



Outlook

New submission from Donald Seebeck

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>**Date** Fri 5/23/2025 1:08 PM**To** Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

First Name

Donald

Last Name

Seebeck

Municipality / City

Lethbridge

Email**Message**

Lethbridge needs to be divided into three ridings to better serve 100,000 people.

It is long past time for more representation from Southern Alberta.

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Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780 690 2125

Toll-free 1-833-777-2125
Email info@abebc.ca

EBC 2025-1-151




New submission from Greg Mady

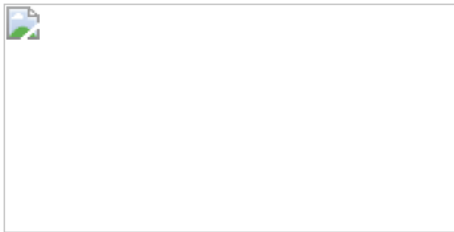
From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 5/23/2025 1:26 PM

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

 1 attachment (335 KB)

Boundary Commission Submission.pdf;



First Name

Greg

Last Name

Mady

Municipality / City

Edmonton & District

**Message**

Please see attached the Edmonton & District Labour Council submission to the boundary commission.

File (Optional)

- [Boundary-Commission-Submission.pdf](#)

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Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780 690 2125
Toll free 1 833 777 2125
Email info@abebc.ca



Edmonton & District Labour Council's (EDLC) Submission to the Boundary Commission

About Us

The Edmonton and District Labour Council was chartered in May 1906 and we currently work on behalf of 50,000 members from across our district. Our district is not just Edmonton but spans from Athabasca in the North, to Wetaskiwin in the South and Seba Beach in the West to Lloydminster in the East. As you know this area contains predominantly rural areas and we take our advocacy for our district very seriously. Our interest in the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission comes directly from our bylaws, the stated goals of our labour council require that we:

“...protect and strengthen our democratic institutions, to secure full recognition and enjoyment of the rights and liberties to which we are justly entitled, and to preserve and perpetuate the cherished traditions of our democracy.

While preserving the independence of the labour movement from political control, to encourage workers to vote, to exercise their full rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and to perform their rightful part in the political life of the municipal, provincial and federal governments.”

These are the values that drive our submission and the understanding of equity that shapes our vision of accurate democratic participation in our province, and we hope that you take this issue as seriously as we do.

Rural Versus Urban

Resultantly, we are always searching for accurate representation of Albertan's in our democracy. Unfortunately, this has not always been the case in Alberta but, we are lucky to be able to address this with this review.

The perceived division of rural and urban electoral districts has always had a disproportionate impact on this work despite many laws and governing bodies trying to fairly address it. This is encapsulated by Laurie Blakeman, the former MLA from Edmonton Centre:



"I think when I read so many of these associations ... there's an expectation of being able to have a private meeting with their MLA and chat with them face to face and things like that. Yeah, my folks would like to do that, too, but they don't get the same kind of opportunity to do that because I'm dealing with more people, and it's not possible for me to organize my representation of people in that same way. If my people had the chance to do it the way some of the rural people were talking, I'm sure they'd take it. They'd say, 'Absolutely I want to be able to operate that same way and have that same kind of relationship with my MLA,' but that's not what's available to me as an urban representative."

The truth is that rural populations are diminishing while urban populations have grown exponentially over the past 5 yearsⁱ. Edmonton alone has had the population of Red Deer moving to the city biennially. This is unprecedented growth in our province, and we do our citizens a disservice if we do not adjust accordingly.

Population Growth

Therefore, the Boundary Commission has no choice but to factor population growth patterns into their decisions. As Edmonton is more affordable and has less red-tape for developers people often choose Edmonton as their new home. There has been significant population growth since the 2021 census. The population of Alberta in 2021, was 4,262,635ⁱⁱ. Estimates by the government of Alberta as of January 1, 2025 state the population of Alberta is 4,960,000. That is 697,365 new Albertans must be accounted for by the Commission when drawing the boundaries. The risk the Commission faces is that we may draw boundaries using the 2021 data then the actual population may create significant population deviations between ridings and may not comply with section 15(1) of the Act.

The Math & The Logic

According to the 2021 census the Alberta population on October 1, 2021 is 4,262,635ⁱ.

Section 13 of the Act has not changed and the Commission will have divided the province into 89 electoral districts.

The average population of those districts $4,262,635 / 89 = 47,895$

The law allows for a maximum variation of plus 25% the maximum riding is 59,869.

The law also allows for a maximum variation of minus 25% below the minimum 35,921.

While the law provides for up to a 25% deviation the lower the deviation the more confidence Albertans will have in the fairness of the boundaries.





The law also allows for a deviation in special circumstances of up to 50% below in prescribed circumstances which is 27,985.

The fact that the information the Commission will be using, the 2021 census data is grossly out of date is concerning. In January of 2025, the Alberta government's economic dashboard estimated our population at 4,960,000. Over 600,000 more people than the 2021 censusⁱⁱ. The use of 2021 census data would create inequities as migration is not an even process people will concentrate on. If we accept that number, the population per riding changes significantly.

The average population of those districts $4,960,000 / 89 = 55,970$

The law allows for a maximum variation of plus 25% the maximum riding is 69,963

The law also allows for a maximum variation of minus 25% below the minimum 41,978.

The law also allows for a deviation in special circumstances of up to 50% below in prescribed circumstances which is 27,985.

Failing to do this would create overrepresentation in rural areas at the expense of urban areas.

If it is possible, the Commission could delay its final report and ask for an updated submission after the 2026 census. This was done by the last boundary commission.

If it is not possible, then this boundary commission should use section 14 (a), which states, "(a) sparsity, density and rate of growth of the population."

The Boundary Commission has the unenviable task of determining how many seats and where they are located.

We have proposals as to what the seat distribution should be

City	2021 Population	2024 Ab Gov Estimates	Proposed seats
Calgary	1,306,784	1,569,133	27/89
Edmonton	1,010,899	1,190,457	21/89
Red Deer	100,844	112,917	2/89
Lethbridge	98,406	111,400	2/89



Medicine Hat	65,266	67,909	2/89*
Airdrie	74,100	88,471	2/89*
St. Albert	68,232	73,110	2/89*
Grande Prairie	64,141	69,377	1/89
Wood Buffalo	75,282	80,568	2/89*
Rest of Alberta	1,398,681	1,596,658	28/89

*Urban-rural hybrid seats

To account for the population growth we used the Alberta government's Office of Statistics Information on the census subdivision (Municipal Population estimates)ⁱⁱⁱ

12(1) For the purposes of this Part, the population of Alberta is to be determined by the Commission in accordance with this section.

(2) In this section, "decennial census" means the most recent decennial census of population referred to in section 19(3) of the *Statistics Act* (Canada) from which the population of all proposed electoral divisions is available.

(3) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), the Commission is to use

(a) the population information as provided in the decennial census, and

(b) information respecting the population on Indian reserves that are not included in the decennial census, as provided by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Canada).

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,

(5) The Commission may, as it considers appropriate, use more recent information respecting the population of all or any part of Alberta in conjunction with the information referred to in subsection (3) or (4).



15(1) The population of [redacted] is 6 above nor more than 25% below the average

The Commission is bound to use the census information because there has not been an Alberta census. The Commission needs to consider section 14(a) sparsity, density, and rates of growth to ensure compliance with section 15(1) and to ensure that no electoral district is more than 25% above or below the median.

We do not want to enter a situation where there are huge deviations between electoral districts. In the 2015 election, Fort McMurray-Conklin had 15,272^{iv} people on their electors list and Calgary South East had 46,871^v. A vote in Fort McMurray-Conklin was significantly more valuable than a vote in Calgary South-East, and it did not comply with the Act.

This point is reiterated by the Supreme Court when they write, *"Relative parity of voting power is a prime condition of effective representation. Deviations from absolute voter parity, however, may be justified on the grounds of practical impossibility or the provision of more effective representation. 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. Beyond this, dilution of one citizen's vote as compared with another's should not be countenanced."*

It's for these reasons, that the Commission must consider where growth in the province is occurring when drawing the boundaries; because we don't want any situation where one vote is worth drastically more than any other.

Boundaries of Cities

While party preference does not need to change between rural and urban voters needs do. The needs of Albertans who live rurally are not the same as those who live in cities. It's for this reason that the Boundary Commission should do their best to maintain the boundaries of cities when drawing the electoral district lines.

The cities are doing their best to create more affordable housing by increasing density targets, whereas the counties surrounding cities pride themselves on the lack of density.

The City of Edmonton, the surrounding cities and the surrounding counties also compete for new business. We know that commercial and industrial property tax is needed to sustain a city and residential property tax never pays for itself let alone a city. Edmonton is seeing countless industrial opportunities go outside it's borders with the residential burden that works in them choosing the city over the county.

The last boundary commission had to split the City of Medicine Hat and the City of Airdrie and there is an urban-rural hybrid electoral district. It was not ideal, but both cities would have breached the 25% maximum. It was not ideal, but in the case of Calgary and Edmonton, there is no reason to have urban-hybrids in these cities.



Section 14 (b) and (e) of the Act
 (b) communities of interest, Indian reserves
 and Metis settlements

(e) the desirability of understandable and clear boundaries,

Having the City boundaries as the understandable boundary makes sense. The City and Counties do not share a community of interest.

Conclusion

The Commission should delay its report until we receive the 2026 census information. If the Commission cannot delay, then it should account for population growth. There are more than 600,000 Albertans who have moved here since the 2021 census and the Commission include them when creating the electoral divisions.

The boundaries of Edmonton and Calgary are understandable boundaries, and they do not share interests with the surrounding counties and cities.

Rest of Alberta should have 28 seats.

Calgary should have 27 seats.

Edmonton should have 21 seats.

Red Deer should have two seats.

Lethbridge should have two seats.

Medicine Hat should have a seat and a hybrid seat.

Airdrie should have a seat and a hybrid seat.

St. Albert should have a seat and a hybrid seat.

Grande Prairie should have one seat.

Wood Buffalo should have two hybrid seats.

End Notes

ⁱ <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/edmonton-s-population-is-booming-and-one-city-councillor-wonders-if-we-re-ready-1.7136203> taken May 23, 2025

ⁱⁱ <https://economicdashboard.alberta.ca/dashboard/population-quarterly/> taken May 7, 2025

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.alberta.ca/demographic-statistics> taken on May 14, 2025.

^{iv} <https://officialresults.elections.ab.ca/orResultsED.cfm?ED=58&EventId=31> taken on May 9, 2025.

^v <https://officialresults.elections.ab.ca/orResultsED.cfm?ED=25&EventId=31> taken on May 9, 2025.





New submission from Jonathan Breitkreuz

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 1:36 PM

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



First Name

Jonathan

Last Name

Breitkreuz

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

To respect the principle that each individual vote should count just as much as the next one, I strongly urge the commission to keep the population in each riding within a 10% variation as much as possible rather than the much lower mandated 25%.

Sincerely,

Jonathan

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Phone 780-690-2125
Toll-free 1-833-777-2125
Email info@abebc.ca

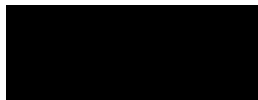
Dear Commissioners

My name is Patricia McGrath, I currently live in St. Albert and have lived in St. Albert off and on since 1973. I am a registered Social Worker/Program Manager and have been employed full-time with CapitalCare since 1996. I am currently the President with the St. Albert NDP Constituency Association and have been volunteering with the Association since 2017.

I feel strongly that Alberta ridings need to capture the significant diverse needs of urban, rural and 'rurban' ridings- which include small to mid sized cities such as St. Albert. It is important to recruit MLA's who are able to identify with the unique needs of the community they represent. If ridings are split too significantly between urban and rural it presents challenges for the constituents to be accurately represented.

It is essential the Commission considers population growth and geographical features when determining how best to represent constituents. This ensures the fairest map for Albertans. Any new seats should reflect the reality of population growth such as South Edmonton and North Calgary. We have seen much growth in St. Albert but not enough to warrant 2 St. Albert ridings similar to Lethbridge and Red Deer. In my opinion, St. Albert and Morinville- St. Albert ridings should remain status quo.


Between 1979-1981, St. Albertans advocated strongly to remain their own community and not become absorbed into Edmonton. This became official in 1982 when Edmonton initiated a different annexation plan. St. Albert has fostered a unique culturally diverse community that celebrates a strong proud history including Francophone and Metis cultures. There is strong support to leave the current ridings as is.



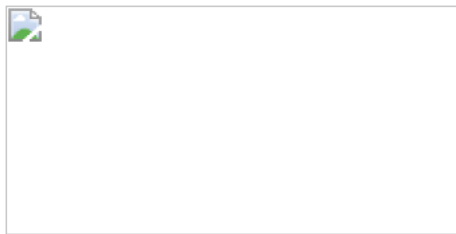


Outlook

New submission from Alberta Federation of Labour

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>**Date** Fri 5/23/2025 2:16 PM**To** Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca> 1 attachment (249 KB)

Alberta Electoral Boundary Submission FINAL 23 May 2025.pdf;



First Name

Alberta Federation

Last Name

of Labour

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Email**Message**

Dear Commission,

Alberta has been the fastest growing province in Canada for six quarters in a row, and has led the country in interprovincial migration for ten quarters in a row. This is a population surge that the government intentionally cultivated.

It's noteworthy that this is a surge for which the government was totally unprepared—there are not enough doctors, not enough schools, not enough teachers, and not enough affordable homes. These are becoming hot-button political issues and Albertans need to know that every effort will be made to ensure voter parity in the next election.

This matters to every Albertan that will be of voting age in the next provincial election. It's about fairness. Our electoral boundaries must reflect the vibrant, five-million-strong province that we have become and ensure equal representation for all voters.

Yours sincerely,

Gil McGowan, President

File (Optional)

- [Alberta-Electoral-Boundary-Submission-FINAL-23-May-2025.pdf](#)

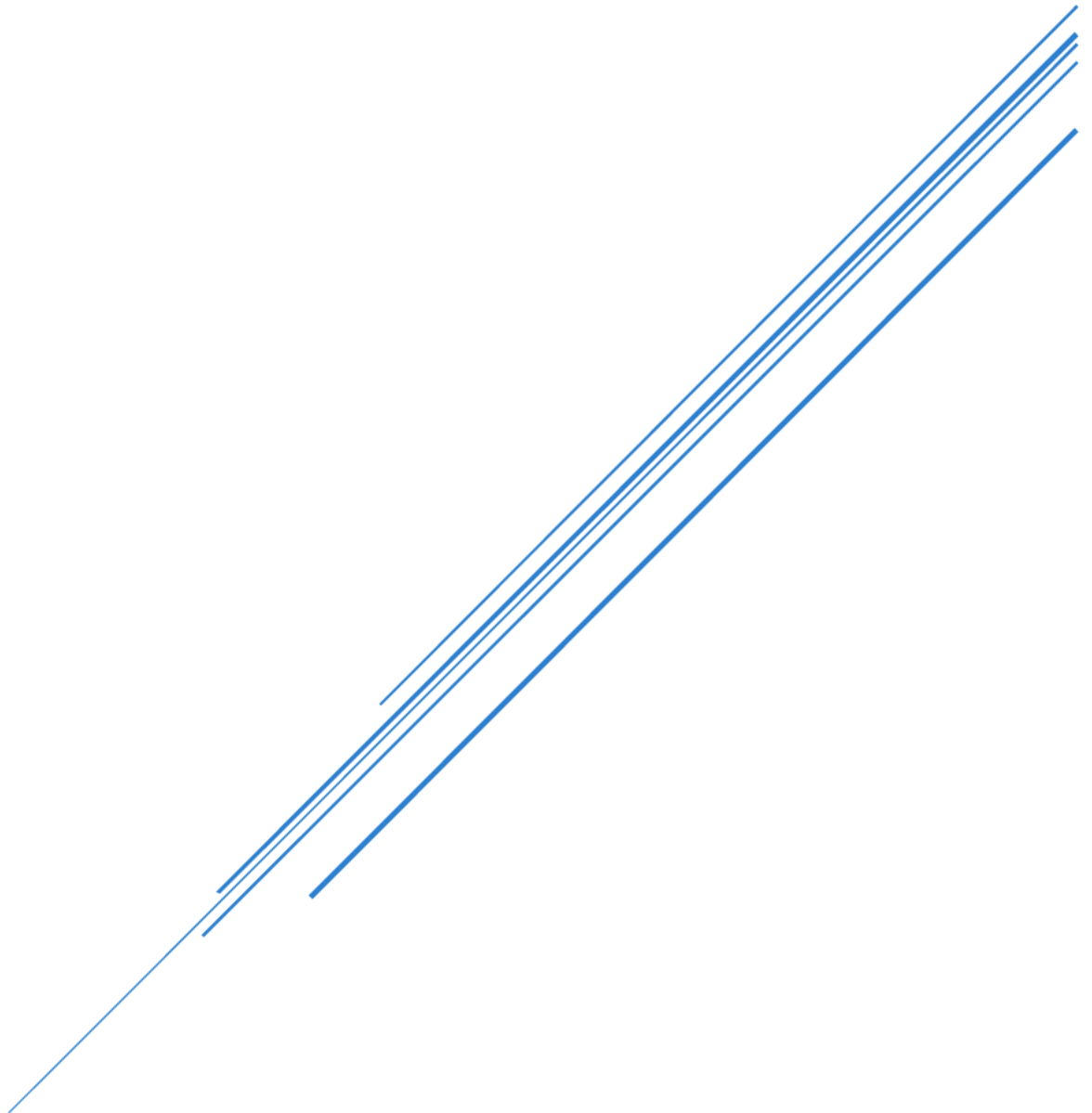
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Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone	780 690 2125
Toll free	1 833 777 2125
Email	info@abebc.ca

SUBMISSION TO THE ALBERTA ELECTORAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION



Contents

About Us.....	3
Legislation.....	3
Census and Estimates.....	3
Effective Representation.....	4
Population of electoral divisions.....	5
Premature Appointment.....	5
What Should the Commission Look At?.....	5
Consequences of Outdated Information.....	7
Effective Representation.....	8
Proposed Seat Breakdown.....	10
Breakdown and Changes.....	10
Conclusion.....	11
End Notes.....	12

About Us

The Alberta Federation of Labour (AFL) is the leading voice for working Albertans, representing 27 affiliated trade unions and over 170,000 unionized workers across Alberta.

In 1912, unionized miners and tradespeople from southern Alberta first agreed to work together under the umbrella of a labour central. Since then, as the largest workers' organization in the province, the AFL fights to defend and advance the rights of working people, and we mobilize Albertans to affect change through collective action.

We believe in the power of working together to achieve a better deal for workers and families.

Legislation

We recognize that the Electoral Boundary Commission (the "Commission") is bound by the legislation and timelines set out in the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act, RSA 2000, c. E-3 as amended ("the Act").*¹ Given that we understand that you must proceed with your report regardless of the arguments set out in our submission, we will be providing you with other parts of the *Act* for review that may have more weight than in previous reports due to the circumstances.

Our report is going to focus on three parts of the *Act* that should be the basis for the Commissions work: census and estimates, effective representation, and concerns with consequential violations of the *Act*.

Census and Estimates

The Commission is limited to using the most recent "decennial census" of population for all proposed electoral divisions unless there is a province-wide census that is more recent, or more recent information respecting the population of all or any part of Alberta:

"Population of Alberta

- 12(1) For the purposes of this Part, the population of Alberta is to be determined by the Commission in accordance with this section.
- (2) In this section, "decennial census" means the most recent decennial census of population referred to in section 19(3) of the *Statistics Act* (Canada) from which the population of all proposed electoral divisions is available.
- (3) Subject to subsections (4) and (5), the Commission is to use

- (a) the population information as provided in the decennial census, and;
 - (b) information respecting the population on Indian reserves that are not included in the decennial census, as provided by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Canada).
- (4) If there is a province-wide census that is more recent than the decennial census and from which the population of all proposed electoral divisions is available, the Commission is to use
 - (a) the population information as provided in the province-wide census, and
 - (b) information respecting the population on Indian reserves that are not included in the province-wide census, as provided by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development (Canada).
- (5) The Commission may, as it considers appropriate, use more recent information respecting the population of all or any part of Alberta in conjunction with the information referred to in subsection (3) or (4)."

Effective Representation

With the requirement to increase the number of electoral divisions from 87 to 89, the overarching objective is ensuring effective representation. The determinations are based on the following Relevant Considerations:

"Relevant considerations

- (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."

Population of Electoral Divisions

With respect to the new divisions and potentially significantly outdated census data, if the Commission does not look at more recent information respecting the population or other factors that are appropriate in the circumstances, the Commission may have electoral divisions more than 25% above or below the average population or have more than the maximum number of electoral divisions as much as 50% below the average population of all the proposed electoral divisions (the “provincial average”).

Population of electoral divisions

- 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:

Premature Appointment

The Alberta government has appointed the Commission one year too soon. The Government was able to appoint the Commission as late as October 31, 2026, but has decided that now is the time that the Commission consider representations and provide their report.

The Canadian government has already started preparing for the 2026 Census of Population and Census of Agriculture to take place in May of 2026.² This information is integral to determining the proper Boundaries in Alberta. Moreover, under Section 12(2) of the *Act*, this would be the correct Order of Precedence for determining the population of fair distribution per boundary. Unfortunately, in this case, using the 2021 Census of Population will likely leave this Commission with significantly outdated information to properly ensure there is effective representation by the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

What Should the Commission Look At?

The most recent Census data that is available to the Commission is the *Census Profile, 2021 Census of Population* which is significantly out of date and does not provide a real perspective or enough correct data to properly ensure effective representation per boundary in the province.

As noted above, the Commission is also able to use a more recent province-wide census if available. Since the province has not done that, one of the last items available for the Commission to attempt in getting effective representation is to use “more recent information respecting the population of all or any part of Alberta in conjunction with the information referred to in subsection (3) or (4).”

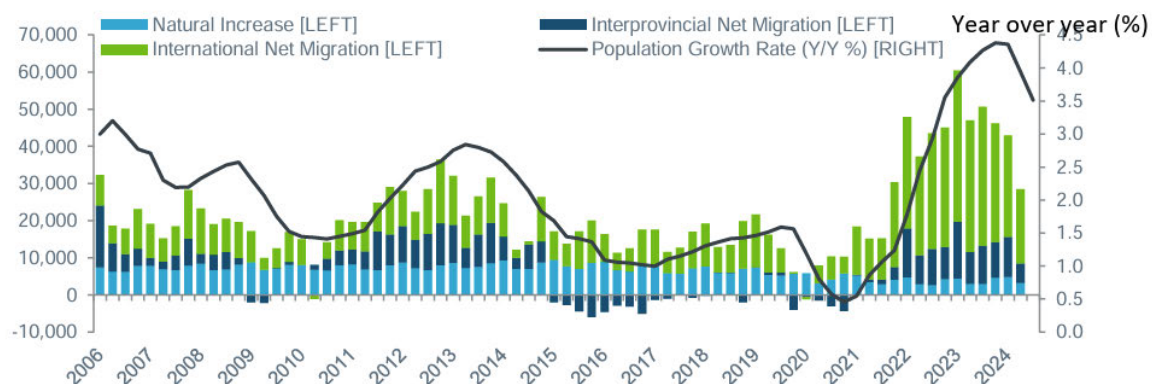
For this we can turn the Commission’s attention to the Alberta government’s 2023–2024 Annual Population Report from the Alberta Treasury Board. In that report, Alberta has not only “led the country for the second year in a row” for population growth, but that “[t]he province has not experienced growth rates of this magnitude since the early 1980’s.”³

In addition to significant organic increases in population to the province, the Government has also introduced incentives for workers in the country to come to Alberta with the “Alberta is Calling: Moving Bonus.”⁴ This is likely why “Alberta had the highest number of interprovincial migrants in Canada for the period of 2023–24 – 43,750 people” in that report.

Finally, in the most recent Quarterly Population Report (as of January 2025), Alberta has “maintained its position as the fastest growing province in Canada for the sixth consecutive quarter” and “[f]or the tenth quarter in a row, Alberta led the country in interprovincial net migration gains.”⁵

Looking at the 2021 Census of Population with a figure of 4,262,635 and the most recent Alberta population report with a figure of an estimated 4,960,097 we have a variance of almost 700,000 people or a 16% increase between the two sets of data. That would be close to an increase of half of Calgary’s population from the 2021 Census. The year 2021 was actually the lowest population change since 2006 (*Figure 1*).

FIGURE 1: COMPONENTS OF POPULATION CHANGE, Q4 2024



Source: Statistics Canada

Consequences of Outdated Information

If the Commission does not look at the relevant factors, they may unintentionally dilute the vote in multiple electoral divisions, causing uneven and unfair representation. Section 15(1) of the *Act* requires the Commission to ensure that 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.

It is possible for the Commission to approve under Section 15(2) of the *Act* that “the proposed electoral division may have a population that is as much as 50% below the average population of all the proposed electoral divisions” if certain criteria are met. Having said that the maximum is still 50%.

It is possible depending on population numbers that at least two electoral districts may be above the 50% maximum threshold set out in the *Act*.

In 2017 the Commission provided their Interim Report for the first round of public hearings prior to the expected population figures from the Canada 2016 Census because Section 12(5) of the *Act* was able to rely on the figures from the Alberta Treasury Board until the Census data was available.

If we were to look at the Canada 2021 Census today, the average population in each of Alberta’s newly divided 89 ridings would be an estimated 47,894 but if we were to use the data from the 2024 Quarterly Population Report, the number is closer to an estimated 55,731. That is a significant population discrepancy of 16% in just 5 short years.

There are two electoral districts that the Commission should be looking closely at when determining the most recent population data. If the estimated population from the Alberta government is correct, and most of the population changes happened in large urban areas, then Central Peace–Notley and Lesser Slave Lake boundaries may be in violation of s. 15(2) of the *Act*.

According to the 2021 Alberta Provincial Electoral Divisions (PED Summary Tables)⁶ the total population of Central Peace–Notley was 27,155 and the total population of Lesser Slave Lake was 26,715, putting them both below the 50% threshold (27,866) of the estimated 55,731 of today’s population division. The Commission will have to be sure that there were over 700 people that were added to the Central Peace–Notley electoral district and over 1,100 people added to the Lesser Slave Lake electoral district to be compliant with the *Act*.

Given the nature of those two electoral districts, we understand the criteria that are being met under section 15(2), however under the current population even those criteria are superseded by a violation of the *Act*.

Overall, this Commission should be doing the inverse of what the Electoral Boundaries Commission did in 2017, by first looking at the most recent Census data (2021) and supplementing the information provided by the Alberta Treasury Board to get a more accurate depiction of Alberta's population today and calculate the provincial average. The previous Commission rightfully used the 2016 Census data in 2017 to determine the average population and was willing to use more recent population information if it was available.

"Some presenters argued that the federal census information should be rejected as unreliable, based on differences between that data and the information produced by various municipal censuses. The Commission has not accepted that point of view. The Commission believes it is important that one set of data, collected at the same time and employing the same method, be used for the entire province. A patchwork of data assembled from different municipalities, collected at different times and using different processes, is not as fair and reliable a tool as the one set of data produced by Statistics Canada through its census. In any event, section 12(2) of the Act expressly requires the Commission to use the population figures contained in the 2016 federal census. If more recent population information was available, it could have been used. None was available." (Honourable Madam Bielby, 2017, p 11)

Ensuring Effective Representation

For this we will have to once again look at the Supreme Court of Canada in the Reference re Prov. *Electoral Boundaries (Sask.)*, [1991] 2 SCR 158 which the Commission rightfully did in 2017. Justice McLachlin states:

"It is my conclusion that the purpose of the right to vote enshrined in s. 3 of the Charter is not equality of voting power per se, but the right to 'effective representation'...

What are the conditions of effective representation? The first is relative voting power. A system which dilutes one citizen's vote unduly as compared with another citizen's vote runs the risk of providing inadequate representation to the citizen whose vote is diluted. The legislative power of the citizen whose vote is diluted will be reduced, as may be access to and assistance from his or her representative. The result will be uneven and unfair representation.

But parity of voting power, though of prime importance, is not the only factor to be taken into account in ensuring effective representation...."

Although it is not the only goal, one of the goals is for the Commission to get as close to "absolute voter parity" as possible by dividing the province's population by the now 89 electoral divisions. As mentioned above, we have a 2021 census number and a 2025 provincial estimate number. It is incumbent on the Commission to use the most recent information available to get as close to voter parity as possible. The provincial estimate number is where the Commission can begin their analysis of the boundaries of each electoral division.

With the significant increase in population for Alberta, effective representation is more important than ever. Under Section 14, the first consideration listed is "sparsity, density and rate of growth of the population." Alberta has already proven that the rate of growth is not only rapid but the fastest in the country. Alberta has led the country in interprovincial migration for over two and a half years.

Most of the migration is to the two largest urban centers of Edmonton and Calgary, with smaller cities like Red Deer, Lethbridge, Airdrie, and Medicine Hat absorbing some of the rest.

If comparing the 2021 Census data and the PED Summary Tables (2023 data), and using the provincial estimates to create the absolute voter parity, there are already five electoral districts that are above the 25% average population of all electoral districts.

There are three in Edmonton, one in Calgary and one in Airdrie that are over the threshold set out by the *Act*. These figures are, again, from 2025, where it has already been identified that Alberta "continues to see steady population gains", causing potentially an even higher number over the 25% in those districts, or even more electoral districts that are impacted than identified.

Many of these are also encroaching on the new proposed maximum of 55,731 times 25% (69,663) which shows that the new seats, along with other proposed changes, may need to go to the largest urban centers in the province, Calgary and Edmonton. This is important to ensure that the districts will be able to hold up for another 8-10 years when the Commission is appointed again.

As you can see, and much like the arguments in 2017, there are still concerns with urban representation and the goal of getting as close as possible to the absolute voter parity. At the continued rate of growth in our province, absolute voter parity will only become further out of reach if not addressed now.

Proposed Seat Breakdown

We have provided the Commission with a breakdown of seats using the most recent information respecting the population because we believe that it simply cannot be ignored and sets the basis for the best possible potential for absolute voter parity.

With respect to the above we are using the estimate that the Alberta population is at or close to the 4,960,097 estimate which would provide us with a breakdown of 55,731 per each 89 electoral districts.

Given that we would not reasonably receive anywhere near the voter parity in both Central Peace-Notley and Lesser Slave Lake much like the last report, we concede that those electoral districts will remain as the two districts covered by section 15(2) of the *Act* that are 50% below the average population of all the proposed electoral divisions. However, boundaries will still have to be looked at and redrawn for those ridings to ensure that the *Act* is compliant, because both estimates are showing that they are now more than 50% below the average population.

As for the city of Medicine Hat, the Commission should be looking at section 14(b) of the *Act* and reintroducing a single urban electoral division within the city. When looking at the “communities of interest” it is important to allow the MLA’s to be able to better address their urban issues and allow the surrounding residents to be provided with representation on their primary agricultural interests. With the growth of Medicine Hat, the community of interest for both urban and rural interests should outweigh the goal of getting as close to the provincial average as possible. Also, when looking at 14(e) of the *Act*, this change will also provide even further effective representation by providing “understandable and clear boundaries.” The boundary will remain within the confines of the *Act* and should reasonably remain within those confines until the Commission meets again.

Finally, since population growth trends have shown that most immigration has come to the larger urban centers and that there are already some electoral districts that are close to or over the 25% average population in those centers, there should be 2 additional seats in both Calgary and Edmonton to make up for that population growth.

Breakdown and Changes

The Commission should make the following changes:

- Add 2 seats to the Calgary area, creating a total of 28 seats
- Add 2 seats to the Edmonton area, creating a total of 21 seats
- Maintain the 2 seats in Red Deer
- Maintain the 2 seats in Lethbridge
- Create 1 seat for the boundary of Medicine Hat

- Maintain the 1 seat for the boundary of Grande Prairie
- Divide the remaining 34 seats among the rural areas

Electoral Districts	Number of Seats
Calgary	28 Seats
Edmonton	21 Seats
Red Deer	2 Seats
Lethbridge	2 Seats
Medicine Hat	1 Seat and 1 Hybrid Seat
Grande Prairie	1 Seat
Airdrie	1 Seat and 1 Hybrid Seat
St. Albert	1 Seat and 1 Hybrid Seat
Wood Buffalo	2 Hybrid Seats
Remaining Rural	27 Seats

Conclusion

The Commission has a significant amount of work due to the significant population growth Alberta has had since the Commission last met and issued their report.

From the arguments above, the Commission will see some of the electoral districts are dangerously close to violating the *Act* and will have to be extremely careful in their boundary decisions to ensure effective representation for the 89 MLA's that will be working for their constituents.

The work of this Commission, if done correctly, will be able to resolve several issues with respect to effective representation, voter parity, and even clearer boundaries that will allow elected officials the ability to represent and build relationships with their communities that we have not seen in decades.

Alberta has changed significantly since the last report and at least in part due to the increase from interprovincial migration. All these new members of the Alberta population wish to be fairly represented.

We respectfully provide our submissions and thank the Commission for taking the time to review them.

End Notes

¹ https://kings-printer.alberta.ca/1266.cfm?page=E03.cfm&leg_type=Acts&isbncln=9780779850341

² <https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2026/road-enroute/index-eng.cfm>

³ <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/annual-population-report>

⁴ <https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-is-calling-moving-bonus>

⁵ <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/6b5d7997-6062-474f-a955-837fbab70a89/resource/681ec681-a906-493e-b311-b32cf806492f/download/tbf-quarterly-population-report-q4-2024.pdf>

⁶ <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/e3ec1b5f-4573-49f0-b451-2e8585b0fbd6/resource/ad212b26-647b-4d20-a2e7-a947126d062a/download/tbf-ped-2021-summary-tables.xlsx>

[REDACTED]
Ardrossan AB [REDACTED]

May 23, 2025

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

Dear Commissioners,

Re: Strathcona-Sherwood Park Electoral Division

In 2021, my partner and I chose to leave the City of Edmonton and raise our young family in the hamlet of Ardrossan, part of the specialized municipality of Strathcona County and the second largest hamlet in the County after Sherwood Park. We chose Ardrossan because of its unique blend of urban and rural qualities. We are far from alone in having made that choice.

In the time that we've lived here, the population has grown from 898 to 1,238 and there are no signs that this rate of growth will slow. Residential development is booming and has begun in the new area development of Ardrossan East. The Area Structure Plan anticipates that, once complete, Ardrossan East will be home to 4,240 people. This means the total population of this hamlet will soon be close to 6,000. I understand that Fort Saskatchewan is seeing similar growth and development.

Ardrossan residents share much in common with Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan. We rely on the same services, facilities and resources. For example, already, Ardrossan schools are having to adjust for capacity pressures, and the French Immersion Program at Ardrossan Junior Senior will soon be moved to a Sherwood Park school.

As the residential parts of Ardrossan continue to grow, we will rely more and more on Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan, as there is very little commercially available here. At the same time, our rural neighbours on the east end of the division have easier access to the services they require in communities like Tofield. Our needs and our interests are not best served in the same way and our representatives in the Legislature should not be pulled in competing directions by the divergent interests of varied communities that have been lumped together in a single electoral division.

I urge the commission to consider the growth already underway in Ardrossan and Fort Saskatchewan as well as the growth expected in the coming years and to adjust the boundaries of the Strathcona-Sherwood Park and the Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville Electoral Divisions accordingly. This should not wait until the next commission does its work eight years from now. It is clear now that these communities are growing. Their residents will be better served, and best represented by MLAs who can focus on the unique needs of our 'rurban' satellite communities. Similarly, the rural communities currently lumped into these electoral divisions deserve representation that is committed to their very different needs.

Thank you for your consideration and best wishes as you continue your important work,

[REDACTED]

Amy Durand

Dear Alberta Electoral Boundary Commissioners.

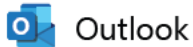
Please except my submission to the Electoral boundary commission regarding the provincial Constituency of Morinville/St Alberta.

As a 20 plus year resident I do not believe Change is needed in Morinville/St Albert as diversity of population and location is a strong benefit. This community has both a Rural and urban population with agriculture and farms, small towns and a part a city in its boundaries served by the MLA of this constituency. As I stated earlier as long term resident of this constituency boundaries were changed in 2019 for the better and should remain unchanged my opinion.

Thank you

Sturgeon County Resident Dennis Schmidt.





New submission from Luanne Metz

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 2:37 PM

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



First Name

Luanne

Last Name

Metz

Municipality / City

Calgary

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

My name is Luanne Metz. I live in Calgary Varsity, specifically in in the community of Varsity Acres. I am also the MLA for the constituency. I am arguing in support of maintaining municipal boundaries and keeping (or making) communities whole and keeping communities together so they can have a more coherent voice and can choose an MLA that inherently understands them can represent their needs.

I speak as both the MLA representing the area and as a resident of the constituency. I have lived in 4 communities within Calgary Varsity including Varsity Acres, Silver Springs, Parkdale, and Banff Trail over the past 50 years. I went to school here, attended the University of Calgary and worked as a physician at both Foothills Hospital and Alberta Children's Hospital, and have been University of Calgary faculty since 1989. My children also went to school and university here and, along with my grandchildren, they still live here. They played soccer here and learned to swim at the Vecova centre in the middle of

the constituency. I have personally known all previous Calgary Varsity MLAs and they all still live in the constituency (except one due to a previous boundary change).

While there is diversity in the constituency, residents have much more in common than they have that differs. The perspectives of the community are predominantly those of educated, professional, urban families with relaxed, active lifestyles. There are small business owners but many more residents are professionals, especially teachers, engineers, people working in healthcare, University faculty and staff, and many students. There is no significant cultural or religious minority but every race and culture is represented and are tied together by the commonality of educational, socioeconomic, and professional characteristics. Where diverse race and culture exists, constituents are commonly second generation Canadians. Many families, like mine, are racially blended. People who live in Calgary Varsity choose to do so. We have less in common with people who make other choices about where they live. Community members have chosen a fairly urban lifestyle and we need our own representation. We look forward to hearing the concerns and needs of our friends, neighbours, and even relatives who experience different realities but want them to have the chance to be represented separately.

Some of the immediately surrounding neighbourhoods are quite similar, including Capital Hill, Collingwood, Dalhousie and Scenic Acres while others, like West Hillhurst, Montgomery, Bowness and Ranchlands differ in how they were developed and populated and do not fit as well with the population in the current constituency. Differences tend to include that they often attend different schools and churches, use different sporting facilities, and frequent different business districts. Montgomery and Bowness were once separate towns that became part of Calgary, and their current residents are often the children of the original townspeople.

It is very important for 'like neighbourhoods' to be kept together so they can be adequately represented by an MLA who can understand the needs of their constituents and speak for them. It is also important that communities within each constituency remain intact to enable MLAs to support them in partnership with their community associations.

Calgary Varsity has grown considerably by becoming increasingly dense. This has primarily been due to the addition a lot of multifamily residential property. Construction is ongoing. This includes infills in Banff Trail, apartment buildings in Brentwood, University Heights, and Varsity Acres, and an entire new district called University District, right in the middle of the riding, which has no single-family homes. Interestingly, a high proportion of the residents living in, or projected to move to these apartments and to University District moved there from within the constituency as part of downsizing after their children left (I am soon to be one of them) or are students, faculty or staff of the University of Calgary and Foothills Hospital. Therefore the character has not changed much except to become more urban and less suburban - a slightly lower proportion will be families in single family homes.

Address (Optional)

[Redacted Address]

Phone (optional)

[Redacted Phone]

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Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780-690-2125
Toll-free 1-833-777-2125
Email info@abebc.ca



City of Edmonton

Councillor Keren Tang
WARD Karhiio2nd Floor, City Hall
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2R7Phone: 780.496.8142
keren.tang@edmonton.ca
edmonton.ca

May 23, 2025

Dear Commissioners,

I write to you as the elected representative of ward Karhiio in Edmonton since 2021. The ward consists of established communities in Mill Woods north of Anthony Henday, as well as newer neighbourhoods like Ellerslie, Orchards, and Hills at Charlesworth south of the highway.

The communities in this ward are vibrant and diverse. But, at the same time, they also have many commonalities, such as arterial road network system, inadequate infrastructure funding to support the growth (a critical source of this is from the provincial government), challenges within the healthcare and education systems.

This is what prompts me to write to you. I want to strongly advocate that provincial boundaries should be aligned with municipal boundaries.

As a municipal councillor, I know the importance of working with a provincial counterpart who understands the needs of the local residents. When you are both representing the same residents, it gives you clarity and focus on the priorities you move forward. On the other hand, it also helps residents to understand who their elected official is. If a provincial representative has to represent residents both inside and outside of Edmonton, they will have to reconcile competing interests. I am not confident that they will be able to effectively do that. The needs, interests, and lifestyles of those that live in Edmonton and outside of Edmonton are too different.

In Edmonton, we have seen rapid population growth. Edmonton is not fairly or adequately represented at the provincial level compared to its population. I want to strongly recommend to the Commission to add at least one of the two seats to Edmonton. The Southeast part of Edmonton has seen rapid population growth and I believe, will continue to do so in the near future. It needs to be allocated another seat in the provincial legislature with that in mind.

Lastly, I want to express my gratitude for your work. The foundation of our democracy lies in a map that is fair for all communities.

Sincerely,

Keren Tang
Councillor, Ward Karhiio
Edmonton, Alberta



Electoral Boundaries Commission Calgary-Glenmore Riding

May 23, 2025

Dear Members of the Electoral Boundaries Commission,

I'd like to acknowledge the important work you are embarking on to review the electoral district boundaries in Alberta. Thank you for being part of this process. As the MLA for Calgary-Glenmore, I would like to contribute to this review process from my vantage point of view as the MLA in this riding since May 2023, and before that as someone who engaged heavily in the riding since 2021. Prior to that, I also had the privilege to work and live near this riding for more than 10 years.

Firstly, there are roughly 49,543 residents in Calgary-Glenmore, with at least nine languages spoken and 17.7% of its population identifying as a visible minority. We are situated next to the beautiful Glenmore Park and the Weaselhead Park, and our neighbours are the Tsuu T'ina Nation. Many kids and teenagers from the Tsuu T'ina Nation attend K-12 schools in my riding. Additionally, there are around 4.1% in Glenmore who identify as Indigenous. According to the Alberta Regional Board, in 2024, the population at Tsuu T'ina reached 2500 and has increased by 11.4% in the last five years. In Calgary-Glenmore, we have a designated CBE elementary school for students from Tsuu T'ina who wish to attend a CBE school.

As you embark in this boundary re-design, I would like to underscore the importance of keeping Glenmore's communities connected and as coherent as possible. Indigenous communities are unique, and have strong spiritual, emotional, and physical connections to the land, family, community, and culture. There are deep intergenerational relationships and respect for Elders and youth. This web of relationships between Indigenous communities, ancestors, future generations, and the natural world is exceptional, special, and fragile, and for that, these exceptional connections must be respected and protected in order to maintain better life outcomes for our neighbours at Tsuu T'ina. While the population size might come across small, this is more of a reason to ensure this small minority is not disproportionately impacted by new boundaries and random lines on a map. New lines on a map can make or break a community, and these voters will become minorities in our riding and as such, they will not be fairly represented. This defeats the point of having a representative democracy. As Albertans and Canadians, we have the responsibility and duty to ensure our democracy is functional while upholding the 94 calls

MLA Nagwan Al-Guneid

5th Floor 9820-107 Street
EDMONTON, ALBERTA, T5K 1E7, CANADA

EMAIL: calgary.glenmore@assembly.ab.ca



to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and ensuring this community is held intact without fragmenting their voices and isolating them further.

Secondly, it is worth noting to the Commission that almost 75% of the riding have postsecondary education as per the 2021 census. This is a sought-after riding for professionals and young parents with young children. Many families choose to raise their children here and have the strong desire to age in place in their forever-homes because of the stability, cohesiveness, and connectedness of the Glenmore community. We notice a distinctive mix of young families and seniors who love the area and its convenient access to downtown for work, parks and the beautiful Glenmore reservoir, as well as to children's activities, places of worship, and recreational centres.

More importantly, Glenmore has a significant number of seniors who want to age in place, in this area and close to their friends and loved ones. Studies in Canada and other countries have shown that a substantial portion of older adults experience loneliness, with some reporting up to 39% feeling lonely at least some of the time. According to the City of Calgary, in 2021, Calgary's senior population increased by 28% from 2016. This age group has been the fastest growing in Calgary over the past 20 years. Projections indicate this number will continue to rise, reaching 295,000 by 2041 – a 79% increase. By 2042, seniors are expected to comprise 15% of Calgary's total population. Loneliness is a silent epidemic among seniors. There are many common traits among this demographic, and this is another reason to ensure creating a map that is fair and equitable for all communities, demographics, and voters so their voices are heard and represented.

Lastly, Calgarians feel strongly about Calgary issues. We have unique challenges in our urban riding and in our city: Calgary. It is important to recognize that such issues are different from rural issues. With the type of communities we have in Glenmore, we need to ensure that representation of such unique populations is not fragmented and not dispersed because of new maps. Municipalities should be kept whole and intact – and not broken up into multiple ridings with arbitrary lines and maps.

As I mentioned earlier, democracy functions at its best when it allows voters to advocate for their own needs and the needs of their collective community. Thank you for your work.

In gratitude,

Nagwan Al-Guneid
(*naj-wan al-jun-aid*)
MLA, Calgary-Glenmore



LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY
OF ALBERTA

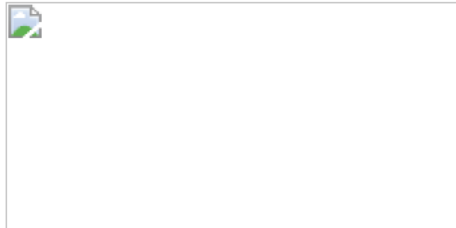
MLA Nagwan Al-Guneid
5th Floor 9820-107 Street
EDMONTON, ALBERTA, T5K 1E7, CANADA

EMAIL: calgary.glenmore@assembly.ab.ca



Outlook

New submission from Patricia McFarlane

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>**Date** Fri 5/23/2025 3:12 PM**To** Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

First Name

Patricia

Last Name

McFarlane

Municipality / City

City of Medicine Hat

Email**Message**

TO: Electoral Boundaries Commission,

I express concern, not only as a resident of Medicine Hat but as a former employee of the City of Medicine Hat, working in the Mayors Office for approximately 25 years. This has given me experience and an overall understanding of the City of Medicine Hat's similarities in the operations and administration within urban and rural communities in the south.

I believe that Medicine Hat-Brooks riding should revert back to an large urban riding, encompassing a large portion of Medicine Hat with the rest being a rural riding. Similar to the Medicine Hat riding prior to the changes recommended and

implemented in 2016/2017 as per the Electoral Boundaries Commission Act.

Below

are my reasons why I am asking for the changes to riding 52 Brooks-Medicine Hat.

The City of Medicine Hat has its own utility resources -- gas / electric, owned by Medicine Hat taxpayers. A quote from a former mayor of Medicine Hat

“
Medicine Hat is not the forgotten corner in southeast Alberta .. It is splendid isolation.”

The public-city owned utility has survived over the past 100 years
... now the only one in the province.

For this reason the Brooks- Medicine Hat should include a larger urban riding consisting

of Medicine Hat voters and renamed Medicine Hat.

I feel by combining the two cities in the 2016/2017 review and changing the boundaries

does result in both cities losing “effective representation”. Also the rural areas between

Medicine Hat and Brooks have less in common than Medicine Hat and Cypress County.

Redcliff, Cypress County and Medicine Hat have shared community interests and

shared resources. Therefore, changing the electoral boundaries to Medicine Hat and

Cypress-Medicine Hat meets the requirement for effective representation.

The rate of growth in the south east corner has expanded significantly over the past ten years.

I would like to see clear and understandable boundaries - not dividing an urban portion

of the city and including it with another city 60 miles away with little population between

the two districts.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Patricia McFarlane

Address (Optional)

[REDACTED]

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Phone	780-690-2125
Toll-free	1-833-777-2125
Email	info@abebc.ca



New submission from Kinza Barney

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 3:15 PM

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



First Name

Kinza

Last Name

Barney

Municipality / City

Town of Crossfield

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

The Town of Crossfield appreciates the opportunity to participate in the 2025 Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission review and respectfully submits the following statement of support for the City of Airdrie's proposed redistribution scenarios.

As a neighbouring municipality experiencing sustained residential and commercial growth, Crossfield shares strong social, economic, and service ties with the City of Airdrie. We recognize that Airdrie's current electoral divisions are significantly above the provincial population average and that this underrepresentation undermines equitable democratic participation for residents throughout the region.

Crossfield supports the City of Airdrie's proposed redistribution scenarios, particularly those that include the Town of Crossfield within new Airdrie-focused electoral divisions. These proposals reflect the reality of our region's growth, travel patterns, and shared community interests. Including Crossfield in an

electoral division aligned with Airdrie enhances our residents' access to representation consistent with their daily lives and regional affiliations.

We believe that the City of Airdrie's submission offers a thoughtful, data-driven, and future-oriented approach to electoral boundary design. It balances population equity with community cohesion and provides sustainable solutions that can accommodate continued growth without compromising representation.

The Town of Crossfield strongly encourages the Commission to consider and adopt one of the City of Airdrie's proposed scenarios as part of this important redistribution process.

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Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780 690 2125
Toll free 1 833 777 2125
Email info@abebc.ca



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ALBERTA

Julia Hayter, MLA

Calgary – Edgemont

Dear Members of the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

I am pleased to write to you as the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Calgary-Edgemont here in Alberta.

It is with honour that I serve the communities of Dalhousie, Edgemont, Hamptons, Hawkwood, Ranchlands, and one street from Citadel. I am not too sure how much all of you know about my constituency, so let me tell you about this thriving community in the northwest of Calgary.

Calgary-Edgemont is a heart-shaped constituency provides a home to the 48,000 people live here and call it home. There is a wide variety of socioeconomic backgrounds represented in my riding. Constituents of Calgary-Edgemont live in a variety of places: from seniors' homes, social housing buildings, co-operatives to multifamily units to single-family homes. They are homeowners, and they are renters. Some are enjoying an early and well-earned retirement. Others work one job and then another to make ends meet. Calgary-Edgemont has 12 public schools. We have a range of faith-based worship places that provide spiritual nourishment and community outreach. Every community can boast an active community association that cares and brings community together.

The homes in Calgary-Edgemont are located on parks and cycling paths. They sit on tree- and sidewalk-lined streets, where neighbours get to come and they walk and they talk. Calgary-Edgemont has community centres, community gardens, a bazillion little free libraries, and some backyard bird feeders. This constituency includes thriving business hubs, and it excites me to say that many of these hubs are purposely located in walking distance of a range of housing options. My constituents – and I am so humbled by that phrase – have access to recreational facilities that include soccer fields, outdoor rinks, and now, of course, all these pickleball courts. This riding also sits next to a constituency with a publicly funded university, two hospitals, Foothills and Children's.

Best of all, the people in Calgary-Edgemont reflect the incredible diversity of modern-day Canada. My constituency is home to people from all over the world. 2021 Stats Canada reflected that there are 10,485 residents of Chinese descent, the highest density in Calgary, and 4,630 individuals of South Asian descent. Many of these folks have called Alberta home for several generations. Calgary-Edgemont includes Canadians who have moved here in search of jobs and education. It welcomes newcomers and refugees. It is important to keep Dalhousie, Edgemont Hamptons and Ranchlands together as this is where the highest density of racialized constituents live. For them to be fairly represented, these communities need to be kept together and not broken up across multiple ridings.

Calgary-Edgemont makes space at tables for everyone from new babies to senior citizens and a lot of pets. Now, do you want to know how I know about all those pets? Because I met a lot of them when I was

out door-knocking in Calgary-Edgemont. And how did I get to be their MLA, I did it by caring about the people and the community by showing up for them on their doorsteps and at their community events.

Many of the communities I represent in Calgary-Edgemont work together to build community. It brought me joy last Christmas to witness Dalhousie, Edgemont and Ranchlands community associations working together on a market pass and encouraging community members to attend other associations Winter Markets. It was very successful, and members of these communities shopped the other markets boosting attendance at all. I have been thrilled to partner with both Ranchlands and Edgemont Community Associations on a menstrual product, baby formula and diaper drive for the past 2 years. Collecting needed items and donating them back into community.

When personally attending church service at St. Thomas United in Hawkwood, I'm always delighted to have chats with the many congregants, who come from the communities of Dalhousie, Edgemont, Hawkwood and Ranchlands. A unique fact about this inclusive church is that it hosts prayers on Fridays for a Muslim congregation, many who travel from Hamptons and Edgemont. The community of Ranchlands can also boast that it has two Mosques, bringing community together from notably Hamptons, Edgemont, Ranchlands and other Northwest areas.

Since 2017 when the boundaries were last changed and the riding of Calgary-Edgemont was "born", not much has changed in this riding, other than aging adults and children. This riding is one of the more populated districts created in the re-distribution. The only current population growth in this was riding has been in Dalhousie with an apartment has been developed with two towers and residents started to move in after the 2023 election.

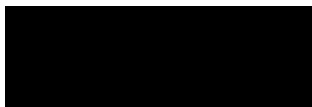
As I had stated earlier, the heart shaped constituency is well marked out with the boundaries being outlined with Stoney Trail (HWY 1), Shaganappi Trail with Nose Hill Park, Crowchild, and Nose Hill Drive/Sarcee Trail. Due to this clear boundary, unfortunately a small strip of Citadel has been placed in the riding and covers the area known as Morningside: Citadel Grove and Citadel Green. This has caused some confusion as to who represents them as their MLA and can even lead to confusion about where to vote. I acknowledge the work of the 2017 Boundary commission having clear lines, unfortunately one community ended up split apart and this has created real confusion. .

As stated earlier, it has been a true honour to represent the constituents of Calgary-Edgemont: Dalhousie, Edgemont, Hamptons, Hawkwood, Ranchlands, and one street from Citadel. My family lives here, my friends live here, my community lives here. I know the constituents of this riding from my outreach into it and by present in the communities and listening to the people that I serve.

I truly appreciate the time of the Commission for doing this important democratic work with so many opinions that you are listening to.

Thank you for considering my reflections on the riding of Calgary-Edgemont as you do your work to ensure that the next election map is fair for all communities with fair representation.

Sincerely,



Julia Hayter
MLA Calgary-Edgemont



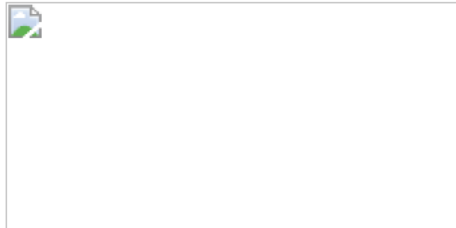
Outlook

New submission from Kelli Taylor

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 3:48 PM

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



First Name

Kelli

Last Name

Taylor

Municipality / City

Calgary

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

The constituency of Calgary-North West currently is composed of communities within the City of Calgary. There are nearby communities in Rockyview County that share many similarities and whose residents interact with businesses, schools, sports programs, etc. Church Ranches, Bearspaw, and Watermark are those which are adjacent on the west side of the current boundaries, and which seem a natural fit when future boundaries are considered.

The relationship goes both ways, with residents from Calgary-North West communities visiting those across the west boundary for golf, farmers markets, churches, Glenbow Ranch Provincial Park and the Bearspaw community association. The bike path which is currently being developed along the river bank from Cochrane to Rockland Park will see residents interacting frequently as well.

Further, residents on either side are consulted regarding planning & development plans across Twelve Mile Coulee Road, which is the current boundary between the city and the county. For decades, residents have provided

input to proposed developments, and are seen as respected and similar people who simply live across the road.

These recommendations are submitted with respect for your consideration.

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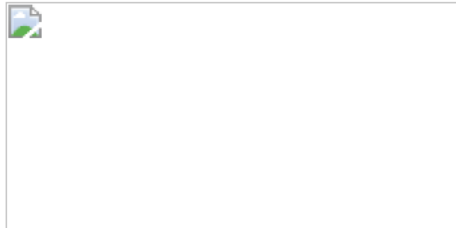
Outlook

New submission from Michael Janz

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 4:00 PM

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



First Name

Michael

Last Name

Janz

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

To the Commission,

I write to you today as both an Edmontonian and a representative of Edmontonians. As the councillor for ward Papastew, and former three term public school trustee, I have spent countless hours talking to residents about their concerns and values. I feel qualified, and maybe even a little obligated, to speak on behalf of many of these residents on an issue as important to our democracy as the creation of the boundaries that form the base of our electoral system. Above all, what voters expect during an election is a chance to fairly cast a ballot and to be properly represented once the votes are tallied. This isn't as simple as a voter just having

access to a voting station within their riding. Voters also want to know that their vote actually mattered. They want to be sure that their newly elected representative actually represents them, their neighbours, and their community. Proper representation is not only what is fair and right, but is also key in maintaining public trust in our political system.

To achieve this, I offer some advice:

- When the previous Commission drew the current electoral map, they started by looking at the Edmonton city limits and then split the city into the appropriate number of ridings.

This appears to have worked well and I encourage the Commission to try the same approach.

- This not only resulted in Edmonton ridings with relatively similar populations, but also ensured that Edmontonians would be represented by Edmontonians in the Legislative Assembly of Alberta. This is a critical element of proper representation.

- I don't pretend to speak on behalf of residents from other jurisdictions, but I imagine that the residents of places such as Sherwood Park and St. Albert feel similar about this issue.

- When looking within Edmonton, it cannot be overstated how incredibly diverse this city is. The Commission should absolutely consider the ethnicity, language use, and religious affiliation of voters when making the tough decision of slicing the city up into separate ridings.

- Edmonton has seen record growth over the past few years, welcoming 140,000 new residents. The City of Edmonton's own growth projection of 2.7 per cent per year until 2028 suggests we could quickly add yet another 100,000 residents. With the total

number of ridings going up by two, one of these will surely need to end up in Edmonton

to account for both the recent and projected growth of the city.

Sometimes the simplest approach to a difficult task can achieve the best result.

Each boundary

line should still be thoughtfully considered, but making use of obvious and justifiable boundaries

such as the North Saskatchewan River or the Edmonton city limits seems like an easy place to start.

I do not envy your task at hand, but I eagerly await to see how your decisions

affect me, my
constituents, and my city.

- - - - -

Michael Janz (He/Him) COUNCILLOR, WARD PAPASTEW
CITY OF EDMONTON

[REDACTED]

2nd Floor, City Hall 1 Sir Winston Churchill Square Edmonton AB T5J 2R7

Phone (optional)

[REDACTED]

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A better future.



Dear Members of the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the redrawing of Alberta's electoral map. I also want to thank you for the work you are doing as members of this commission. Your mission is an important one: creating a map that upholds important democratic principles, including effective representation, so that when Albertans cast their votes in the next provincial election, they do so believing that they are engaging in a sacred democratic act that is free from any partisan interference. That's why, though I am providing this submission as President of the Alberta New Democrats, I am advocating for principles that are non-partisan: fairness, democracy and effective representation.

1. Keeping like communities together

When Albertans cast a vote, they need to do so believing that they are influencing the democratic process and having their voices heard. For this reason, ensuring that communities with shared ways of life—and therefore shared challenges and priorities—are not divided is critical.

As a municipal councilor in Strathcona County for eight years and a long-time resident of Sherwood Park, I've seen firsthand how important it is to keep communities with shared needs and priorities within the same riding. Communities like Sherwood Park have distinct needs that, for example, are separate from the City of Edmonton. Combining a community like Sherwood Park with Edmonton, or with more rural areas, would dilute the ability of those in Sherwood Park to have their voices heard and would make the job of an MLA representing these areas especially difficult, as they would have to reconcile being representatives for competing and even conflicting communities.

By keeping like communities together we will ensure that MLAs can advocate effectively for their constituents without being forced to juggle competing or contradictory priorities.

The Supreme Court of Canada has already made a strong case for protecting community integrity, noting in the 1991 *Saskatchewan Reference* case: "Rivers and municipal boundaries form natural community dividing lines and hence natural electoral

Authorized by Alberta NDP

albertandp.ca | Suite 201 10544 - 114 Street NW Edmonton, Alberta, T9H 3J7

boundaries.” There is an important implied principle here – that communities should be kept intact and not divided.

2. Respecting the Integrity of Municipal Boundaries

As a municipal councilor, I can say with the utmost certainty that residents of a municipality are proud of that identity: whether they are a Lethbridgian, a Calgarian or a Hintonian. Municipalities are their own type of community: in larger urban centres, such as Calgary and Edmonton, there are many subcommunities. People that live in a municipality send their children to schools governed by the same school boards, access healthcare at the same local facilities, recreate at the same municipally maintained recreation facilities, and vote for the same set of municipal representatives. It is important for the commission to consider the significance of a municipal identity; certainly in provincial commissions across this country and in the recent federal redistricting, we see that, as best as possible, these commissions recognized this principle. That’s why federally, we don’t see parts of Calgary or Edmonton split off to be adjoined with communities outside their border. We also recognize that often municipal boundaries are more than just lines on a map or an identity; people who live in different municipalities have different concerns and deserve a representative in the legislature who can convey those concerns.

From my experience as a city councilor, I was able to make progress on issues that mattered to the voters I represented when I could work with a provincial representative that understood the distinct needs of the residents of Strathcona County - and didn’t have them up against the needs of residents of another community like Edmonton. For these reasons, I strongly urge the commission to take into account municipal boundaries: it is a longstanding tradition rooted in practical concerns and an understanding of the importance of a municipality to a voter’s identity.

3. Population Growth

Since the 2017 commission, Alberta’s population has grown exponentially. Alberta has led the country in population growth for the last six quarters, [reaching a population of 5 million in Q1](#). Calgary and Edmonton have both seen the bulk of this growth. According to the Alberta Regional Dashboard, Calgary grew by 6.14 year-over-year in 2024, and has grown by 18% in the last five years. The City of Calgary is now home to almost 1.7 million people. When the commission was last struck in 2017, the City of Calgary reported its population to be 1.27 million.

Edmonton's growth is not far behind, with a 5.73% year-over-year increase in 2024, and a 15% increase over the last five years. Edmonton's population is now 1.2 million. In 2017, it was under one million.

Part of the Commission's role is to consider future population growth when allocating the new seats. Current trends demonstrate that future growth will be concentrated in the cities of Calgary and Edmonton.

For Calgary and Edmonton to have effective representation, and for their voices to be adequately represented in the legislature, it is critical that each city receive a new seat, in areas where they have seen the most growth: North Calgary and South Edmonton.

Conclusion

A fair electoral map must reflect not only population growth, but also the lived realities of the people within each boundary. To that end, it is essential that like-communities are kept together, and new seats be added in South Edmonton and North Calgary to ensure effective and equitable representation for all.

Thank you for your public service to Albertans. I trust that you will prioritize fair representation and community integrity in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

Bill Tonita
President, Alberta New Democrats





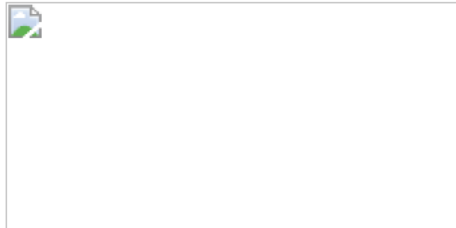
Outlook

New submission from Sanjeev Kad

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 4:10 PM

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



First Name

Sanjeev

Last Name

Kad

Municipality / City

Calgary

**Message**

with the initial report to be provided to the Legislative Assembly of Alberta by October 2025. I write on behalf of the Calgary-West United Conservative Party constituency association to provide our submissions regarding boundary distribution.

The boundaries of Calgary-West have largely been static for the last two boundary redistributions. Over the last decade, Calgary-West has developed significantly and the constituency boundaries at the last distribution included quasi-rural areas. As Calgary continues to develop, Calgary-West would welcome the addition of some or all of the Elbow Valey neighborhood communities for several reasons:

1. The residents of this community have a much closer relationship to Calgary (and to Calgary-West) than the rural residents of Banff-Kananaskis (their current constituency). The residents shop, live, play, and often work in Calgary and in

the same neighborhoods as Calgary-West;

2. Calgary-West is slightly below the provincial average population and this makes the most sense; and
3. There would be no major waterway or other boundary preventing such an addition.

We also have some common themes that we would ask the commission to take into consideration. Any element that makes the constituency more local would be of assistance.

People don't live within the neat "city" or "country" boundaries. Albertans regularly commute, shop, access services, and do business traversing municipal lines. Constituencies should reflect how people actually live – not how an administrative map has been (arbitrarily) drawn. By bridging this gap that already shares real-world ties, we create smarter, more connected constituencies that bring people together and deliver stronger, more effective representation. We ask that all due consideration be given to s. 14 of the Act, which states as follows:

- (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.

The Act acknowledges that electoral districts may legitimately vary by up to 25% from the average population size to account for geography, access, and community makeup. This variance is not a concession but a purposeful vision – and the present Commission should, respectfully, honor this. Relying up[on solely a numbers, low-variance approach in fast growing areas would not accomplish this nor lead to fair representation. Further, the growing expansion of Calgary would be well served by this area which would allow it to expand over the next two election cycles.

The Commission's role is to apply the law—not to bend or reinterpret it. Alberta's legislation already strikes a balance between equal representation and regional fairness. Ignoring that balance risks undermining public trust in the process. The law is clear—now it must be followed.

Phone (optional)



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Phone 780-690-2125
Toll-free 1-833-777-2125
Email info@abebc.ca

Submission on Electoral Boundary Review

Dear members of the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

My name is Mariana Mejia Salazar, and I serve as Vice President External of the Representation Executive Council (REC) for the Students' Association of Mount Royal University (SAMRU). SAMRU represents more than 15,000 students in Calgary. I am writing to respectfully urge the Commission to recognize Mount Royal University (MRU) students as a clearly defined community of interest during the current review of provincial electoral boundaries.

The Commission's mandate emphasizes the importance of ensuring effective representation while considering shared interest and community cohesion. Mount Royal University is more than just a post-secondary institution; it is a central hub for education, community engagement, and economic contribution in Calgary. The student population is integral to the local economy by supporting businesses, and social development, which contributes to the city's vibrant community life. Ensuring fair representation for this community not only acknowledges their contributions but strengthens the democratic process. The students of MRU – and the neighbourhoods they live in – constitute a strong, education-focused community bound by common needs such as housing and government support for post-secondary education. Recognizing MRU and its students as a community of interest is not just symbolic; it is essential for equitable political representation. When students are spread across multiple ridings, their collective voice is weakened, making it more challenging to advocate effectively for provincial issues such as tuition affordability, student housing policies, and post-secondary funding.

Student Population Distribution

The following data was collected by Mount Royal University and reflects student population distribution as of Summer 2024. This information highlights significant numbers of MRU students residing in communities both near and distant from the campus:

- **Nearby Communities:** Lincoln Park, Garrison Green, Currie, Rutland Park, and Glamorgan are adjacent to MRU and are popular among students due to their proximity to campus.
- **Distant Communities:**
 - Saddle Ridge (283 students)
 - Panorama Hills (208 students)
 - Cranston (192 students)
 - McKenzie Towne (179 students)
 - Taradale (176 students)

To illustrate this distribution, we have prepared a chart showing how MRU students are concentrated in Calgary communities. View the chart here:

<https://public.flourish.studio/visualisation/23166931/>

These communities have notable student populations. Factors influencing this distribution include lower rental costs in outer suburban communities and limited affordable housing near campus. This geographic dispersion is further impacted by how provincial ridings are currently structured, which may split student populations across multiple constituencies, reducing their collective influence.

When student needs are not prioritized within the riding that includes MRU, or when other ridings with high student populations lack strong post-secondary advocacy, students may find fewer supports near campus—leading them to settle in areas that are more affordable, even if they're farther away. According to data from the City of Calgary and SAMRU, rental affordability continues to be one of the top concerns facing students, which emphasizes the need for strong, unified representation.

Housing Affordability

Housing costs in Calgary significantly influence where students reside. Communities like Saddle Ridge and Taradale in the northeast, and McKenzie Towne in the southeast, offer more affordable rental options, attracting students despite the distance from MRU. The economic realities faced by students, coupled with rising costs of living, makes these areas more appealing, even if they are further away from their primary place of education. In contrast, proximity to MRU often comes with higher rent, making it less accessible to those who already face financial constraints.

Local Area Plans (LAPs) and Municipal Considerations

While Local Area Plans (LAPs) are not directly linked to provincial boundary planning, the lack of formalized community planning at the municipal level can complicate effective provincial advocacy for students. This gap highlights the importance of strategic provincial representation to ensure that student interests are seen, heard, and effectively represented during electoral boundary reviews.

Additionally, Upper Mount Royal, which is part of the Calgary-Elbow riding, is typically characterized by higher property values and differing community priorities. These distinctions can sometimes overshadow the interests of students and young renters within the same electoral district. The contrast between Upper Mount Royal's established, high-value properties and the transient, community-focused nature of MRU's student population highlights the need for balanced representation that truly reflects the diversity of community needs. Ensuring that MRU students remain collectively represented in a single riding could help balance these differing priorities, providing a voice for both established residents and student communities.

Recommendations:

1. Preserve the Mount Royal University campus and its surrounding communities within a single electoral district.
2. Recognize the MRU student population as a distinct community of interest that deserves unified representation based on shared economic, educational, and social concerns.

I urge the Commission to act with intention and purpose in recognizing MRU and its students as a critical community of interest. Fair representation for this population will ensure that the voices of students– who are the future leaders, innovators, and community builders of Alberta– are effectively heard and considered in provincial decision making.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this proposal and for your commitment to building fair and representative electoral boundaries for all Albertans. I welcome the opportunity to provide additional information and participate further in your consultation process.

Respectfully,

Mariana Mejia Salazar

Vice President External

Students' Association of Mount Royal University



Tala Abu Hayyaneh

President

Students' Association of Mount Royal University





Outlook

New submission from Claude Stevenson

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>**Date** Fri 5/23/2025 4:38 PM**To** Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

First Name

Claude

Last Name

Stevenson

Municipality / City

Calgary

Email**Message**

My concerns with the current constituency boundary revision relate to the overall approach being taken, it's fairness and it's acceptance by the entire provincial population. I lived through the 1993 debacle wherein Tory MLA's redrew the boundaries in secret, six weeks before an election. They matched poll for poll on a political party basis, deliberately neutralizing opposition party support. The then Premier, Ralph Klein, was documented as having lost his seat if it were not for the last minute constituency boundary changes. I do not wish to see, nor would I accept as legitimate, any government elected based on anything close to a repeat of that exercise in gerrymandering.

The fact that the current commission has both Government and Opposition nominees on it, is a positive first step. Unfortunately, there are two recent developments that raise concerns about the fairness of the upcoming vote. One is the passage of bill 54, which removes the requirement to respect the municipal boundaries of major cities. This raises the spectre of rigging boundaries into pie shapes so that rural voters who favour the current

Government will be poll matched with urban polls, thus allowing a relative minority of rural voters to impose their preferences upon urban voters, who have a very different lived experience in their daily lives.

The second is the banning of voting machines, on the unfounded, unproven, and untrue assertion that they can be corrupted or compromised.

Clearly, the real intent here is to set up the manual vote count process so that advocates for one party can infiltrate the counting process and pervert it, particularly in rural areas.

Unproven allegations of irregularities are also being used to unnecessarily citizen access to the vote.

Although the municipal boundaries issue is directly related to the Commissions work, and the vote counting machines and voter access issues technically are not, both issues are in fact germane. They are relevant because they represent a pattern of measures that raise legitimate concerns that the current government intends to cheat it's way into power in the next election. I view this perception as significant and persistent. Therefore the onus will be on the Commission to make boundary recommendations that give all Albertans, including the 46% who didn't vote for the current Government, every reason to accept the 2027 vote result.

Address (Optional)

[REDACTED]

ne (optional)

[REDACTED]

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Phone 780 690 2125
Toll free 1 833 777 2125
Email info@abebc.ca



Outlook

New submission from Donna Staszenski

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>**Date** Fri 5/23/2025 4:38 PM**To** Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

First Name

Donna

Last Name

Staszenski

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Email**Message**

As a resident of the Edmonton Highlands-Norwood riding, I wish to offer my thoughts and hopes for this boundary review. I understand that sparsity, density and rate of growth of the population is critical to your research and understanding the concerns of residents before decisions can be made about changes. Our riding is slightly below the population guidelines for making changes. We do have more people moving into the area and densification will likely see an increase in growth in this riding. This is reason "one" for not making changes to our boundaries.

Our riding and community is very diverse. At one side of the riding, we have some of the highest rates of poverty in Canada. However, throughout the riding we have stable and growing families and families with VERY secure homes and financial stability. We are seeing an increase in diversity in our new residents and families and individuals who make this north side riding their new home. We live in a caring community that builds on the success of our heritage and

individuals who made this a good place to live. We strive to build community. Historically this riding has maintained its boundaries and because of that we have been able to support our communities of interest. This is reason "two" for not making changes to our boundaries.

Edmonton Highlands-Norwood has always had clear and understandable boundaries using the North Saskatchewan River as one of the best geographical features for the riding. The street boundaries have taken into consideration existing neighbourhoods and communities so that no community or neighbourhood is divided when boundaries were established. We would suggest because of the fine work previously done to set the boundaries for the Edmonton Highlands-Norwood riding that we consider these reasons "three" and "four" for not making any changes.

As an active resident in the riding for almost 50 years, I hope that you will consider my hopes for our riding.

Address (Optional)

[REDACTED]

Phone (optional)

[REDACTED]

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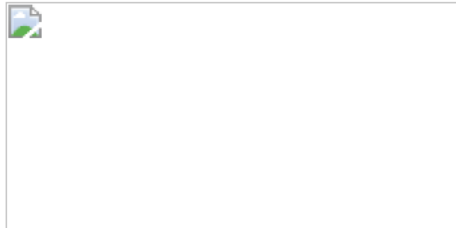
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Toll free 1 833 777 2125
Email info@abebc.ca



Outlook

New submission from Hans Smits

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>**Date** Fri 5/23/2025 4:40 PM**To** Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

First Name

Hans

Last Name

Smits

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Email**Message**

I have been long time resident of Edmonton Highlands-Norwood for nearly fifty years. I consider my myself to be a proud and active citizen, not just of our immediate neighbourhood, but of the larger area and communities that make up the riding of Edmonton Highlands-Norwood. Over the years I have come to appreciate the values and diversity that characterize our neighbourhood and the communities that are part of Highlands-Norwood. The riding is unique in several respects. Geographically it graces the North Saskatchewan River as the southern boundary. Within the boundaries there are beautiful parks which are part of the riding's identity. As a riding, Highlands-Norwood has some of the oldest neighbourhoods in Edmonton. The riding also has a very diverse population, and thriving older communities being renewed by younger people purchasing houses, and enterprising young entrepreneurs establishing new businesses in the older neighbourhoods. As an "inner city" riding, Highlands-Norwood has within its existing boundaries diverse neighbourhoods and communities, from Riverdale along the river, to historic Highlands, a revitalizing

inner core of neighbourhoods, and newer communities on the northern edge of the riding, which provide not just diversity but also coherence in terms of belonging and commitment to place.

In short, the existing boundaries (which already has the optimum and equitable population for ridings that is being proposed) are integral to maintaining the historical, cultural, and economic qualities which give meaning to being part of the larger democratic fabric of Edmonton and Alberta. Essential to democratic life is the place that citizens can at once call home, but recognize proudly as being a uniquely defined place that is represented in government. It is thus essential to maintain the Highlands-Norwood's boundaries as they currently exist.

Address (Optional)

[REDACTED]

Phone (optional)

[REDACTED]

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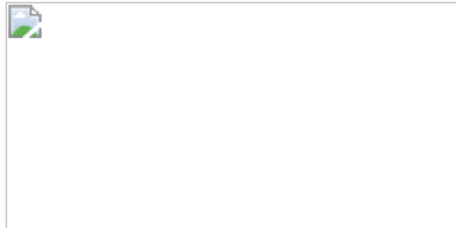
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New submission from Frank Frey

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 4:46 PM

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



First Name

Frank

Last Name

Frey

Municipality / City

Calgary

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

Electoral Boundaries Commission- Calgary Elbow

As someone who was born in Calgary and spent most of my life here. I have seen many changes. I do not envy the challenges of your position. I have lived all over Calgary. I have resided in Parkhill for over a decade.

I find the current boundaries of Calgary Elbow a reasonable representation of my area. > i would suggest moving the Mission district from Calgary Buffalo into Elbow to try and get the population that constituency more in line with the average size as Buffalo was a very highly populated.

When I have lived other places- Japan, United Kingdom and Austria - people are confused when I say I prefer cities to the country. I think this point of view can be dealt with by the commission respecting urban boundaries throughout the province. I believe smaller municipalities would best served by respecting their boundaries where possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Frank Frey

Address (Optional)

[REDACTED]

Phone (optional)

[REDACTED]

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Phone 780 690 2125
Toll free 1 833 777 2125
Email info@abebc.ca



New submission from William Cook

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 5:04 PM

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



First Name

William

Last Name

Cook

Municipality / City

Sherwood Park

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

Honorable Commissioners,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my submission. We were born and raised, got married, and started our family in the United States where we saw voting boundaries used as a tool to repress people's democratic rights. Since 1980, we have appreciated living in Canada where it's an almost unknown phenomenon.

We have lived in Sherwood Park since 1991. Since that time, our community has grown rapidly into a distinctive and standalone urban centre. As a hamlet with about 70,000 residents in a County with well over 100,000 residents, Sherwood Park is unique in the province. Our County's governance model as a specialized municipality gives us a particular sense of identity and pride.

Strathcona County is represented in the Legislature by the ridings Sherwood Park and Strathcona-Sherwood Park. The Sherwood Park riding is primarily

urban, while Strathcona-Sherwood Park is a mix of urban and rural. The boundaries established in 2017 recognized that Strathcona County continues to be a young and rapidly growing community. Over the past 40 years, the County's population has increased by about 100,000. Since 2017, several new residential developments have been completed and several more are being currently being built out or have planning underway.

The boundaries established in 2017 honoured the principle that communities should be kept intact. Urban neighbourhoods have a lot of similarities and commonalities in the services they require. As much as possible while maintaining effective representation, municipal boundaries and provincial ridings should be aligned to ensure easy alignment of service needs and goals. While urban and rural areas share some needs, their needs and senses of community also differ substantially.

Because we have many interests and goals in common in Sherwood Park and Strathcona-Sherwood Park, I believe that those boundaries should remain largely unchanged. The 2017 boundaries were established to allow for growth in each riding without the need to change the boundaries (we were both a few percentage points below the target size). I believe that current growth projections continue to support the current boundaries. Because of the differences in their urban/rural mixes, our County's current riding boundaries allow our County to be most effectively represented in the Legislature.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Address (Optional)

[REDACTED]

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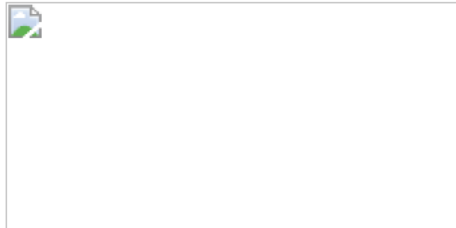
Outlook

New submission from Ryan Barker

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 5:18 PM

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



First Name

Ryan

Last Name

Barker

Municipality / City

Calgary

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

Commissioners,

To paraphrase the title of Andrew Coyne's recent book: Canadian democracy is in crisis. And so too, I believe, is democracy in Alberta.

This crisis has many dimensions, but the one I want to focus on is the growing gap between citizens and the governments meant to represent them.

We have a democratic tradition to be proud of—from our Westminster roots to Frederick Haultain's push for responsible government in our West. But today, many of our elected representatives are overwhelmed by the sheer volume and complexity of constituency work. This is the kind of work that helps Albertans feel seen, heard, and supported. And it's increasingly difficult, especially in our growing cities.

I say this as someone who's lived both sides of the urban-rural experience. I spent my first 17 years in Mayerthorpe, in what was then the riding of Whitecourt–Lac Ste. Anne. For the past eight years, I've lived in Calgary–Buffalo and worked as a teacher in Calgary–Mountain View. In between, I had the

opportunity to work overseas with the Parliamentary Centre—Canada's global leader in democratic development. For about six years, I worked on projects aimed at strengthening African legislatures, helping elected officials become more effective in their roles. The focus wasn't just on what they did in chambers or committee rooms—it was on how they served their constituents.

One pilot project in Kenya stands out. I visited the northern riding of Dr. Noah Wekesa, an MP and Assistant Minister of Agriculture. It was inspiring to see how he gave voice to his constituents, especially the young people, who were full of hope that democracy could bring real social and economic change. I couldn't help but think of the small communities I came to know as a kid north of the North Saskatchewan River. In both cases, people wanted the same thing: a say in their future.

Here in Alberta, rural ridings deserve more support—more funding, more staff, and bigger travel budgets. MLAs in large or remote constituencies, especially those containing First Nations and Métis communities, need the resources to do the job well. That's fair and necessary.

But at the same time, we have to confront a troubling imbalance. In Calgary and Edmonton, eight ridings are already beyond the 25% deviation from the provincial average that's considered acceptable. These MLAs are trying to serve tens of thousands more people than some of their rural colleagues. Meanwhile, the families I work with in Calgary face crowded classrooms, packed C-trains, and long waits for services—all while their votes count for less.

It's not right. My relatives in rural Alberta shouldn't have votes that count for significantly more than the parents of my students in the city. We need to fix this before people stop believing that their voice matters.

I'm not suggesting we abandon the principle of effective voice. Quite the opposite. I believe it's possible to uphold the idea that all Albertans deserve strong local representation and to recognize that population growth must be reflected in our electoral boundaries.

You have the power to bring fairness back into the system. A fairer map would see new ridings created in Calgary and Edmonton—within existing city limits, to preserve community ties. It would give urban MLAs a better chance to respond to the mounting concerns of their constituents. And most importantly, it would move us toward a democracy where every vote counts equally, no matter where it's cast.

Thank you for your time and for your service to this process. I hope you'll take this submission in the spirit it's offered: as a call to hold fast to the principles of democratic voice and fairness, and to make representation in Alberta stronger for everyone.

Sincerely,

Ryan Barker

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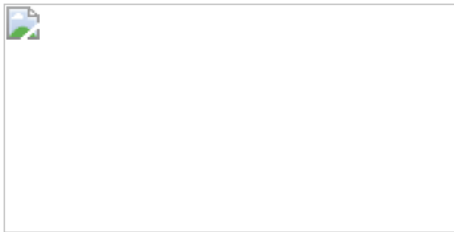


Outlook

New submission from Ian Gray

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>**Date** Fri 5/23/2025 6:20 PM**To** Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca> 1 attachment (17 KB)

Submission to Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission 2025 Ian Gray.docx;



First Name

Ian

Last Name

Gray

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Email**Message**

I have been a resident of the Edmonton Riverview Electoral District since it was established by the 1996 Boundaries Commission, incorporating parts of Edmonton Glenora, Edmonton Strathcona and Edmonton Whitemud. It was controversial at the time because it straddled the North Saskatchewan River (leading to many jokes about "A River Runs Through It"). It was also viewed with cynicism, as an attempt by Premier Ralph Klein's government to gerrymander a foothold in Liberal Edmonton (something that some Conservative politicians privately admitted). It failed in that purpose but has succeeded as an Electoral District mainly for two reasons: it respected Edmonton's municipal boundaries and it maintained the character of its community, mature neighborhoods with local schools, well-established community leagues and small businesses.

I am retired but spent 40 plus years in the news business, much of it covering Alberta politics. During that period, I reported on a number of Electoral Boundaries Commissions. I became convinced serving on a Commission had to be one of the most thankless jobs in Alberta, you could never please everybody but often couldn't please anybody. The Commissions that were respected however, were the ones that despite the strictures of their mandate tried their best draw a fair map with ridings respecting existing municipal and community borders.

The issue in my day was the so-called "rurban" ridings (a word that thankfully seems to have fallen into disuse), a phenomenon just getting started in Alberta, then. Constituencies that cross political, cultural and community lines-those are the ones that please nobody. Juggling the need to address Alberta's expanded population while considering local preferences and keeping variances as low as possible is a difficult path. The best way to proceed, in my view, is to first strive to keep people together, in districts that make sense to them, especially if they more or less follow historical patterns. Breaking communities up and reassembling them in unnatural groupings, regardless of the intent or circumstances will always add to the cynicism and scorn that already taints too much of our society.

As for Edmonton Riverview in particular, I see no great need for change. It's well contained within Edmonton with no outliers, demographically. As for the rest of the province I would urge the Commissioners, as much as is possible, to maintain historical, cultural and political communities, to try to keep us united rather than further divided.

My sincere thanks for your consideration of this submission.

Ian Gray
Edmonton

File (Optional)

- [Submission-to-Alberta-Electoral-Boundaries-Commission-2025-Ian-Gray.docx](#)

Address (Optional)

[REDACTED]

Phone (optional)

[REDACTED]

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Toll-free 1-833-777-2125
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New submission from Samuel Juru

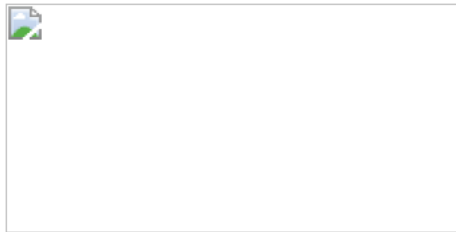
From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 5/23/2025 6:55 PM

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

 1 attachment (52 KB)

Written Submission to Electoral Boundaries Commission.docx.pdf;



First Name

Samuel

Last Name

Juru

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

May 23, 2025

Re: Delineation of Edmonton- Manning & General Edmonton Boundaries

Dear Commissioners of the 2025 Electoral Boundaries Commission. Please find attached my written submission.

Regards.

Samuel Juru

File (Optional)

- [Written-Submission-to-Electoral-Boundaries-Commission.docx.pdf](#)

Phone (optional)



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Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780-690-2125
Toll-free 1-833-777-2125
Email info@abebc.ca

May 23, 2025

Re: Delineation of Edmonton- Manning & General Edmonton Boundaries

Dear Commissioners of the 2025 Electoral Boundaries Commission,

The work that you are undertaking could not be more integral to our democracy.

I am writing to you as a resident of the Terwillegar community in the riding of Edmonton Strathcona provincial district.

I have two points that I want to present to you.

First, the communities in the riding of Edmonton-Manning should not be broken up across multiple ridings. These communities share a lot in common. It is in the best interest of their representation for them to be kept intact. If these communities are broken up and split across ridings in Northeast Edmonton or those outside of it, we risk their votes being diluted. The racialized voters in these communities - just like voters in any community in Alberta - deserve to have fair and adequate representation. In the United States, we have seen the negative impacts of gerrymandering on racialized communities. It makes their votes count less. This is an infringement of democratic processes and we cannot have that in Alberta.

Second, the boundaries of provincial ridings should be aligned with municipal boundaries. Myself, my friends, and neighbours, don't share things in common with those outside of Edmonton. We live our lives in very different ways. We are proud of that. We want a provincial riding that reflects that reality.

In closing, I want to say that I appreciate your time and effort. The work ahead of you is not easy. But, it is so important. You are not just drawing a line on a map. You are determining how our democracy will unfold. We need to have a map that is fair for all communities. I trust that you will deliver on that.

Regards,

Samuel Juru



New submission from Katherine Joesse

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 7:08 PM

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



First Name

Katherine

Last Name

Joesse

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

I am writing about the Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood Constituency. While I reside outside of the constituency, I work in Highlands and I think the electoral district boundary is wonderful the way it is. The communities that are represented in this area are all mature neighbourhoods and their proximity and connection to central Edmonton makes them unique. I don't think the boundaries should change because Edmonton-Highlands-Norwood has a unique character and I feel the community members are well-represented together. I also strongly urge the commission to respect municipal boundaries and don't merge Edmonton with rural areas. Thank you for all your work on this!

Phone (optional)

[REDACTED]

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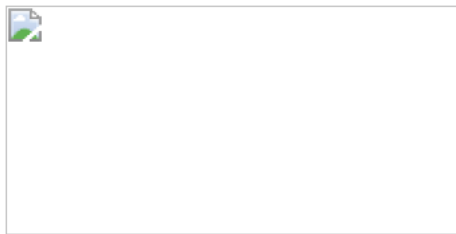


Outlook

New submission from Rowan Ley

From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>**Date** Fri 5/23/2025 8:12 PM**To** Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca> 1 attachment (67 KB)

EBC Submission Edmonton Northwest.pdf;



First Name

Rowan

Last Name

Ley

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Email**Message**

I am writing in support of keeping Edmonton-Northwest in or close to its current shape. Its present boundaries have served the community well, and I am sure they would continue to do so in future. Over the last four years I have seen how the current boundaries make sense geographically, and keep communities-- cultural, educational, and otherwise-- together. I have attached a document with more detailed reasoning. I hope the Commission will consider leaving the current boundaries of Edmonton-Northwest mostly unchanged.

File (Optional)

- [EBC-Submission_-Edmonton-Northwest.pdf](#)

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Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780-690-2125
Toll-free 1-833-777-2125
Email info@abebc.ca

Overview

The current boundaries of Edmonton-Northwest have served the community well in recent years, and the best approach for the Commission to take would be to keep the division in roughly its current shape. The division's current boundaries have several benefits:

- Harmony with municipal and school district boundaries
- Maintaining the population close to the provincial average
- Keeping religious and cultural communities of interest together
- Logical and clear divisions of communities by geographic features

While Alberta has grown and changed substantially, Edmonton-Northwest is in the somewhat unique position of still being a very logically structured, appropriately-populated, effectively-represented electoral division. I hope you will consider maintaining the general shape of the division which has served the community well.

Ongoing Development Will Keep the Current Division Near the Provincial Average

As is clear to anyone who drives through the division, there is substantial growth happening in Edmonton-Northwest. Referring to the current map, there is significant housing happening on the northern periphery of the division in poll 2, and ongoing development in Griesbach in polls 41 and 40. The development of low-density former military housing in poll 40 into high-density housing as part of the broader Griesbach development should significantly increase the population of the division.

This suggests that the current boundaries are still appropriate. While Edmonton-Northwest's population is slightly below the provincial average, unusually high infill development and continued greenfield development to the north should keep the division growing faster than most of North Edmonton. This suggests that the population should stay fairly close to the provincial average over the next decade if the current boundaries, or similar ones, are in place.

Current Boundaries Facilitate Collaboration with Municipal Councillors and School Trustees

A significant advantage to the current layout of Edmonton-Northwest compared to other electoral districts is that it is located wholly within a single Edmonton Public Schools ward (Ward A), Edmonton Catholic Schools ward (Ward 71), and Edmonton municipal board (Ward Anirniq). This has evident advantages in making it easier for the MLA for the area to develop close working relationships with School Trustees and City Councillors.

Given the key role of the provincial government in both education policy and municipal affairs, that collaboration enables more effective representation by the local MLA. The benefits of that alignment have been clear over the last three years. It would be beneficial to keep the rough shape of the electoral division intact to keep it within those ward boundaries and support the positive working relationship between different levels of government.

Current Boundaries are Coterminous with High School Catchment Areas

Most of the current division is contained within the high school catchment area for Ross Shepard High School (though some spills over into the catchment for Queen Elizabeth). This keeps a natural community of interest, parents at the same school, together.

Current Boundaries Keep Religious and Cultural Communities Together

Edmonton-Northwest has a large Arab and Muslim community, with over 8,000 Muslim residents and around 15% of the population, well above the ~8% in the average Edmonton neighbourhood. In particular, there is a large and cohesive Palestinian community in Edmonton-Northwest. This is particularly important as the current location of the Al-Rashid Islamic Center, Canada's oldest mosque and a large and important place of worship to this day, is located in the division (in Poll 35). The Edmonton Islamic Academy, Edmonton's largest Islamic school, is also located in the constituency in Poll 20. Having one MLA represent the area allows them to develop strong relationships with religious leaders and communities, and better represent issues of specific concern to that community.

Current Boundaries Correspond with Logical Barriers

The division's current boundaries are natural and logical places to divide representation, as the large roadways and rural areas that form the edges of the division naturally separate social circles, neighbourhoods, and communities. In specific, the Palisades area and Griesbach are naturally separated from the Castle Downs region, and there is, in many areas, a clearly distinct feel to the communities across the boundary in Castle Downs.

Conclusion

Edmonton-Northwest was laid out well by the previous Electoral Boundaries Commission, and its shape serves residents well and leads to effective representation. The changes to the Electoral Boundaries Commission Act that allow for a division in Edmonton to extend outside Edmonton should not be used to extent the division into rural areas to the north, which are culturally and demographically very different, or into St. Albert. Overall, the commission may wish to consider leaving Edmonton-Northwest as close to its current shape as it can.



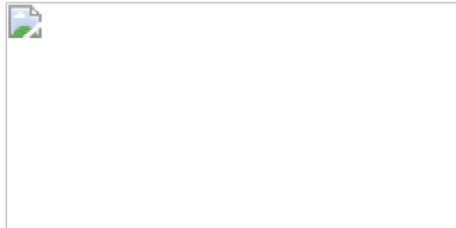
Outlook

New submission from Stephanie Laflamme

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 8:34 PM

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



First Name

Stephanie

Last Name

Laflamme

Municipality / City

Foothills

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

I've lived in Foothills County, at the very northern edge of the Livingstone-Macleod riding, for over 10 years. I have been actively involved in communities both within the Livingstone-Macleod and Highwood constituencies.

Livingstone-Macleod is a unique and beautiful area, and I am advocating for no changes to its borders. It spans a significant geographic area and showcases the diversity of "rural Alberta" - and its current boundaries demonstrate a thoughtful approach. The communities truly embody what it means to be in rural Alberta - including economic engines of tourism, ranching and agriculture, energy and natural resources, and of course health care and education. These are not "urban bedroom" communities.

The continuity of Livingstone-Macleod along the Eastern Slopes is a thoughtful approach that respects the importance of this region for the vast watershed it serves.

I strongly advocate to the Commission to preserve the Livingstone-Macleod borders as they are today.

Thank you.

Address (Optional)

[REDACTED]

Phone (optional)

[REDACTED]

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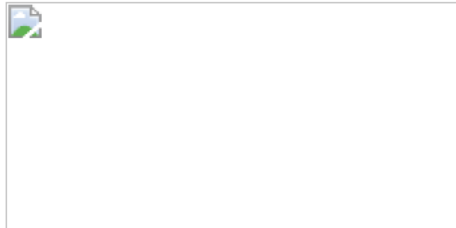


New submission from Peter Laudenklos

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 9:43 PM

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



First Name

Peter

Last Name

Laudenklos

Municipality / City

Calgary

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

I am currently a resident of Calgary – Shaw, however I have ties to communities throughout Alberta. This includes what is now the St. Albert – Morinville riding, both in the rural area, as well as the urban portion of the riding. I also lived in Lethbridge West for a few years. I settled in Calgary where I have worked as an IT professional for over 20 years where I have been able to work with a number of industries as a result. Through this experience, I have met and talked to many people from all over Alberta, in the most rural of areas up to the densest parts of our cities.

The largest concern I have with the redrawing of electoral boundaries, having ties to St. Albert – Morinville as well as Lethbridge West, is the recent development of allowing for the blending of larger ridings between Alberta's cities and rural areas. While people in Alberta's cities and rural areas have a lot in common, there are significant differences in how the electorate in each type of riding must be represented and governed with fairness in mind.

This brings me to my concerns for Calgary – Shaw specifically. Calgary – Shaw is adjacent to a number of ridings here including Calgary – Lougheed, Calgary – Fish Creek, Calgary – Southeast and then Highwood. The population in Calgary – Shaw is largely suburban, and is currently on a trajectory to grow significantly through new home and community builds, with significant interprovincial and national in-migration. The predominant demographic for the riding could be described as younger working families with school age children.

For consideration with Calgary – Shaw, the population is currently at the 25% deviance that triggers this review. In the North of the riding, there are the older, established communities of Shawnessy, Somerset and the Shawnessy retail shopping area. This area is demarcated from the rest of the riding by Shawnessy Boulevard, James Mc Kevitt Road and Macleod Trail, and while separated by Stoney Trail from the rest of the riding, it is a significant hub for retail access, transit and schools for the rest of the riding and larger Southwest area.

To the South of Stoney Trail, there are the older communities of Silverado and Chaparral. Then there are numerous newer communities including Yorkville, Belmont, Wolf Willow, Walden, Creekstone and Legacy. In these newer communities there are a number of high-density residences being built and current census information may not reflect the true population of this part of the riding. These new communities are where the most population growth is occurring and it may not take long for Calgary – Shaw's population to wildly exceed the population deviation currently allowed for by legislation.

I believe that with this largely suburban and exponential population growth in mind, Calgary – Shaw should be reviewed and possibly divided into two distinct suburban ridings with an additional seat to avoid the dilution of the electorate's voices and concerns. Again, I don't believe that any blending of Calgary – Shaw with adjacent rural ridings would benefit the population here. However, if it is not feasible at this time and there is a possibility for communities to be absorbed into adjacent ridings, I believe that the only realistic option would be for those communities to become part of Calgary – Fish Creek.

Phone (optional)

[REDACTED]

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EBC 2025-1-180




New submission from Robert Nelson

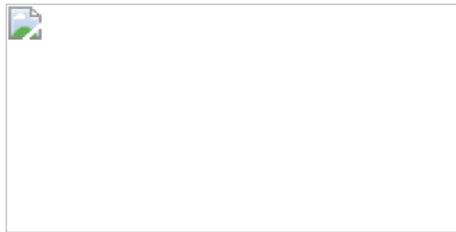
From Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <abebc@patternhosting.com>

Date Fri 5/23/2025 10:26 PM

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

 1 attachment (16 KB)

Calgary District Communities.docx;



First Name

Robert

Last Name

Nelson

Municipality / City

Calgary

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

To the members of the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

I am writing to share my thoughts as an engaged Albertan who has studied our province's political geography and demography, and believes that we are all best served when we have electoral boundaries that are fairly-drawn and logically-sound. The Electoral Boundaries Commission Act gives the Commission the leeway to determine which considerations to take into account, and at which relative weights, when drawing boundaries that provide fair and effective representation. With this in mind, I would strongly encourage the Commission to take account of the following factors when creating its proposals.

1. Electoral districts in Calgary and Edmonton should remain entirely within their respective city borders. This used to be a requirement of the Act, and although it has been recently removed, I would encourage the Commission to consider the borders of both major cities to constitute the boundaries of notable communities of interest. For most of Alberta's history, provincial electoral boundaries have not crossed the borders of Calgary and Edmonton, with the only exception (the 1971-1986 district of Edmonton-Sherwood Park) having disappeared from the province's electoral map almost 40 years ago. I would be concerned that if the Commission were to deviate from this principle now, even for well-intentioned purposes, it could be misconstrued in this contemporary political climate to be an attempt at gerrymandering, and in my view, there is no natural place in and near either city where population size and demographics would justify crossing either city's boundary.

2. The Commission should strive to keep population deviations for as many electoral districts as possible to within +/- 10% of the electoral quotient. This principle is important, as it serves as a bulwark against votes in one part of the province holding a disproportionate electoral weight over those in other parts. Despite the Supreme Court laying out the rule of +/- 25% deviation as being the maximum that is legally sound (with limited exceptions), many commissions at the federal and provincial levels have wisely sought to use +/- 10% as a self-imposed guideline to limit excessive population distortions between electoral districts. In fact, several provinces (e.g., Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador) have chosen to strictly enforce population deviations of +/- 10% (or less) directly via legislation. In democratic jurisdictions, it is incredibly important that the electoral weight of one citizen's vote not be made meaningfully different on account of geography. While Canadian common law jurisprudence rightly allows for exceptions to this in limited circumstances, this allowance should not be abused to, for example, allow rural electoral districts to exist with populations that are close to half the size of urban districts. All electoral districts, no matter where they are located, should have populations which fall within the same reasonable range. For several consecutive Commissions, presenters have made their cases as to the demographic and/or geographic challenges which they feel justify certain, or all, urban and/or rural districts being underpopulated (such as the size of the districts or the demographic complexities of the population). While such cases are well-intentioned, the reality is that challenges in an MLAs' relative ability to represent their constituents are best left to MLAs themselves, as it is the MLAs who decide how resources are allocated to MLA offices to enhance representation, as well as the size of the Legislature and, indeed, the system by which MLAs are elected in the first place. The place of the Commission is to, within the bounds established in law, determine how best to allocate boundaries to ensure fair and effective representation.

3. Notwithstanding the above, the Commission should utilize section 15(2) of the Act to preserve the electoral districts of Lesser Slave Lake and Central Peace-Notley, given their longstanding status under this section and the exceptional circumstances which apply to each district. This is particularly applicable in the case of Lesser Slave Lake, where section 15(2) has allowed for the existence of

Alberta's only provincial electoral district that is majority Indigenous by population. With this being said, I cannot find any other location in the province where an additional district under section 15(2) would be justified.

4. Recent amendments to the Act permitted an increase in the number of electoral districts from 87 to 89. It would be most appropriate to allocate these two additional districts to the cities of Calgary and Edmonton (one additional district to each). This is because, to begin with, simple math (dividing the 2021 census population by 89) would suggest that Edmonton is entitled to 21.05 districts (rounded down to 21) and that Calgary is entitled to 27.21 districts (rounded down to 27). In both cases, these numbers are one greater than the existing number of districts in each city. Additionally, recent population growth since the last Commission has been concentrated in the two cities - specifically, 145,917 of the 195,460 (or 74.7%) of the population increase in Alberta between the 2016 and 2021 censuses occurred in Calgary or Edmonton. Given this, it is only logical that the two new districts be allocated to Calgary and Edmonton, with each city receiving one additional electoral district.

5. Within Calgary and Edmonton, all possible efforts should be taken to ensure that as few Community Associations (Calgary) or Leagues (Edmonton) are split between multiple electoral districts. This consideration also used to be in the Act, and it is a logical best practice for ensuring effective representation of communities of interest, given the largely-volunteer-run local community representation organization which exist in each city and regularly liaise with elected representatives at all levels of government.

As someone who grew up and has spent years involved in politics in Calgary (although I am non-partisan and removed from politics now), with specific regard to the future electoral map for Calgary, I would encourage the Commission to finally use Deerfoot Trail north of Memorial Drive (and especially north of McKnight Blvd) as a natural geographic dividing point in the city, similar to how the Bow River is treated in many places. This is because, in northeast Calgary, not only are communities on either side of Deerfoot Trail separated by kilometres of uninhabited industrial land, there are also distinct demographic differences in factors such as ethnic identity, native language, income, and household composition when one compares communities on either side of the "Deerfoot divide"

With regard to the prior point as well as point 5 in the preceding list, I have attached to this submission a screenshot of a possible map of Calgary with 27 electoral districts, which seeks to keep as many community association boundaries intact, doesn't cross Deerfoot Trail north of Memorial Drive, and only crosses the Bow River at two points with easy road access that bridges the gaps. Additionally, the population deviations from the quotient of the districts in this map range from +10.8% to -11.7%, which is very close to my suggested target of +/- 10%. This map was created using the handy Ridingsbuilder tool at election-atlas.ca, which uses 2021 census data. Recognizing that the boundaries may not be 100% clear, I have also attached a word document that

lists the communities within each district. I will not claim this map to be perfect, but hope that it may be of use as one of many references for the members of the Commission.

Thank you for taking the time to read my submission, and I look forward to further engaging in this process as it progresses.

Best,

Robert (Robbie) Nelson

File (Optional)

- [Calgary-District-Communities.docx](#)
- [Calgary-27-Districts.png](#)

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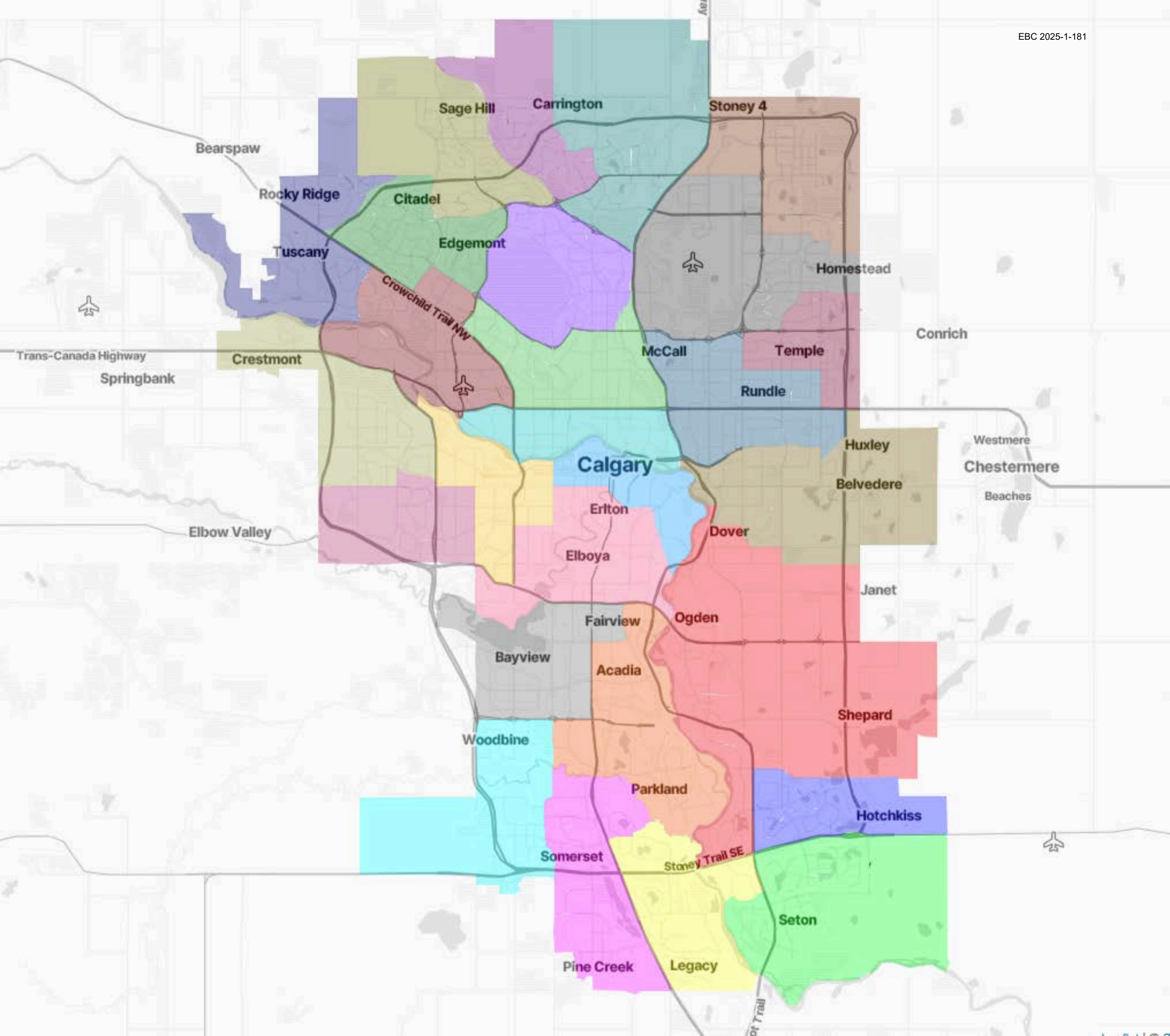
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Toll free 1 833 777 2125
Email info@abebc.ca

District	Communities (according to Calgary's Administrative Boundaries Map – excluding residual areas and Industrial areas)
Calgary-North East (brown district in the northeast corner of Calgary)	Redstone, Skyview Ranch, Cornerstone, Cityscape, Saddle Ridge (part)
Calgary-Bhullar-McCall (grey district south of Calgary-North East)	Saddle Ridge (part), Homestead, Taradale, Martindale, Castleridge
Calgary-Falconridge (red-ish district south of Calgary-Bhullar-McCall)	Falconridge, Coral Springs, Monterey Park, Temple, Whitehorn
Calgary-Cross (blue-ish district south of Calgary-Falconridge)	Vista Heights, Mayland Heights, Rundle, Pineridge, Marlborough, Marlborough Park, Abbeydale
Calgary-East (gold district south of Calgary-Cross)	Albert Park/Radisson Heights, Southview, Forest Heights, Forest Lawn, Penbrooke Meadows, Red Carpet, Applewood Park, Huxley, Belvedere, Erin Woods, Dover (part)
Calgary-Shepard (red district south of Calgary-East)	Dover (part), Ogden, Riverbend, Douglasdale/Glen, McKenzie Lake
Calgary-Hays (blue district south of Calgary-Shepard)	McKenzie Towne, New Brighton, Copperfield, Hotchkiss
Calgary-South East (green district south of Calgary-Shepard and Calgary-Hays)	Auburn Bay, Mahogany, Seton, Rangeview, Ricardo Ranch, Cranston (part)
Calgary-South (yellow district west of Calgary-South East)	Cranston (part), Legacy, Wolf Willow, Walden, Chaparral, Sundance
Calgary-Shaw (pink district west of Calgary-South)	Pine Creek, Belmont, Yorkville, Silverado, Somerset, Shawnessy, Millrise, Midnapore
Calgary-Lougheed (teal district west of Calgary-Shaw)	Bridlewood, Alpine Park, Evergreen, Woodbine, Woodlands
Calgary-Acadia-Fish Creek (orange district east of Calgary-Lougheed and north of Calgary-Shaw)	Parkland, Deer Run, Deer Ridge, Queensland, Diamond Cove, Bonavista Downs, Lake Bonavista, Canyon Meadows, Maple Ridge, Willow Park, Acadia
Calgary-Glenmore (grey district west of Calgary-Acadia-Fish Creek)	Southwood, Braeside, Cedarbrae, Oakridge, Palliser, Bayview, Pump Hill, Haysboro, Chinook Park, Eagle Ridge, Kelvin Grove, Kingsland, Fairview
Calgary-Elbow (pink district north of Calgary-Glenmore)	Mayfair, Bel-Aire, Meadowlark Park, Windsor Park, Manchester, Britannia, Elboya, Parkhill, Rideau Park, Roxboro, Erlton, Mission, Cliff Bungalow, Lower Mount Royal, Upper Mount Royal, Elbow Park, Altadore, Garrison Woods, North Glenmore Park, Lakeview
Calgary-Buffer (blue district north of Calgary-Elbow)	Inglewood, Ramsay, Beltline, Downtown East Village, Chinatown, Eau Claire, Downtown Commercial Core, Downtown West End

Calgary-Currie (yellow district west of Calgary-Elbow and Calgary-Buffalo)	Garrison Green, Lincoln Park, Currie Barracks, Rutland Park, Richmond, South Calgary, Bankview, Sunalta, Scarboro, Scarboro/Sunalta West, Shaganappi, Killarney/Glengarry, Rosscarrock, Westgate, Spruce Cliff, Wildwood
Calgary-West (pink-ish district west of Calgary-Currie)	Glamorgan, Glenbrook, Glendale, Signal Hill, Discovery Ridge, Springbank Hill, Christie Park
Calgary-Bow (Tan-ish district north of Calgary-West)	Aspen Woods, Strathcona Park, Coach Hill, Patterson, West Springs, Cougar Ridge, Medicine Hill, Osprey Hill, Crestmont, Valley Ridge
Calgary-North West (dark blue district north of Calgary-Bow)	Haskayne, Tuscany, Scenic Acres, Ricky Ridge, Royal Oak
Calgary-Varsity-Bowness (brown district southeast of Calgary-North West and east of Calgary-Bow)	Greenwood/Greenbriar, Bowness, Montgomery, Silver Springs, Varsity, Dalhousie, University District, University of Calgary, University Heights
Calgary-Mountain View (teal district south of Calgary-Varsity-Bowness)	Point McKay, Parkdale, St. Andrews Heights, West Hillhurst, Hounsfield Heights/Briar Hill, Rosedale, Sunnyside, Crescent Heights, Bridgeland/Riverside, Renfrew
Calgary-Klein (green district north of Calgary-Mountain View)	Brentwood, Charleswood, Collingwood, Banff Trail, Capitol Hill, Mount Pleasant, Tuxedo Park, Winston Heights/Mountview,, Highland Park, Greenview, Rosemont, Cambrian Heights, Queens Park Village, Highland Park, Highwood
Calgary-Nose Hill (purple district north of Calgary-Klein)	North Haven, North Haven Upper, Thorncliffe, Huntington Hills, Beddington Heights, Sandstone Valley, Macewan Glen
Calgary-Hawkwood (green district west of Calgary-Nose Hill and North of Calgary-Varsity-Bowness)	Edgemont, Hawkwood, Ranchlands, Arbour Lake, Citadel
Calgary-Foothills (gold-ish district north of Calgary-Hawkwood)	Hamptons, Hidden Valley (part), Sherwood, Kincora, Nolan Hill, Sage Hill, Glacier Ridge, Symons Valley Ranch
Calgary-North (purple district east of Calgary-Foothills)	Ambleridge, Moraine, Evanston, Panorama Hills (part)
Calgary-Northern Hills-Keystone (teal district east of Calgary-North)	Country Hills, Harvest Hills, Country Hills Village, Panorama Hills (part), Coventry Hills, Carrington, Livingston, Lewisburg





New submission from Andrea Ferriss

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 10:29 PM

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



First Name

Andrea

Last Name

Ferriss

Municipality / City

Edmonton

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

Electoral boundaries must stay within city limits. I am a resident of Edmonton. Not Beaumont, not Devon, not rural farmland. MY elected official must represent MY needs, which are deeply affected and informed by my experience as an Edmontonian. Dilluting my voting power by splitting the attention of my elected representative to cover an area with completely different needs and issues is unacceptable. I deserve to be properly represented. People outside of Edmonton deserve to be properly represented. Lumping separate populations with different concerns together is reckless. Our different issues all merit purposeful and meaningful attention, which cannot possibly be achieved equitably when we are sloppily merged. This blatant disregard for a fundamental principle of representative democracy cannot stand. For these reasons it is imperative that electoral boundaries remain within city limits.

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Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780-690-2125
Toll-free 1-833-777-2125
Email info@abebc.ca



Electoral Boundaries Commission submission

From Marc Slingerland [REDACTED]
Date Fri 5/23/2025 10:58 PM
To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]

To the members of the Electoral Boundaries Commission:

Thank you for your efforts in updating the framework through which Albertans express their democratic preferences, and for your invitation to provide input into this process. I have a number of comments to make in regards to Electoral Divisions in the Lethbridge area.

I've had the privilege of living in Lethbridge but working outside the city for most of my adult life. I've also been somewhat involved politically and so have taken an interest in electoral changes in this area. In particular, the substantial change between the interim and final reports of the boundaries commission in 2017, leading to the creation of the current Cardston-Siksika constituency, was a surprise that could not be adequately responded to given the timing of that final report. I trust that the current commission will rectify the creation of this ungainly riding, and re-align constituency boundaries in southern Alberta to better reflect common communities of interest and transportation/communication links in the area.

The creation of the Cardston-Siksika riding combined areas with substantially different cultures and interests over a very non-compact (nearly 'dumbbell-shaped') region. The stated reason for the realignment of Cardston-Siksika following the interim boundaries report in 2017 was to include the Kainai and Siksika First Nations reserves in the same riding. The substantially closer Piikani First Nation reserve was not included, however, and the 'stretching' of riding boundaries in one direction meant that links between other closely related communities (connected in previous ridings) were severed. A non-contiguous indigenous community of interest, then, was addressed, but other "municipalities, regional and rural communities" (per the *EBC Act*) were disadvantaged as a result. I'm hopeful that your Commission will be able to better balance these considerations.

Relationships between Lethbridge and its surroundings should be strongly considered in deriving new riding boundaries. As a service hub for the region, there are substantial common interests that link Lethbridge with its neighbouring municipalities. The existing boundaries of Lethbridge-East and Lethbridge-West create artificial divides between functionally connected populations – for instance, the Sunset Acres development which abuts West Lethbridge, the Fairview area to the east, County industrial areas in the east and south, and even the Lethbridge airport. Further afield, the Lethbridge-Coaldale corridor is now nearly fully developed; Coalhurst is a bedroom community of Lethbridge, but so too are numerous other towns and villages in the County of Lethbridge and beyond.

My recommendation to the Commission would be to reconfigure Electoral Division boundaries in and around Lethbridge along the lines of what seems to have been successful in Medicine Hat. I believe that there is potential for at least three, or even four, well-connected ridings which would each include a portion of Lethbridge proper along with a sector of the surrounding region. The primary and secondary highway linkages in various directions would be obvious candidates for 'backbones' of these new ridings; these trade and transportation corridors are economically

highly relevant, and it makes sense for these interests to be reflected as well in terms of political representation. EBC 2025-1188

There are at least two further advantages of such a reconfiguration. First, it could reduce confusion within Lethbridge; despite the longevity of Lethbridge-East and -West ridings, I'm frequently surprised by the very common – but incorrect! – identification of 'Lethbridge-West' with 'West Lethbridge'. Second, the creation of ridings containing components of both city and surrounding regions would give physical expression and representational priority to breaking down the oft-lamented urban-rural divide in Alberta politics.

I'm disappointed not to be able to make it to one of your Commission's in-person hearings. Thank you, however, for the opportunity to provide these written comments. I trust they will be considered in your deliberations, and I look forward to seeing how these ideas can be expressed in a new and more effective set of riding boundaries for southern Alberta.

Yours truly,

Marc Slingerland
Lethbridge, AB



Outlook

New submission from Marle Roberts

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

Date Fri 5/23/2025 11:29 PM

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



First Name

Marle

Last Name

Roberts

Municipality / City

Medicine Hat ED 57

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

ELECTIONS BOUNDARY COMMISSION,

I would like to express my gratitude to the commission for the work you have committed to do to ensure that electoral boundaries reflect effective representation in all 89 ridings.

I became interested with the work of the Electoral Boundary Commission with the report and change of electoral boundaries implemented by the 2016/2017 EBC. I was surprised and disappointed that our two electoral ridings of Medicine Hat and Cypress-Medicine were switched to Brooks-Medicine Hat and Cypress Medicine Hat.

My understanding of the changes are as follows; Electoral Division 52 - to a smaller urban area for Medicine Hat, inclusion of another municipality, the City of Brooks, the Town of Redcliff and an increase of the rural area, the County of Newell. The Electoral Division 57 - Cypress-Medicine Hat was changed increasing the urban area to compensate for the urban/rural additions of ED 52. I have attached ED 52 and ED 57 for reference.

2023_ED52_BROOKS_MEDICINEHAT_PUBLISHED.pdf

2023_ED57_CYPRESS_MEDICINEHAT_PUBLISHED.pdf

The Municipality of Medicine Hat has been affected over time by the population growth to the south of the number one highway. This has and will continue to have a significant impact on the municipal boundaries of Medicine Hat.

I offer the following for your consideration.

The City of Medicine Hat become one electoral division. Effective representation by dividing the municipality into two urban/rural electoral ridings does not follow the principle of effective representation. Medicine Hat is a central hub in southeast Alberta sharing complex infrastructure, public owned utilities, diverse economic activity and provides education, health care services, and combined transit services with Redcliff and the County of Cypress.

A solid argument can be made that the County of Newell and the City of Brooks does not share the same community interests, shared infrastructure, businesses, healthcare services and economic opportunities.

The population of an electoral division including Medicine Hat, Redcliff and the County of Cypress is possible with the increase of 87 to 89 and can cover a larger area of Medicine Hat's urban area. The population of this proposed electoral division can be no more than 25% above average population of all the proposed electoral divisions.

The number 3 highway is a transportation corridor that is instrumental for economic prosperity within the Medicine Hat, Redcliff and the County of Cypress. An intermunicipal collaboration framework was signed by the City of Medicine Hat, the Town of Redcliff and Cypress County as legislated in 2017. Quoting from the Intermunicipal Collaboration document, " The ICF is intended to foster increased levels of intermunicipal collaboration by establishing a pattern for intermunicipal collaboration and commercial, as well as encouraging and supporting delivery of services."

A distinctive electoral division with distinct boundaries will also clear up confusion with the citizens of Medicine Hat. The change of electoral districts was very confusing to the voters in Medicine Hat.

Looking forward to submitting a presentation at the public forum with possible solutions of electoral boundary solutions for the above noted change.

Sincere regards,
Marle Roberts

Address (Optional)

[REDACTED]

Phone (optional)

[REDACTED]

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Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780-690-2125
Toll-free 1-833-777-2125
Email info@abebc.ca



Outlook

New submission from Clifford Reed

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

Date Sat 5/24/2025 10:26 AM

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



First Name

Clifford

Last Name

Reed

Municipality / City

Wetaskiwin

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

Good Morning, I would like to Address the Maskwacis - Wetaskiwin boundaries as the current boundaries which include the 4 nations of Maskwacis and Pigeon Lake must remain in this constituency as the residents do have a connection to Wetaskiwin and there MLA is located in that city. As for many first nations people, transportation is an issue, if parts of Maskwacis are put in another constituency there access to their MLA for some would be greatly restricted. The boundaries for Maskwacis - Wetaskiwin should reflect the trading area as some parts of north east area should be moved to reflect the area that those residents do the bulk of their business and to be closer to their MLA.

Address (Optional)

[REDACTED]

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Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780-690-2125
Toll-free 1-833-777-2125
Email info@abebc.ca



New submission from Chris Robinson

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

Date Sun 5/25/2025 6:25 PM

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



First Name

Chris

Last Name

Robinson

Municipality / City

Beaver County

Email

[REDACTED]

Message

I would like to be aligned with the rest of my county. I am in the west end of Beaver County (west of hwy 833, s of hwy 14), and we are currently in the wetaskiwin riding. I don't feel this makes sense at all and we should have the same MLA as the rest of our local communities (Tofield etc). Please consider including all of Beaver County with the Camrose riding. Thank you

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Phone	780-690-2125
Toll-free	1-833-777-2125
Email	info@abebc.ca

May 15, 2025

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

Dear Members of the Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the 2025 Alberta Electoral Boundaries Review, on behalf of the County of Grande Prairie.

Our County continues to have serious concerns regarding the risk of diminished representation in Northern Alberta. We have consistently raised these concerns in past reviews, including our 2017 submission and response to the interim report. These submissions emphasized the risk of a growing southern bias, the complexity of northern constituencies and the danger of weakening rural representation.

The County's position is clear. While we support maintaining the current electoral boundaries for Grande Prairie and Grande Prairie-Wapiti, we remain concerned about appropriate representation in the Central Peace-Notley riding.

Population and Representation:

According to the 2021 Federal Census, the County of Grande Prairie had 23,769 residents. This number rose to 26,701 in the 2024 Municipal Census – a 12.3 per cent increase in just three years.

Meanwhile, the Grande Prairie-Wapiti riding reported a population of 46,803 in 2021, matching the provincial average for electoral divisions. Neighbouring Central Peace-Notley, though smaller in population at 28,993, spans a vast rural area and falls within the range of electoral divisions that the Commission has historically retained based on geographic and representational considerations, despite population variance.

The City of Grande Prairie, with a 2024 population of 70,385, has experienced significant growth and now exceeds the provincial average by approximately 50 per cent, meaning that it may soon warrant two MLAs.

Geographic Size and Accessibility:

Northern Alberta rural ridings span vast territories, requiring MLAs to travel long distances in often challenging conditions. These realities reduce the accessibility of elected representatives and limit opportunities for meaningful engagement with constituents.

Unequal Workload for Rural MLAs:

Unlike urban ridings, MLAs in rural regions must engage with numerous municipal councils, school boards, agricultural service boards, First Nations and other regional organizations. This workload is not experienced equally across Alberta and significantly diminishes the capacity for

County of Grande Prairie No. 1 10001 - 84 Avenue, Clairmont, AB T8X 5B2 Canada

Administration Building: 780-532-9722 | **Community Services Building:** 780-532-9727 | **Fax:** 780-539-9880

effective representation. This imbalance creates a structural disadvantage for rural regions and undermines the MLA's ability to provide equitable service across their constituency.

Economic and Strategic Significance:

Northern Alberta plays a vital role in Alberta's economy, particularly through resource development. Decisions that reduce representation in this region risk marginalizing areas that are key to the province's long-term prosperity.

Effective Representation vs. Population Equality:

As stated in the 2003 Electoral Boundary Review and reinforced in our 2017 submission, true democratic representation in Alberta cannot rely on population numbers alone. Geography, service access, infrastructure and administrative demands must be considered to ensure that all Albertans are fairly represented. These concerns align with the Commission's stated responsibility to consider communities of interest, existing municipal boundaries and access to effective representation.

Together, these factors point to the importance of an electoral structure that reflects both population and the practical realities of representation in our region.

County Position:

The County supports retaining multiple ridings in Northwestern Alberta, currently including Grande Prairie, Grande Prairie-Wapiti and Central Peace-Notley. This multi-riding structure allows for more balanced representation and has enabled greater attention to shared regional issues such as health care, transportation, policing, agriculture and resource development.

We believe that Grande Prairie-Wapiti and Grande Prairie's electoral boundaries are working well and reflect both community alignment and representational needs.

Central Peace-Notley is a special consideration riding, but its geographic size and complexity pose a significant challenge for any single MLA. We urge the Commission to carefully consider these pressures and ensure that the riding is not expanded or adjusted in a way that increases the difficulty of ensuring effective representation.

Thank you for your work on this important process and for considering the views of Albertans in all regions of the province.

Sincerely,



Bob Marshall

Reeve, County of Grande Prairie No. 1



Re: Lethbridge Public event on Electoral Boundaries

From Aaron Roth [REDACTED]
Date Sun 6/1/2025 4:30 PM
To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

Classification: Protected A - Low

From: Viviana Lartiga [REDACTED]
Sent: May 30, 2025 4:42 PM
To: Justice Dallas Miller [REDACTED]
Subject: Lethbridge Public event on Electoral Boundaries

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]
Good day Hon. Justice Miller,

My name is Viviana Lartiga and I attended last night's public engagement event at the Sandman Inn in Lethbridge. I briefly spoke with you during the intermission which is when you presented me with your business card. Thank you for that.

And thank you for taking the time to listen to my concern on the very low turnout for last night's event.

In this email, I want to present to you my thoughts about the future state of the changing of electoral boundaries and I'm hoping you can share this with the rest of the Commission members.

While the factors Alberta considers in adjusting electoral boundaries are grounded in democratic principles, it is my belief that each comes with inherent weaknesses, trade-offs, or potential for misuse. Below is a critique of each major factor, highlighting gaps and limitations but with some possible ways to address them:

1. Population Equality (Representation by Population)

While the primary principle that electoral divisions should have relatively equal populations to ensure each vote has roughly equal weight, there are weaknesses and gaps that must be addressed. Firstly, urban ridings often grow faster than rural ones, which often leads to underrepresentation quickly after redistribution. Secondly, I understand that the deviation tolerance, as discussed last night, is up to $\pm 25\%$ from the provincial average is generally allowed and that in exceptional circumstance deviations up to $\pm 50\%$, usually in remote areas, are considered. The impact of this allowance means that rural votes can carry more weight than urban votes, leading to

malapportionment. I'm curious to know how the $\pm 25\%$ and $\pm 50\%$ were determined in the first place. I think the Commission needs to tighten these deviation ranges especially in areas with strong infrastructure. Thirdly, population equality doesn't adapt well to sudden demographic shifts, especially in fast-growing regions as we have been witnessing in Edmonton and Calgary. This calls for mandating periodic boundary reviews more frequently, perhaps even 5-7 years to account for rapid growth.

2. Community of Interest

While electoral boundaries should reflect communities with shared interests, which can include social, economic, or cultural ties, what defines a "community of interest" is open to interpretation and can be manipulated to favor political outcomes. Also, as discussed last night, urban areas may have overlapping or conflicting interests (e.g., economic vs. ethnic communities), making it hard to draw lines that satisfy everyone. And, the more concerning is the risk of "gerrymandering-lite". While not necessarily malicious, subjective boundaries can still be skewed toward incumbent advantage under the guise of "community integrity." So I think the Commission needs to articulate and clearly define the criteria and it is incumbent on the commission to explain how boundaries reflect the criteria. I would also urge the commission to avoid using community of interest as the primary justification for large deviations without strong data support.

3. Geographical Features

With respect to geographical features, and it was discussed last night that potentially the river would be used as the electoral boundary between Lethbridge West and East, at first glance this makes sense. AND I understand that in large rural ridings, geographic size may warrant a population deviation to ensure the MLA can effectively serve the area. But this doesn't come without problems. If geography is prioritized over population, this often leads to smaller electorates in large rural areas, creating disproportionate influence. Also, given technological advances ie. improvements in communication and transportation weaken the argument that vast geography necessarily requires smaller population representation. So I'm hoping the Commission will require that geographic exceptions be accompanied by evidence showing practical communication or travel challenges.

4. Existing Municipal Boundaries

I understand that electoral districts often try to align with existing municipal school division lines to maintain administrative coherence and avoid voter confusion. But as it was mentioned last night, municipal lines can be arbitrary. Municipalities don't always align with where people actually live, work, or share interests, especially in commuter belts and bedroom communities such as Coalhurst and Coaldale. We know that many people live in these bedroom communities, work in Lethbridge or attend a school in Lethbridge (K-12 or university). Aligning with existing lines can lead to resistance against necessary changes or create overly safe ridings.

5. Effective Representation

Effective access to constituent's MLA is absolutely crucial for people to be heard. However, "Effective representation" is ambiguous, vague, and prone to manipulation, potentially enabling significant vote disparity. Also, there's no clear metric for effectiveness, making it difficult to challenge unfair boundaries. Defining the metrics for effectiveness ie. constituent accessibility, MLA workload, service levels would be helpful. Also, having standardized criteria and transparency rules for when population deviation are justified should be established. Lastly, citizen experience surveys should be included or access-to-representative audits can be used to inform how "effective" current representation really is.

6. Public Input and Transparency

As we all know, public engagement/ consultation is crucial to adjusting any proposed boundaries in ways that respect local concerns. But as I alluded to last night, hearings and consultations often attract special interest groups, political activists, or organized lobbies—not necessarily average citizens. Last night was a clear indication of this when you have nearly a third of last night's attendees on one side of the political spectrum. I think there were maybe 6 or 7 "average citizens" in attendance last night. Also, as evidenced from last night's attendance, it is highly possible that many Albertans may be unaware of this process or lack the time and means to participate. And lastly, these public consultations don't appear to be binding. The Commission can disregard concerns and Commission rationales for decisions may lack detail. So there is low accountability in this process. I'm hoping the Commission can consider online tools to broaden accessibility and for accountability, would the Commission please publish how public input was used or disregarded with clear rationale. Perhaps the Commission could utilize a deliberative democracy model where randomly selected citizens deliberate on an issue in a structured process.

7. Growth Projections

This was raised last night as well and I think seemed to be a main focus of discussion. Anticipated population growth or decline must be considered to avoid immediate imbalance. However, population growth is hard to predict, especially in areas affected by economic booms or busts (e.g., Fort McMurray). There is concern that the Commission might be too cautious with projections, leading to new districts being under strain soon after creation. And as previously mentioned, redistributing every 8–10 years means projections may already be outdated when implemented. Perhaps the Commission can build in automatic review triggers to address forecasting errors ie. if a district exceeds 125% of average population for 2 years. The trigger is a predefined condition and when met, this automatically required a formal review of the electoral boundary BEFORE the next scheduled redistribution. Right now, a review that occurs every 8-10 years is too slow in fast-growing areas. These areas can seriously become underrepresented in just a few years. The Electoral Boundaries Commission Act could be amended to include automatic triggers. The Commission could also tier the trigger levels or create "buffer zones" during initial boundary drawings.

Broader Critiques of the Electoral Boundary Process in Alberta:

- Infrequent adjustments: Redistributing only every few election cycles causes persistent inequalities.
- Incumbent influence risk: While the commission is independent, political pressure or appointee bias can subtly shape outcomes. This is a real concern of mine as I witnessed last night a fair bit of "elbow-rubbing" between panelists and political figures in Lethbridge.
- No proportional representation: All these factors operate within a first-past-the-post system, where vote equality is further diluted by how votes are translated into seats.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Viviana Lartiga
Lethbridge resident, Albertan

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Contact form submission

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

Date Fri 6/13/2025 12:23 PM

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



Name

Colin Kunzli

Email

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Message

The polling boundaries south of the Milk River in county of forty mile should be the same because the way they are drawn currently I am sent to a voting place seventy miles out of my way.

Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780 690 2125
Toll free 1 833 777 2125
Email info@abebc.ca

Submission to the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission

In Support of Maintaining the Current Boundaries of Cypress-Medicine Hat and Brooks-Medicine Hat

Submitted by: Justin Wright, MLA Cypress Medicine Hat

Date: June 16, 2025

Introduction

Ladies and gentlemen of the Commission,

Thank you for your time and for the important work you are undertaking. I submit this report in strong support of **maintaining the current electoral boundaries** of the **Cypress-Medicine Hat** and **Brooks-Medicine Hat** constituencies. This submission reflects not only a practical argument, but also a principled one: that representation should reflect real regional cohesion, not just population numbers on a map.

Medicine Hat and its surrounding communities have become increasingly integrated across **economic, educational, cultural, and service lines**. The current “rurban” model — part rural, part urban — is not only functional, but **foundational** to how representation is delivered in this part of Alberta.

1. Rurban Representation Strengthens Democracy

Blended ridings such as Cypress-Medicine Hat and Brooks-Medicine Hat are more than just geographic compromises — they are **representationally robust**. As an MLA, representing both urban and rural communities enriches the legislative process, ensuring that diverse needs are understood and balanced. Urban centres often drive economic growth, while rural areas supply the resources and cultural backbone. Together, they form a cohesive constituency that is greater than the sum of its parts.

This blend ensures better governance, where **urban priorities such as infrastructure, healthcare, and innovation** are harmonized with **rural concerns such as agriculture, transportation, and land use**. It also produces more versatile, grounded legislators.

2. Two MLAs Are a Necessity, Not a Luxury

In a time when **regional voices risk dilution**, maintaining two constituencies anchored in Medicine Hat is not a luxury — it is a necessity. Two MLAs ensure:

- **Double the advocacy** in the Legislature
- **Better accessibility** for constituents
- **More resilience** in pushing local priorities forward

Consider the challenges our region is actively managing — urgent care investment, post-secondary innovation, major infrastructure upgrades, school expansions, and energy diversification. These files are complex, demanding more than any single MLA can reasonably manage across such a vast and diverse region.

3. Medicine Hat: The Anchor of Southeastern Alberta

Medicine Hat is the **only major economic and service hub** between Regina and Calgary. From its industrial base to its healthcare services and cultural institutions, it provides critical infrastructure and leadership to a large geographic area.

This includes:

- **Healthcare:** Regional hospitals and specialists serve much of southeastern Alberta.
- **Education:** Medicine Hat College, which has a **satellite campus in Brooks**, plays a key regional role in post-secondary access and workforce development.
- **Economic Leadership:** With the transformation of the **Medicine Hat Chamber of Commerce** into the **Southeast Alberta Chamber of Commerce**, even the business community recognizes that regional interests must be approached **holistically** rather than along rigid geographic or political lines.

This alignment reinforces the need to maintain constituencies that reflect these evolving economic and institutional realities — not sever them arbitrarily.

4. Cross-Regional Service Integration

The **Palliser Economic Partnership** is a prime example of the need for regionally blended constituencies. It services a large corridor from **Oyen in the north to the U.S. border in the south**, and from the **Saskatchewan border west to the County of Forty Mile**. This is precisely the footprint encompassed by Cypress-Medicine Hat and Brooks-Medicine Hat. Splitting these ridings would weaken alignment with economic development efforts and fracture collaborative momentum.

Similarly, the **Prairie Rose School Division** serves nearly the entire territory of both constituencies — and stretches into others. Education is one of the most pressing issues constituents face, and redrawing these lines would result in **confusing representation**, policy fragmentation, and less effective local advocacy.

5. Unique Representational Equity

Finally, let us address the question of representational fairness. Medicine Hat currently enjoys **more direct representation per capita** than cities like Red Deer, Lethbridge, Airdrie, and Grande

Prairie. But this is not disproportionate — it is proportionate to the complexity and breadth of the region it anchors.

Medicine Hat serves as a **regional capital**, responsible for supporting dozens of surrounding municipalities, counties, and First Nations. This is not just about city interests — it is about the rural residents who rely on Medicine Hat for education, medical treatment, commerce, and community.

Reducing representation here would result in **undue harm to rural Alberta**, the very people who would lose a strong and familiar voice in Edmonton.

Conclusion

This is not a political issue. This is a matter of **effective, equitable representation**. Blended ridings serve our communities well — because our communities themselves are blended in practice. Medicine Hat must continue to be represented by **two MLAs** who together reflect the full character, diversity, and ambition of southeastern Alberta.

On behalf of all those who rely on cohesive, regional, accessible governance — I respectfully urge you: **do not change the boundaries of Cypress-Medicine Hat or Brooks-Medicine Hat.**

Thank you for your service and consideration.





June 20, 2025

To: Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission

Re: Consideration of Community Leagues for Edmonton's Boundary discussion

To the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

The Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues is an organization with 104 years of history in the City of Edmonton. Currently representing the 163 Community Leagues of Edmonton as members of our federation, we would strongly support the Commission to ensure that any changes to provincial riding boundaries ensure that Community League boundaries are respected. Should the ridings split through Community League boundaries, we know that representation will be more challenging- dividing neighbours, as well as other layers of government.

Community Leagues provide valuable recreational opportunities for Edmontonians and they provide places for learning, culture, and education. They have a long history of providing advocacy opportunities from traffic concerns, to built environment, safety and more.

Given the important role that Leagues play in social cohesion, a gathering place for neighbours, and an important venue for leveraging the voice of the community- we would strongly encourage the Commission to ensure that the Community League boundaries are respected if provincial riding boundaries are redrawn in any way.

Edmontonians have come to expect that their League boundaries remain, despite other jurisdictional ridings. This ensures that any representative has one point of contact for a community, leading to strong representation that would be responsive to the needs of the community. We would also encourage the wards to remain within the new ridings.

Both the civic wards, along with federal ridings have kept League boundaries aligned. This leads to more effective governance and better representation- along with a more cohesive approach in our city.

Should you have any further questions about Community Leagues, please don't hesitate to contact us.

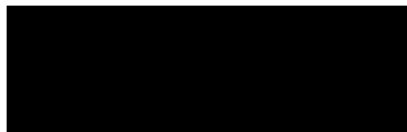
Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues

12122 68 Street NW | Edmonton, AB | T5B 1R1 | 780.437.2913 | info@efcl.org

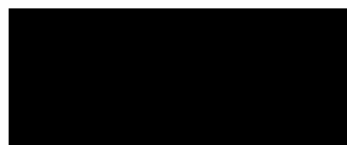




Sincerely,



Laura Cunningham-Shpeley
Executive Director, EFCL



Jenn Parsonage
President, EFCL



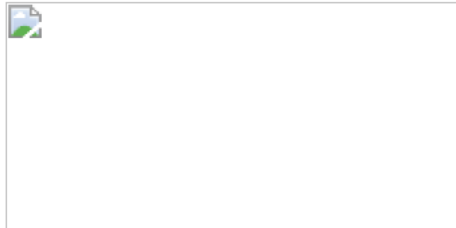
***Community Leagues in Edmonton are independent non-profit organizations that are run by volunteers who live within the boundaries of the League. These organizations are governed by the Societies Act and are specifically mentioned in the Community Organization Property Tax Exemption Regulation ([COPTER](#)) Article 12 (1.1). Community Leagues have built 126 Community Halls and 120 outdoor boarded rinks, over 300 playgrounds, tennis, basketball and pickleball courts- all contributing over \$600 million in community infrastructure across the city.*

Contact form submission

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

Date Sun 6/22/2025 11:36 PM

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



Name

LAVERYNE GREEN

Email

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Message

Good evening,

I attended a public presentation in Red Deer on June 23rd, hoping to understand the current electoral boundary change process. I appreciated the history and other factors presented. At first, it seemed reasonable to add another riding in each of Edmonton and Calgary, given the major population growth affecting those cities.

Upon further thought, I realize what is needed is a new formula. Representation by population alone skews the needs of vast areas and would create significant problems for the rural and small-town ridings. Politicians would favour the city's needs to secure their votes. This is the age-old scenario our federation of Canada has already and has not dealt with. Thus, the western alienation. Let's not perpetuate it further throughout our province. Now is the time to grapple with a better formula and make the socialism-conservatism divide a more even representation.

Also, I've volunteered on both rural and urban CAs. I've observed the incredible challenge for rural MLAs connecting with their constituents and dealing with huge geographical areas. It is truly a monumental task. The people of Alberta deserve a better formula, and you are tasked with that job at this juncture in

political time.
Thank you,
Laveryne Green

Suite 100, 11510 Kingsway NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5G 2Y5

Phone 780 690 2125
Toll free 1 833 777 2125
Email info@abebc.ca

To the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission,

My name is Spencer, and I live in Calgary-Elbow — specifically, on campus at Mount Royal University. I'm writing to provide input as part of the Commission's review of electoral boundaries as someone who cares deeply about keeping our democratic processes fair. Thank you for your time and for including the voices of people who live in and are shaped by the communities you're mapping.

Calgary-Elbow is a unique riding with a strong sense of urban identity. It blends long-established neighborhoods with newer development, and it includes a wide range of residents — from students and young professionals to families and older adults. One of the things that makes this riding stand out is the presence of Mount Royal University, which anchors the community not just geographically, but socially and economically. People live, work, study, and access services within a fairly connected area. The rhythm of this part of the city is shaped by the university and by the patterns of active transportation and public transit that many residents rely on.

As a student living on campus, I've seen firsthand how much the university's presence influences the needs of nearby residents. It also creates shared priorities — like accessible housing, transit, and public services. I'm concerned that if the university area or the surrounding neighborhoods were split into separate ridings, it would fragment a natural and well-functioning community of interest. It would also make it harder for MLAs to effectively advocate for this area, as the issues here are interconnected and require consistent representation.

Since the last boundary review in 2017, Calgary-Elbow has seen increased development and population growth — particularly in areas like Currie, Garrison Woods, and along transit routes. It's important that population growth across the province, including here in Calgary, is reflected by adding new seats where needed, rather than just redrawing existing ones in ways that could dilute representation. This approach would help maintain fair and accurate representation across growing urban areas.

I also want to acknowledge the diversity of this riding — including students, renters, newcomers, and racialized community members — many of whom are already underrepresented in provincial decision-making. Fragmenting these groups risks making their voices even harder to hear. Keeping our communities intact is about more than geography — it's about respecting how people live, move, and engage in civic life.

I respectfully ask that Calgary-Elbow be kept whole and that the Commission consider adding new seats to reflect Alberta's population growth rather than dividing up natural communities and municipalities. Thank you again for your work and for the opportunity to share my perspective.

Sincerely,
Spencer Patterson



Electoral Boundaries input - Downtown Edmonton

From Cheryl Probert [REDACTED]
Date Mon 6/23/2025 6:02 PM
To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]

Good afternoon,

The purpose of my email is to provide input into the discussion regarding changes to the existing provincial electoral boundaries. The virtual consultation sessions were no longer accepting participants, so I am writing instead.

I am the sitting President of the Downtown Edmonton Community League (DECL). As both a resident and an advocate for the downtown Edmonton community, I am very excited about the future growth of the residential density in the city's core neighbourhood.

With the Oilers Entertainment Group bringing new residences to their Village at ICE District, Autograph development bringing their Warehouse Block to add to the newly built & occupied Falcon and The Parks 1 towers, we are seeing tangible evidence of the desire for individuals and families to live in downtown Edmonton. In addition, the planned expansion of our urban post secondary institutions precipitates the need for additional student & affordable housing to be also located within the downtown boundaries.

Furthermore, with the investment in park revitalization of Michael Phair and Beaver Hills House Parks, the brand new Warehouse Park under development and slated for completion at the end of 2025, as well as the LRT West Line project, we firmly believe that the residential population of downtown Edmonton is poised for imminent and significant growth.

As such, it is critical that the electoral boundaries remain in a configuration that allows members of the voting public to vote according to what they believe is in the best interests of their unique urban community

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further discussion if desired.

Many thanks,

Cheryl Probert
President
Downtown Edmonton Community League (DECL)
[REDACTED]

Re: Regostation to speak at the virtual public hearing

From Michael Janz [REDACTED]
Date Mon 6/23/2025 8:05 PM
To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

Hello, My sincere apologies that this was missed. Can I submit something in writing?

Dear Commissioners,

I wanted to respond to some of the remarks made previously about urban growth, especially in Central Edmonton.

Last year according to housing start data, over 40% of new units were inside the Henday, and this is well on our way to achieving our city plan growth of over half of new units. With increased enrollment around our post secondary community, we are going to see more core growth.

(ref: <https://www.michaeljanz.ca/edmonton-is-slowly-curbing-urban-sprawl>)

We recently embarked on our priority growth area rezoning, which again saw over 1200 properties upzoned for construction:

<https://www.edmonton.ca/city-government/city-vision-and-strategic-plan/priority-growth-area-rezoning>

Cranes are everywhere in central Edmonton. Blatchford has sold out many more lots as well as exhibition lands (the area by the colosseum). <https://www.exhibitionlands.ca/>

The west 240 near the University of Alberta is also seeing enormous growth in the next decade following the completion of michener park. (<https://uapt.ca/michener-park/>)

All this to say, I dispute the remarks by previous speakers that suggested Edmonton's growth will be outside of the Anthony Henday and into suburbia. With time it will slow, and you'll see much more growth within the city core, especially as new voting age adults move towards employment and opportunity in Central Edmonton.

Michael Janz

Recommendation for an Additional Electoral Division in Edmonton

From Shaminder Parmar [REDACTED]
Date Tue 6/24/2025 12:39 AM
To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission <info@abebc.ca>

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]

Dear Members of the Electoral Boundaries Commission,

My name is Shaminder Parmar, and I am an Urban Planner with Edmonton Public Schools as well as a resident of The Orchards in southeast Edmonton.

I am writing to let you know that I am very much in support of the creation of an additional electoral division within the City of Edmonton. As someone who both lives and works in this city, particularly in areas experiencing significant growth, I can confidently say that Edmonton's current level of representation no longer reflects the city's demographic reality.

Over a decade ago, Edmonton experienced what planners often referred to as the "donut effect," where mature and core neighbourhoods declined in population while new suburbs grew rapidly. That trend has since changed. Core and mature communities are once again seeing significant population growth. Schools in these areas are reaching or exceeding capacity, and infill developments are attracting new immigrant families with children, further increasing demand on infrastructure.

At the same time, suburban growth, especially in southeast Edmonton, has continued at a rapid pace. Neighbourhoods such as Aster and the new communities in Decoteau are expanding quickly. Kettle Lakes, which is expected to become the largest neighbourhood in Edmonton, has already started development. Unfortunately, this part of the city remains underserved in terms of essential infrastructure such as schools and hospitals. The pace of growth in this region will only make the gap more severe.

As an urban planner, I am concerned that without additional electoral representation, Edmonton's MLAs will continue to face unmanageable caseloads. The complexity and volume of issues across both core and suburban communities demand more focused attention from elected officials.

For these reasons, I urge the Commission to seriously consider adding an electoral division in Edmonton, particularly in the fast growing southeast area. This is a critical step to ensure fair and effective representation for all residents of our city.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Shaminder Singh Parmar
Resident and Urban Planner, The Orchards, Edmonton