserving the existing boundaries of the division on behalf of the Lesser Slave Lake UCP Constituency Association to the commission when you visited the Town of Slave Lake on June 18, 2025 – in my role as CA Vice-President. CA President Mike Skrynyk also attended with me. My presentation asked that the Lesser Slave Lake ED be preserved as is for various reasons.

In our discussion with the commission in Slave Lake, they indicated that preservation was a problem as the population had fallen below a critical threshold. We spoke at length about the population concerns of the ED, with the commission asking our opinions on where we might see communities added into the ED boundaries to increase the population count. At that time, I believe we needed about 240 more people to meet the minimum threshold.

Subsequent to our presentation, Mike Skrynyk spoke with the Mayor of Swan Hills, who indicated to him that they would prefer to be a part of the Lesser Slave Lake ED since they are already included in the Big Lakes County (High Prairie) MD boundary. Mike contacted the commission in late June, and proposed the addition of Swan Hills to the Lesser Slave Lake ED as a solution to the population issue. (The Town of Swan Hills has sent the commission a letter under a separate submission supporting inclusion into the Lesser Slave Lake ED, which would increase the population count by about 1,300 people.)

This would be a great solution to the population threshold problem in the Lesser Slave Lake ED, and we believe the commission needs to consider this solution to keep the existing Lesser Slave Lake ED largely intact as it is.

I would go one step further and would strongly suggest that the GoA consider making the existing electoral division boundaries in the rural areas of the province largely permanent, with minor boundary changes allowed as population and other factors warrant. While I realize this solution is outside the scope of the commission, I believe it is the only long-term solution to the rural erosion/representation problem as populations in the urban areas increase. So, in the meanwhile, as the GoA works on a permanent ED boundary solution, I would propose that the commission keep rural electoral boundaries close to where they currently are, (which history has proven can be serviced by the MLA with effective representation) and that the GoA looks at making rural ED boundaries largely permanent. This would ensure that rural concerns continue to be represented at the legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak again to this important issue.

Ken Vanderwell

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Alison Kert-Kravitz

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:45 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Alison

Last Name

Kert-Kravitz

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Okotoks

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

65 - Highwood

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

24B - Okotoks-Diamond Valley

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Communities of interest
- Effective representation

Submission

Our communities have like values and concerns. I believe it is important to have our communities voices heard together and represented accordingly.

Shifting okotoks area to Calgary is a large concern for our rural community as our concerns, values, and political views as our voices will be lost with the large population and growth within the city of Calgary.

Appreciate the chance to voice my opinion on this! Hope to keep our small communities together!

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Interim Report Submission from Scott Cressman

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:43 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Scott

Last Name

Cressman

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Calgary

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

03 - Calgary-Bow

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

04 - Calgary-Bow

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Hybrid electoral divisions

- Geographical features
- Naming of electoral boundaries

Submission

Statement in Opposition to Proposed Electoral Boundary Changes to the Calgary-Bow Constituency

As a long-time resident of Montgomery, where my family and I have lived for 25 years, I am strongly opposed to the proposed changes to the Calgary-Bow electoral boundaries. Our community is deeply connected—geographically, socially, and historically—to Bowness and the neighbouring communities to the west. These ties define the integrity of our constituency and ensure that our shared interests and local needs are represented fairly and effectively.

The proposed boundary changes threaten to fracture this long-established sense of community and representation. It appears that these revisions may serve political interests rather than the democratic principles of fair and equitable representation. Redrawing boundaries in a way that could benefit one political party—particularly the UCP—undermines trust in our democratic institutions and raises serious concerns about gerrymandering for political gain.

Fair representation must always take precedence over political advantage. Residents of Montgomery, Bowness, and the broader Calgary-Bow area deserve to have their voices heard within a constituency that reflects genuine geographic and community connections, not partisan convenience. I urge the commission to prioritize fairness, transparency, and community cohesion by maintaining the existing boundaries that accurately represent who we are and how we live together in Calgary-Bow.

Respectfully,

Scott Cressman

Assistant Professor, Alberta University of the Arts

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Interim Report Submission from Catherine MacKenzie

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:40 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Catherine

Last Name

MacKenzie

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Medicine Hat

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

57 - Cypress-Medicine Hat

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

74 - Medicine Hat-Cypress

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Southern Alberta concerns
- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Effective representation

Submission

Electoral Boundaries Commission

I am writing today to express my opinion of the Brooks-Medicine Hat and Cypress-Medicine Hat boundaries. Not long ago the UCP party decided that it was to their advantage to divide the then Medicine Hat riding in two so that the urban riding was diluted with a conservative leaning rural riding. This action was only taken for one reason and that was to give an advantage to the UCP party. It would seem there was little or no concern for the constituents of each riding. Urban living presents unique differences from rural.

Effective and fair representation is what should be the priority when designing boundaries. I can't imagine the uproar if Edmonton was divided for political advantage. Yet the City of Medicine Hat with a population of 63,000 was divided for such that reason. The City has little in common with the rural ridings of Cypress or Brooks. We want an MLA who is familiar with urban needs and specifically our needs. The Cypress riding is a large rural riding by distance and has more in common with the town of Brooks.

I would think the goal of creating boundaries is efficient, effective and fair representation for constituents not gerrymandering for the sake of conservative political parties.

Please reconsider the boundaries for Medicine Hat and its potential for one fairly elected dedicated MLA.

Allan and Catherine MacKenzie
Medicine Hat, Alberta.

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December 18,2025

Alberta Boundaries Commission

My name is Vladimir Pasek. My wife (Denise) and I live in riding 75 called Morinville-St.Albert (now called St.Albert-Sturgeon #83) We are in the Pinewood neighbourhood which is in the city of St. Albert.

Last May, I submitted a letter to the Alberta Boundaries Commission which included the following reasoning for the desired changes :

« Right now, our MVSA riding is quite diverse. It has all the aspects of a mini Alberta. Approximately 50% is Urban and 50% Rural. The urban part of MVSA (St. Albert section) is growing quite quickly and should definitely stay together. As a matter of fact, this north part of St. Albert will eventually grow very close to Morinville and the surrounding area. The main stores are in this northern area of St. Albert (Shopping Centre, Costco, entertainment, car dealers, etc.). It is a great place to raise a family. There are many schools, parks and recreational centres. Also the culture and residents of Legal, Bon-Accord are akin to those of St. Albert, enjoying the same Francophone roots. This new grouping (St. Albert east, Morinville, Legal and Bon-Accord) will be approximately the population size of an average sized (47,000) riding in Alberta. »

Thank you for keeping our riding approximately the same.

Also thank you for not lumping us with Edmonton.

Perhaps due to the large population increase in Edmonton it should have more ridings.

Thank you again for all your tedious work.

Vlad Pasek



Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Joni Kert

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:37 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Joni

Last Name

Kert

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Foothills

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

65 - Highwood

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

24B - Okotoks-Diamond Valley

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Communities of interest
- Effective representation

Submission

I am strongly in favour of maintaining the Highwood constituency and have no interest, and see no value, in merging Okotoks with south Calgary - Much prefer expanding to Okotoks Diamond Valley where our communities have an existing and healthy relationship.

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Electoral Boundaries Commission of Alberta
Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, AB T5G 2Y5
Via email: info@abebc.ca

December 19, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: Proposed Riding of “Mackenzie” in Alberta & Indigenous Representation

I am writing as the President of the Indigenous Bar Association in Canada (IBA) in support of the proposed riding of “Mackenzie” in northwestern Alberta and facilitation of increased opportunities for Indigenous participation in provincial election processes. The IBA is submitting this letter by email, since the online portal does not support submissions by national organizations. We respectfully ask that this letter be placed before the Commission, for its consideration.

As the voluntary, national association representing Indigenous (First Nation, Métis, and Inuit) lawyers and legal professionals in Canada, the IBA is dedicated to advancing Indigenous legal traditions, promoting the reform of laws and policies that impact Indigenous peoples in Canada, and raising awareness of Indigenous issues within the broader Canadian society. We have approximately 330 members across Canada, with 119 of our members being located in Alberta.

The creation of a Mackenzie-area riding would be a historic opportunity for Indigenous voters in northern Alberta to come together and have their distinct perspectives and concerns heard and represented in the Alberta legislature. Far too often, Indigenous voters represent a minority within existing electoral district, resulting in their voices and priorities being diluted through the electoral process, and insufficiently reflected in provincial or national decision-making. While this is slowly changing with increases in Indigenous candidacies and electoral success, Indigenous people remain significantly under-represented in Canadian political or legislative bodies.

In our view, the proposed Mackenzie riding would advance the overall objective of increasing Indigenous representation and ensuring greater consideration of Indigenous legal, social, and justice issues by the provincial legislature. It would constitute an important step towards the right of “effective representation” articulated by the Supreme Court of Canada in *Reference re Provincial Electoral Boundaries (Saskatchewan)*, [1991] 2 SCR 158 (often known as “Carter”). In *Carter*, the court emphasized the importance of having a voice in the deliberations of government, a voice which is diluted when electoral boundaries divide or marginalize communities.

The proposed Mackenzie riding would be among the few ridings in Alberta with a significant Indigenous population within its boundaries. Available data indicates that almost 50% of voters in the proposed Mackenzie riding would be Indigenous, including members of 13 First Nations and 4 Métis settlements. Section 14 of the *Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, directs the Commission

to consider “effective representation” of specific communities, including First Nations and Métis settlements. This statutory consideration factor supports the creation of a Mackenzie riding that represents a growing Indigenous population in the north.

Creating or maintaining a riding centered on Indigenous communities in northern Alberta would ensure that their voices remain strong in provincial legislative decision-making. This approach is not unprecedented. Other provinces have recognized the importance of Indigenous representation through electoral boundaries, including the Government of Saskatchewan (e.g., the Cumberland and Athabasca ridings that provide representation for a majority of northern and Indigenous peoples), and the Government of Manitoba (e.g., the Keewatinook, Pas–Kameesak, Flin Flon, and Thompson ridings in northern Manitoba are predominantly Indigenous).

We urge the Commission to preserve the Mackenzie riding as presented in the interim proposal and prioritize Indigenous representation in northern Alberta. Indigenous voters in northern Alberta have distinct needs and are entitled to effective representation that reflects their unique cultural, economic, and governance realities.

In closing, the IBA supports the proposed creation of a Mackenzie riding and the increased opportunities it represents for Indigenous peoples to have their concerns heard and represented in Alberta political and legislative spaces. Should you have any questions about this letter, please have your staff reach out to Cindy Sunshine [REDACTED] to arrange a time when we can meet.

Nia:wen ko:wa,

[REDACTED]

Alexandria Winterburn
President, Indigenous Bar Association

c.c. Victoria Pierre, IBA Vice President
Melinda Moch, IBA Secretary
Benjamin Ironstand, IBA Treasurer
Cindy Sunshine, IBA Executive Assistant





Interim Report Submission from Rosemary O'Donoghue

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:36 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Rosemary

Last Name

O'Donoghue

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Beaumont, AB

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

69 - Leduc-Beaumont

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

85 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Communities of interest
- Geographical features
- Effective representation
- Naming of electoral boundaries
- Other concerns

Submission

I have lived in Beaumont for 44 years, watching the town grow from less than 2,000 people to the City we are now. I have been proud to say that even with the growth, Beaumont has maintained its small town feel. I have watched my own children and many of their friends grow up here, move away then return with children of their own. The thought of Beaumont being split into two is, to me, horrifying. The Town/City has always been unified in all aspects; I can't even start to think what the division would do to the wonderful sense of community that has always represented Beaumont.

I acknowledge this is my personal opinion but I have no doubt it reflects the opinion of many residents of Beaumont.

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Interim Report Submission from Reuben Kravitz

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:34 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Reuben

Last Name

Kravitz

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Okotoks

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

65 - Highwood

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

24B - Okotoks-Diamond Valley

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Communities of interest
- Geographical features
- Effective representation
- Projected growth
- Naming of electoral boundaries

Submission

I would much rather share an electoral division with diamond valley than Calgary as this would better represent the needs and views of the community of Okotoks. Okotoks is much more like diamond valley than Calgary and should be represented in that way.

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Interim Report Submission from Jack Redekop

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:34 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Jack

Last Name

Redekop

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Calgary

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

24 - Calgary-South East

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

13 - Calgary-Fish Creek

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Effective representation

Submission

PLEASE REFER TO MY INITIAL SUBMISSION PRIOR TO REVIEWING THIS
SUBSEQUENT ADDENDUM TO THAT SUBMISSION

Further to my submission of earlier today, I would like to propose the following revision. It takes into consideration that as I have first submitted, two of the MLAs would end up residing outside the constituency for which they represent. I strongly believe the most effective representation results when the MLA (candidates) reside in the constituency.

So, I would revise my submission to add back to Calgary Fish-Creek, the communities of Lake Bonavista and Lake Bonaventure as defined by the borders of MacLeod Trail to the west, Acadia Drive to the East, Anderson Road to the North and Canyon Meadows Drive to the South. Bonavista Downs, Diamond Cove and Queensland would remain as part of Acadia, as I have submitted.

In addition, Cranston would be divided up, (a very large community), so that everything south and east of Cranston Ave. would remain part of Calgary South East and everything North and West of Cranston Ave. would become part of Calgary Shaw.

This for the most part maintains both the population as close to the mean requirements sought after as well as logical geographical boundaries with the added benefit of effective representation.

Sincerely, Jack Redekop (Please note I am on the Calgary Fish-Creek board and lived in the constituency for over 25 years - my reason for reporting Calgary Fish-Creek as my Electoral Division and the one I am reporting on. It has now occurred to me that you are probably seeking the current electoral division in which I reside, which is Calgary South-East, for the past 6 years.

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**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission
#100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, AB
T5G 2Y5

Via email: info@abebc.ca

December 19, 2025

Dear Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission:

The City of Cold Lake would like to offer its feedback regarding both Options A and Options B as presented in the Alberta Overview – Option A and Alberta Overview – Option B in the Commission's interim report.

The City of Cold Lake would like to express its support for the boundary of the Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul riding as it is displayed in both options.

The interdependent relationship between the City of Cold Lake, 4 Wing Cold Lake and the Cold Lake Air Weapons Ranged cannot be understated. It is critical that the recently annexed Cold Lake Air Weapons Range (CLAWR) continue to be included in a single riding to assure that all opportunities associated with the upcoming modernization of Canada's fighter jet fleet and the modernization of the CLAWR are captured for the good of Alberta and the greater Cold Lake region.

We should note that the recent annexation of the former I.D. 349 into the M.D. of Bonnyville was the result of a sustainability agreement for the City of Cold Lake, which also includes additional support for other municipalities in our region. The sustainability agreement, made through an order in council, shares property tax revenue with the City and other signatories. Any significant change to this agreement would quickly trigger a sustainability crisis for the City of Cold Lake.

Also of note is that, as the proud home of 4 Wing Cold Lake, roughly one third of the City's population is comprised of men and women stationed at the Royal Canadian Air Force Base, which is located within the City's corporate limits. It is the men and women stationed at this base who access, maintain, operate, and work on the CLAWR. Thus, the inclusion of the CLAWR within the same provincial riding within which both the City and 4 Wing Cold Lake are located continues to be a natural fit.

.../2



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

-2-

Severing the CLAWR from our provincial riding would be worrying from the perspective of both the sustainability of the City of Cold Lake and the efficient and effective representation of 4 Wing Cold Lake's interests provincially.

In summation, it is the City of Cold Lake's position that a number of crucial issues necessitate the continued inclusion of the CLAWR within our provincial riding:

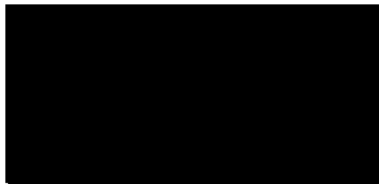
- The CLAWR is accessed from the Cold Lake side, and cannot be accessed in a meaningful way from its west, east, or northern borders
- The people who work on the CLAWR by and large call Cold Lake its home, as they are stationed at 4 Wing Cold Lake
- The CLAWR is managed and operated through 4 Wing Cold Lake, which exists within the City of Cold Lake's corporate limits.
- The CLAWR revenue sharing agreement is critical to the ongoing sustainability of the City of Cold Lake

It is thus our community's opinion that both Option A and Options B, which continue to include the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range within the boundaries of Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul, represent natural boundaries for our provincial representation.

We thank you for your work, and the opportunity to provide our community's feedback.

Sincerely,

Bob Mattice
Mayor



Cc: The Honourable Mickey Amery, Minister of Justice
Mr. Scott Cyr, MLA for Bonnyville-Cold Lake-St. Paul





Interim Report Submission from Yub Raj Paudyal

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:32 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Yub Raj

Last Name

Paudyal

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Calgary

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

10 - Calgary-Falconridge

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

07 - Calgary-Cross

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Communities of interest

Submission

To the Members of the Electoral Boundary Commission

My name is Yub Raj Paudyal and I live in the neighborhood of Whitehorn which is to be changed ridings. I am an active member of several community groups and dedicate much of my time to supporting seniors who face isolation, loneliness, and related challenges in diverse communities. Through this work, I have seen firsthand how important it is for communities to remain connected and represented in ways that reflect their lived realities.

The proposed changes to move Whitehorn from Calgary-Falconridge into Calgary-Cross make complete sense. Whitehorn shares connections with their south of McKnight Blvd Communities like Rundle. These neighborhoods form a natural bond and as recognized in the Commission's interim report, grouping them together will strengthen advocacy for programs that matter most to our residents, such as seniors' wellness, cultural initiatives, and local service access. From my experience working with seniors, I know that proximity to familiar services and community hubs is critical. Under the current boundaries, Whitehorn has been grouped with areas that do not share the same day-to-day patterns or priorities. Moving Whitehorn into Calgary-Cross aligns representation with the reality of where we shop and socialize. It will allow our MLA to better understand and respond to the unique needs of our community.

I do wonder if the initial proposal goes far enough on the matter of adding MLAs to serve the fastest growing part of Alberta: the cities. Calgary has added many many more people over the last few years. We need to ensure that the votes of citizens in the cities carry just as much weight as those in the countryside.

Please consider adding another seat to Calgary so that we may have the same amount of democracy as our neighbours outside the city, and please do not make any rash decisions to pull additional rural voters into our city ridings. Our needs are different and must be represented fairly.

Thank you for your time and your hard work to strengthen democracy in Alberta.

Sincerely,

Yub Raj Paudyal

Whitehorn Resident

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Jocelyn Whaley

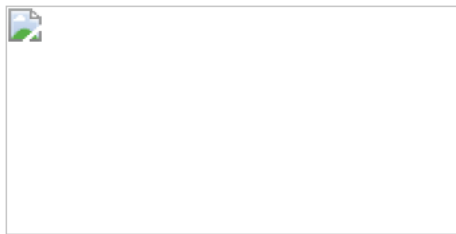
From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:30 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

 1 attachment (131 KB)

Scanned from a Xerox Multifunction Printer.pdf;



First Name

Jocelyn

Last Name

Whaley

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Drayton Valley

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

58 - Drayton Valley-Devon

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

84 - Stony Plain-Drayton Valley-Devon

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Communities of interest
- Effective representation

Submission

Thank you for the opportunity to submit. In conversation with the Town of Drayton Valley Administration and Previous Council of Drayton Valley (prior to the October 20th, 2025 election). We were very pleased to see the proposed constituency moving more towards an alignment with the Federal Riding of Parkland. We feel this alignment better reflects the socio-economic needs of the Drayton Valley area. This also provides for more consistent advocacy potential when grants include multiple levels of government. We would offer the suggestion that the inclusion of Calmar and Devon are not beneficial to either the communities. The primary location for access to healthcare testing, shopping, and employment outside of Drayton Valley is Stony Plain. For the Towns of Devon and Calmar it would be Leduc or Edmonton. The inclusions of those communities may erode the potential of the MLA's advocacy as it could divide the focus from a more "rural needs" perspective to more of a major urban needs. Drayton Valley and Stony Plain are not "bedroom communities of Edmonton whereas both Devon and Calmar could be described as such.

It was a pleasure to read the Proposed Boundary Document. The effort that has been put into it is commendable, while our submission is rather concise I would be amenable for further discussion on the document should that be seen as useful.

File (Optional)

- [Scanned-from-a-Xerox-Multifunction-Printer.pdf](#)

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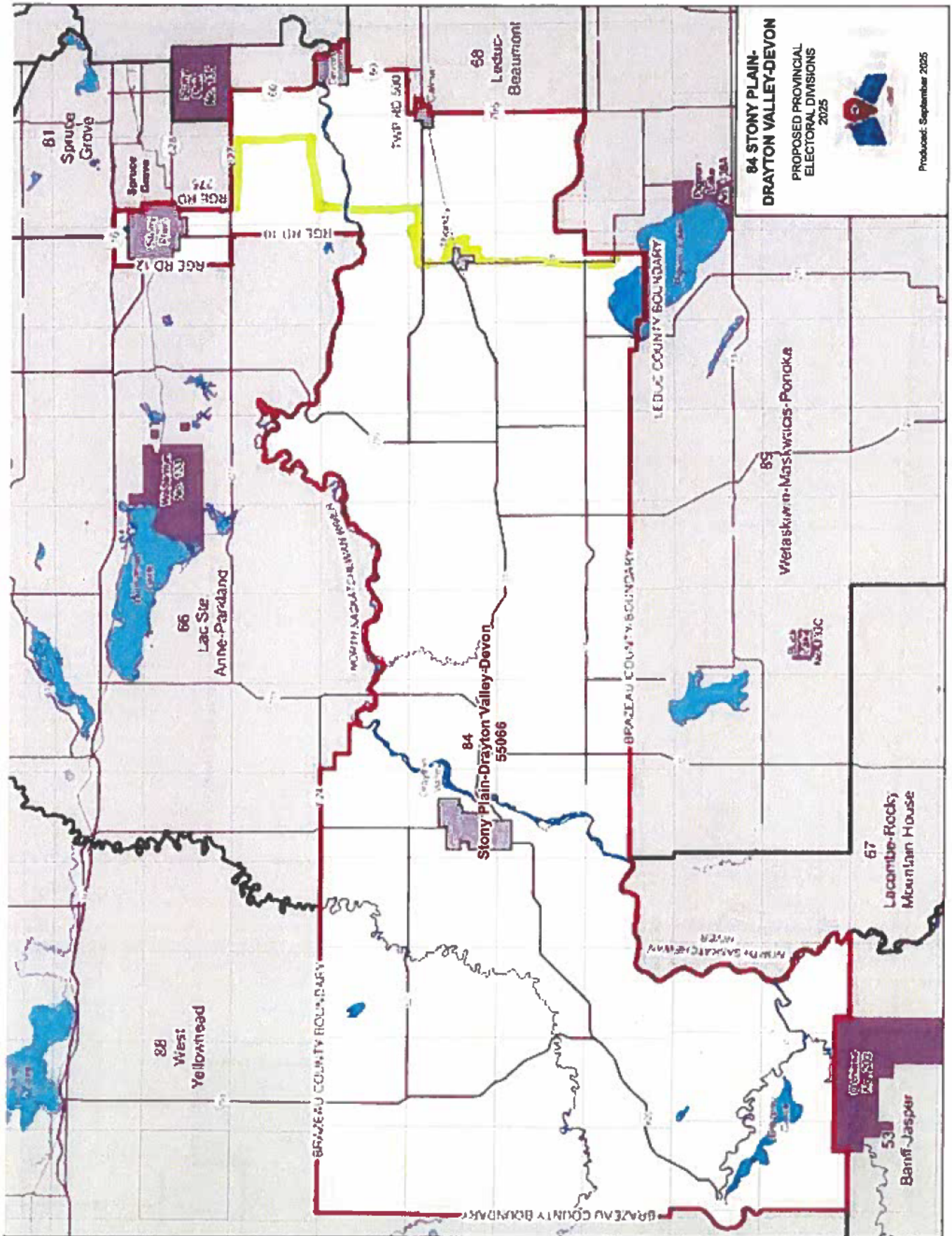
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Dec. 18, 2025,

To The Honourable Justice Dallas K. Miller,
Chair of The Electoral Boundaries Commission

Re: Interim Report to the Speaker of the Legislative
Assembly of Alberta, October 2025

Dear Sir:

My thanks to you and your co-commissioners for your recommendations on the boundaries of a Banff-Jasper electoral division.

I have lived in Canmore for more than 20 years. The geographic features of a riding that includes much of the Rockies and the Eastern slopes, shared by Jasper, Banff and Canmore as its three largest communities, confer numerous common concerns. They include our high wildfire risk in the wildland urban interface, the management of wildlife-human shared space, the overt landscape changes imposed by climate change

in the mountains, and the strains on infrastructure caused by intense tourism demands. These issues would be best managed by shared resources and problem-solving, organized within a single electoral division.

I note also that a revision of the boundaries of the current electoral division would encompass all 6 of the Stoney Reserves, as well as the (Dene) Tsuut'ina Reserve, previously distributed among three electoral divisions, and two Treaty areas (6 and 7). My opinion is that representation of this population block by a single MLA will strengthen the Indigenous views brought to the Legislature. As a clinician who has worked with Indigenous people for my whole career, I have developed the opinion that clearer voices brought from our First Nations to our governing bodies will have only positive effects on the wellbeing of all, as well as being in keeping with the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (Call to Action #43).

I look forward to a future of more collaboration, both among our small mountain communities in a future Banff-Jasper electoral division, and with our First Nations neighbours with whom we will share it.

Again, my thanks for the Commission's wise recommendations on this subject.

Sincerely,

C. Suzanne Perkins, MD

Canmore



Interim Report Submission from Donovan Knopp

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:25 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Donovan

Last Name

Knopp

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Leduc County

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

58 - Drayton Valley-Devon

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

53 - Banff-Jasper

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Effective representation

- Projected growth
- Naming of electoral boundaries
- Other concerns

Submission

The eastern boundary of Banff-Jasper should be moved west. The electoral district of Lacombe-Rocky Mountain House should be extended west to include more of Clearwater County up to forestry trunk road 734. Moving the boundary west would have these residents in the same constituency where they go for the services they need which is Rocky Mountain House. The MLA for Lacombe Rocky-Mountain House likely would have an office in the town of Rocky Mountain House and this provides better access and more effective representation. The Sunchild and O'Chiese First Nations also would have better access to their MLA with an office in Rocky Mountain House.

This reduction in size for Banff-Jasper would lead to a smaller population in the constituency but I believe it is more important for residents to have better access to their MLA.

Canmore is growing rapidly and is set to continue with much more development in the next few years and this will raise the population in the riding from what would start out below the provincial average.

Canmore is by far the largest municipality in the constituency and should have its name first as in Canmore-Banff-Jasper.

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Peter Schlack

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:21 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Peter

Last Name

Schlack

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Sherwood Park

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

84 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

85 - Strathcona-Sherwood Park

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Communities of interest
- Effective representation
- Other concerns

Submission

I am a resident of Sherwood Park-Strathcona County electoral division that will be adversely affected by Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission's proposed change to my electoral division

I note this Commission has failed to acknowledge an earlier Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of Alberta that respected the existing electoral boundaries by not creating a Sherwood Park-Beaumont electoral division.

This Federal Commission rightly understood when it came to a proposed electoral district of Sherwood Park—Beaumont that, ..." there was little in the way of community of interest or community of identity existing between the City of Beaumont on the one hand and Strathcona County and Sherwood Park on the other. but looking north for changes with Fort Saskatchewan. Strathcona County, Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan."

In reviewing the interim report, I found the following references from the Commission that highlight the effect and/or justification for the proposed change. Strathcona-Sherwood Park

It is recommended that the boundaries of the electoral division of Strathcona-Sherwood Park be as shown on Map 85, resulting in a population of 57,429.

The Commission acknowledges the desirability of the current boundaries, being: a) the Hamlet of Sherwood Park south of Highway 16 if east of Clover Bar Road; and b) Strathcona County south of Highway 16. This contentment is shared by most submissions such as those of William Cook.

However, due to population growth in Beaumont and Leduc, the Commission is recommending that the eastern part of Beaumont, east of 50 Street, be added to this electoral division, along with portions of Leduc County east of Beaumont, north of Highway 625, and west of Highway 21, to connect the portions of Beaumont with the remainder of the electoral division.

To balance population based on this change, it is recommended that areas of Sherwood Park presently in Strathcona-Sherwood Park be moved into Sherwood Park if they are north of Foxhaven Park/Heritage Hills Wetland and south of Baseline Road. It is further recommended that Sherwood Park absorb areas west of Clover Bar Road that have been added to the USA of Sherwood Park since the last redistribution.

This electoral division reflects the interests of Sherwood Park, Beaumont, and connected portions of adjacent counties. This will be a vehicle for effective representation. The population is well within statutory and constitutional limits.

Adjacent to Edmonton

"While the number of electoral divisions bordering Edmonton remains the same, adjustments to their borders were necessary, which had collateral consequences on electoral divisions further from Edmonton. Even so, the changes to this area of the province were relatively modest. The most notable changes include: a) the City of Beaumont being divided into two, with its eastern half being paired with Strathcona-Sherwood Park and its western half being paired with Leduc-Beaumont;..."

"The eight electoral divisions that border Edmonton all keep communities of interest in common and respect municipal boundaries and major roadways to the extent feasible. Seven of them are within a 5% variance from the provincial average population, and the eighth is within 10%. All of these electoral divisions will be vehicles for effective representation."

Leduc-Beaumont

It is recommended that the boundaries of the electoral division of Leduc-Beaumont be as shown on Map 68, resulting in a population of 57,548. Because of the decision to move the eastern half of Beaumont into an electoral division with Strathcona-Sherwood Park, this electoral division required additional territory to increase its population.

Sherwood Park

It is recommended that the boundaries of the electoral division of Sherwood Park be as shown on Map 79, resulting in a population of 55,284. This is largely based on the current boundaries of Sherwood Park. Three modest changes are recommended. The first is adding areas of Strathcona County south of Township Road 535 and west of Highway 21 from Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville. This modest change can help, if only slightly, close the population gap between Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville, and reflects that growth in this area will use Sherwood Park as a service centre rather than Fort Saskatchewan. The second is adding areas in the Hamlet of Sherwood Park from Strathcona-Sherwood Park north of Foxhaven Park/Heritage Hills Wetland and south of Baseline Road. These areas can clearly be represented in the urban community of Sherwood Park. Moreover, this helps balance population between Sherwood Park and Sherwood Park-Strathcona. The third is adding areas west of Clover Bar Road that have been added to the USA of Sherwood Park since the last redistribution. This better respects municipal boundaries and also balances populations between Sherwood Park and Strathcona-Sherwood Park. In sum, this electoral division reflects the interests of a hamlet and recognizes that those interests do not stop at the hamlet's borders. Effective representation will certainly be possible. The population is extremely close to the provincial average. To the extent that justification is required for its slightly higher-than-average population, its compact urban nature provides that justification.

I understand the Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission is trying ensure effective representation however I find in its efforts to respect numerical equality (minimizing electoral division variances) it has proposed a change at the expense of effective representation, which includes factors like geography, communities of interest, and historical patterns.

Electoral boundary commissions should operate under a flexible system that requires them to balance these potentially conflicting goals.

The Supreme Court of Canada has established that effective representation is the goal, and while population equality is the primary consideration, other factors may justify deviations.

The Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission has failed to recognize non population factors when it proposes the Sherwood Park-Beaumont electoral

division.

As the Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission noted, “Alberta, like all provinces, has allowed significant variance from the average population to achieve effective representation. The 25% variance permitted (50% for up to four electoral divisions) is in line with Canadian averages.”

I find the Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission does not give proper weight to the following factors that would have precluded any Sherwood Park (Strathcona County)-Beaumont Electoral division.

- o Communities of interest or identity: Groups of people sharing similar social, economic, or cultural characteristics.
- o Historical patterns: Respecting existing boundaries where possible to ensure stability.

I see an error in the Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission’s prioritizing numerical equality decisions that are leading to a dilution of effective representation in specific areas, especially for Strathcona County-Sherwood Park and Beaumont.

- Undue Dilution of Representation: The Commission has ignored the right of every municipality to have its municipal boundaries respected and more importantly significantly caused undue dilution of both the City of Beaumont known for its unique and strong French heritage and bilingual status and Sherwood Park-Strathcona County known for being a large, vibrant urban center (Alberta’s largest hamlet) within Strathcona County with a strong community identity and a blend of rural roots.
- Insufficient Justification: The Commission has not provided clear, written justification for their decisions to deviate from the population quotient. It does not adequately justify why the needs of its proposed change should override the community of interest to not join Strathcona County-Sherwood Park and Beaumont based on the obvious and already established differences between these two communities.
- Ignoring Geographic Realities: The Commission is forcing strict minimal variances to create a riding that does not reflect the will, interests and voices from the population and elected representatives who have already proven effective representation resides with Strathcona County and Sherwood Park and looking north for changes with Fort Saskatchewan-Verville. (reference Report of the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of Alberta 2023)
- Ignoring Community Identity: The Commission is drawing boundaries that split recognized communities of interest purely to satisfy population quotas which will only fragment shared voices and interests.

Ultimately, the Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission has the discretion to balance these factors, but its decisions to propose the change to my electoral division fails to ensure that the primary goal of effective representation with non-population factors is being met.

I would instead propose an alternate solution for the Sherwood Park Strathcona County electoral division based on the very precedent the Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission has already chosen in its interim report. (reference Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission’s interim report for Sherwood Park

electoral boundary expansion north)

The Strathcona-Sherwood Park electoral division could also be expanded north to its closer neighbor Fort Saskaskewan-Vegreville, by modestly adding areas of Fort Saskaskewan-Vegreville south of Township Road 535 and east Elk Island National Park from the Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville electoral division.

This change would modestly reflect the geographical and community interest recognition that those voters in this expanded area look to the Sherwood Park-Strathcona County for services more than Fort Saskatchewan and to a lesser extent Vegreville.

The effect of this proposed solution on the neighboring electoral division of Fort Saskaskewan-Vegreville would help to minimize the adverse geographic realities of the large electoral division and ultimately help the Fort Saskaskewan-Vegreville MLA better represent that vast area.

I trust the Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission will rescind its proposed change to the Sherwood Park Strathcona electoral division and consider looking north for a solution for my electoral division, as it did with the Sherwood Park electoral division.

I believe only then will there be effective representation in the context of electoral boundaries that have a foundational principle with fair and equal representation for voters to the greatest extent possible, by balancing the primary goal of population equality with other crucial factors such as:

- **Communities of Interest or Identity:** Boundaries should respect existing communities that share common interests, such as those based on language, culture, history, or economic activity. The goal is to ensure that these communities are not fragmented across multiple districts, allowing them to elect a representative who can effectively advocate for their specific concerns.
- **Geographic Factors:** In diversely populated, rural, or urban regions, the makeup of a district can pose a challenge for a representative to be accessible to all constituents. In such cases, the Commission must respect those municipal boundaries (City of Beaumont) and unique urban & rural boundaries (County of Strathcona -Sherwood Park) by not splitting them apart. This is essential for effective representation.
- **Historical Patterns:** The Commission must not ignore but always consider the boundaries of previous electoral districts and community history to provide stability and continuity, as frequent changes can be disruptive to both voters and political organizations. The proposed change to add Beaumont to the Strathcona County Sherwood Park would regrettably not respect the history of Beaumont and Strathcona Sherwood Park.
- **Accessibility:** An effective representative must have adequate time and resources to meet and communicate with constituents. The ability for a representative to respond to this proposed change may be an undue challenge given the differences between the community of Beaumont with its unique culture, language, history and needs being amalgamated with the unique community of interest of Sherwood Park-Strathcona County. As noted in the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of Alberta 2023 report elected representatives from both communities have expressed concerns over accessibility to their MLA properly representing their separate and unique community interest if they were to be put in the same electoral division.

Factors like geography, community history, community interests and minority representation may need to be taken into account to ensure that our legislative assemblies effectively represent the diversity of our social mosaic.

I note the Supreme Court of Canada has affirmed that the purpose of the right to vote, as protected by section 3 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, is the right to effective representation, not necessarily absolute equality of voting power. This judicial interpretation allows for deviations from strict population parity when necessary to achieve a fair overall representation that reflects the country's diverse social and geographic mosaic.

This legal reference I hope will have the Alberta Boundary Commission reflect on their proposed change to my electoral division and its negative impact on the City of Beaumont and Sherwood Park-Strathcona County.

I will again reiterate the word from the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of Alberta 2023)

"It became clear to the Commission, both from the written submissions received and from several presentations made during the course of the public hearings, that the proposed electoral district of Sherwood Park—Beaumont was opposed not only by representatives of Sherwood Park, Strathcona County and the City of Fort Saskatchewan on the one hand but also by the City of Beaumont, Leduc County and many more on the other. Their objections mirrored one another. That is to say, there was little in the way of community of interest or community of identity existing between the City of Beaumont on the one hand and Strathcona County and Sherwood Park on the other.

Representatives of Sherwood Park urged the Commission to retain the existing electoral district in order to maintain the community of interest and community of identity existing amongst Strathcona County, Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan. The Commission pointed out that this would result in the electoral district of Sherwood Park—Fort Saskatchewan having a population of 126,313, which is 9.64% above the electoral quota. The presenters explained that they were quite prepared to have a larger population as a fair exchange for maintaining the existing boundaries of Sherwood Park—Fort Saskatchewan as that decision would result in more effective representation for those communities. After consideration, the Commission accepted these representations and has reinstated the existing electoral district of Sherwood Park—Fort Saskatchewan."

The boundaries of provincial ridings should be aligned with municipal boundaries. The Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission should not be unjustifiably trying to force electoral divisions that do not share things in common with those outside of their neighboring electoral areas. We all would like an electoral division that recognizes that we live our lives in very different ways and we want a division that reflects that reality.

Thank you for your consideration of my submission to the Alberta Electoral Boundary Commission's interim report with a proposed solution to address those concerns and effects on neighboring electoral divisions for my electoral division of Sherwood Park-Strathcona County.

Respectfully yours,
Peter Schlack

EBC-2025-2-846

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Peter Laudenklos

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:19 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Peter

Last Name

Laudenklos

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Calgary

Interim Report Considerations

- Chapters I-VII (pages 1-30) of the Interim Report outlines the rationale behind the Commission's proposed Electoral Division areas, boundaries, and names (e.g., population data, feedback from written submissions and public presentations, legal and judicial requirements, etc.). You may wish to review this information prior to making your submission as it might address certain questions and concerns.

What is your current electoral division?

23 - Calgary-Shaw

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

24 - Calgary-Okotoks

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Hybrid electoral divisions
- Effective representation

Submission

Upon review of the changes proposed for Calgary – Shaw, I would like to re-iterate my opposition to the blending of urban communities of Calgary – Shaw into the proposed urban rural hybrid riding of Calgary – Okotoks.

While it is true that there may be some commonalities between some of the residents within the proposed riding, the distribution of populations with varying demographics, needs and realities must be taken into greater consideration. In my opinion, the proposal of Calgary – Okotoks would be a disservice to the current residents of Calgary - Shaw, the town of Okotoks, and rural residents in terms of fair representation.

Alternatively, while the proposed “Plan B” map for Calgary – Shaw is certainly not perfect as noted in the commission’s interim report, the “Plan B” map represents constituents of the riding with fairer representation for a predominantly urban setting.

While I believe that the initial proposal of Calgary – Okotoks has the best intention of achieving fair representation in mind, my concern is that hybrid ridings as proposed would almost always have one group of constituents’ voices and concerns diluted in favour of others on many issues.

As the electoral boundaries commission works towards its final recommendations, I hope that the commissioners take the varied differences and needs between rural and urban constituencies into greater account and gravitates away from the idea of proposing urban rural hybrid ridings.

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Dorjee Parsur

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:19 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Dorjee

Last Name

Parsur

Email

[REDACTED]

Municipality / City

Calgary

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What is your current electoral division?

09 - Calgary-Elbow

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

11 - Calgary-Elbow

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Effective representation

Submission

Dear Members of the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

I am writing as a constituent of Calgary—Elbow to provide input on the current review of Alberta's electoral boundaries. I am grateful for the Commission's work and the opportunity for Albertans to contribute to this important democratic process.

I respectfully urge the Commission to prioritize fair and effective representation for Alberta's major urban centres, particularly Calgary and Edmonton, when determining the reallocation and configuration of electoral seats.

Calgary and Edmonton are home to a growing majority of Alberta's population. Calgary alone has exploded in population while our rural constituencies have declined—it is imperative that our constituencies reflect these demographic changes. Further, these cities drive much of the province's economic activity and are where most Albertans live, work, and access essential services. As population growth in these urban centres continues to outpace that of many rural areas, it is increasingly important that representation in the Legislature reflects this changing reality.

Urban ridings face distinct challenges that differ from those in rural or mixed regions. Folks in Calgary—Elbow, for example, are deeply affected by issues such as housing affordability, public transit capacity, civic infrastructure strain, access to healthcare and education, and the pressures associated with rapid population growth and densification. When urban ridings are overpopulated relative to others, MLAs are required to represent significantly more constituents, which can reduce accessibility and weaken effective representation. While I recognize and respect the importance of ensuring that rural and remote communities are not marginalized, representation must also be grounded in the principle of voter equality—over-adjusting for population spreads dilutes the voices of urban voters and undermines confidence in the fairness of Alberta's electoral system. The riding of Calgary—West, for example, is expected to subsume a significant chunk of sparse suburban and rural territory towards the west—a change which endangers the urban character of the riding.

I therefore request that the Commission:

- Ensure that Calgary and Edmonton receive a number of seats that accurately reflects their share of Alberta's population
- Avoid creating excessively large or overpopulated urban ridings
- Recognize that strong urban representation benefits the entire province, given the central role cities play in Alberta's economic, social, and cultural life

Thank you for considering my submission and for your continued commitment to maintaining a fair and representative electoral system for all Albertans.

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Elliot Martin

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:17 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Elliot

Last Name

Martin

Email

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Municipality / City

Calgary

Interim Report Considerations

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What is your current electoral division?

18 - Calgary-Mountain View

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

Proposed electoral boundaries as a whole

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Urban concerns
- Hybrid electoral divisions

- Effective representation
- Projected growth

Submission

My name is Elliot Martin, and I've resided in the Calgary-Mountain View district for the past 2 years, though I've lived in various communities around the University of Calgary since I came to Alberta for graduate school in physics at the UofC in 2007. Firstly I would like to thank the commission for their dedication to making a fair and impartial map, which is fundamental to a well functioning democracy. Looking to our south, I'm increasingly worried about the partisan gerrymandering that's happening in the US, and think it's vital for the future of our nation that we don't go down that route. I was happy to see that the proposed maps don't seem to have the 'cracking' and 'packing' that you see there, despite the worrying suggestion that it be done to Lethbridge. As someone who has always lived in cities, I strongly feel that a hybrid riding with an urban and rural split would mean my representative would have trouble effectively representing me. I think having representatives split between urban and rural regions denies effective representation to both in most cases.

While I am generally fine with the current maps, I do think the cities should potentially get additional ridings. In the proposed maps I see that there are a number of ridings in both Calgary and Edmonton with above average populations. As these boundaries will last for 8 years, I am worried that what would be somewhat minor underrepresentation for now will be an egregious underrepresentation by the time they are due to change again. These cities are where most of the growth has happened in Alberta, and are highly likely to be where most of the future growth is. Even in inner city neighbourhoods around the university we have places like the University District which is now a bustling neighbourhood full of condos, where only a few years ago were empty fields. I have personally watched my previous neighbourhood of Capital Hill as it has been rapidly getting denser, turning single family homes into town house complexes of various sizes. While I understand that the number of people in a riding is only one of the factors that the commission must consider to ensure effective representation, I don't believe that there is any question that it is the ****most important**** of these, in fact justice McLachlin called it of ****Prime Importance**** in the 1991 ruling quoted in the Interim Report.

Thank you again for your hard work on this important and difficult task.

Elliot Martin

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Outlook

Interim Report Submission from Donovan Allum

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 3:16 PM

To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>



First Name

Donovan

Last Name

Allum

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Municipality / City

Canmore

Interim Report Considerations

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What is your current electoral division?

50 - Banff-Kananaskis

Which proposed electoral division are you making a submission about?

53 - Banff-Jasper

What issues are you concerned about in your submission?

- Rural concerns
- Urban concerns

- Communities of interest
- Geographical features
- Effective representation

Submission

I am writing to express that I am satisfied with the new Banff-Jasper electoral division. It is appropriately named, grouping Albertans well based on their regional interests, and well organized geographically. The Boundary Commission has done an excellent job considering these details, which are very important to me and many of my neighbours. These communities exist in similar environments and share similar values about the environment regarding preservation, co-existence with and protection of the local wildlife, and protection of the trails and forests. The biggest problems facing these communities are also shared: risks of forest fires, flooding, and affordability, and having a single MLA represent these shared issues is ideal, rather than stretching the representative between mountainous and nonmountainous locations.

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