

**Y U K O N**

**ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES**

**COMMISSION**

**INTERIM REPORT**



**NOVEMBER 2017**



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November 17, 2017

Honourable Nils Clarke  
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly  
Yukon Legislative Assembly  
Whitehorse, Yukon

Dear Mr. Speaker:

We are pleased to submit the interim report of the Electoral District Boundaries Commission. The report sets out the proposals for the boundaries, number, and names of electoral districts in Yukon, and includes our reasons for the proposals. Proposals are based on all considerations prescribed by the *Elections Act* (the *Act*).

Our interim report is submitted in accordance with section 415 of the *Act* for tabling in the Legislative Assembly.

Our final report will be submitted by April 20, 2018 in accordance with section 417 of the *Act*. The final report will consider input received at upcoming public hearings and additional written submissions received by the Electoral District Boundaries Commission.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Mr. Justice R.S. Veale  
Commission Chair

Darren Parsons  
Member

Jonas Smith  
Member

Anne Tayler  
Member

Lori McKee  
Member/  
Chief Electoral Officer



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## Executive Summary

Nineteen electoral districts are proposed. There is no change from the number of existing electoral districts.

Nine of the proposed electoral districts reflect changes to the boundaries of existing electoral districts.

- Three changes are proposed in recognition of the shared travel patterns and cultural connections of residents in communities within the existing electoral district of Pelly-Nisutlin.
  - Carcross-Tagish-Teslin combines the southern portions of the existing electoral districts of Pelly-Nisutlin and Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes. The proposed electoral district includes Carcross, Tagish, Teslin, and Johnsons Crossing.
  - Mayo-Carmacks-Faro combines the existing electoral district of Mayo-Tatchun with the Faro area. The proposed electoral district includes Carmacks, Elsa, Faro, Keno Hill, Little Salmon, Mayo, Pelly Crossing, and Stewart Crossing.
  - Watson Lake-Ross River combines the existing electoral district of Watson Lake with the Ross River area. The proposed electoral district includes Watson Lake, Ross River, Rancheria, Swift River, and Upper Liard.

Boundaries of the existing electoral districts of Mayo-Tatchun, Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes, Pelly-Nisutlin, and Watson Lake are affected by these changes.

- Three changes are proposed to accommodate development in Porter Creek and future growth in the Whistle Bend community: the expansion is divided into the three proposed electoral districts of Porter Creek North, Porter Creek South, and Whistle Bend.

Boundaries of the existing electoral districts of Porter Creek Centre, Porter Creek North, and Porter Creek South are affected by these changes.

- Two changes are proposed to combine country-residential areas adjacent to Whitehorse in recognition of shared travel patterns and community interests.
  - Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake includes the Hamlet of Mount Lorne, the “Carcross Cut-off” area, Annie Lake Road, Golden Horn, Marsh Lake and area, Lewes Lake, and the Robinson subdivision.
  - Copperbelt South includes the southern portion of Copper Ridge and the subdivisions of Cowley Creek, Fox Haven, Hidden Haven, MacRae, Mary Lake, Mount Sima, Pineridge, Spruce Hill, Wolf Creek, Wolf Creek North, and Whitehorse Copper.

Boundaries of the existing electoral districts of Copperbelt South and Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes are affected by these changes.

- One minor change, affecting two electoral districts, is proposed in recognition of the travel patterns of residents in the McQuesten area and their connection to Dawson City.
  - Klondike includes Dawson City and surrounding areas, Eagle Plains, and McQuesten.
  - Mayo-Carmacks-Faro includes Carmacks, Elsa, Faro, Keno Hill, Little Salmon, Mayo, Pelly Crossing, and Stewart Crossing.

Boundaries of the existing electoral districts of Klondike and Mayo-Tatchun are affected by the change.

Details on the proposals for the boundaries, number, and names of 19 electoral districts appear on pages 18 to 60 of this report. The proposals represent the unanimous view of the Members and were guided by public input, projected future development and population growth, judicial decisions on redistribution from jurisdictions across Canada, and all considerations prescribed by law.

This review process is still underway. The public has an opportunity to comment on the proposals contained in this interim report, either by making a presentation at a public meeting or by providing a written submission. These comments will be considered in the process of preparing final proposals for the boundaries, number, and names of electoral districts in Yukon.

The Commission will submit its final proposals by April 20, 2018. After the report is tabled in the Legislative Assembly, the government will introduce legislation for debate to establish electoral districts that will be in place for the next two general elections.

## Further Consultation

Members of the public are encouraged to review and comment on the interim proposals in this report. Public input is important to ensure that future electoral district boundaries will serve all electors in all communities. Future input will be considered by the Commission in its final proposals that will be submitted to the Legislative Assembly by April 20, 2018.

Public meetings will be held in communities across Yukon in February and March, 2018, and written submissions will continue to be accepted until March 10, 2018. Additional details and timelines will be advertised, posted to the Commission website at [www.yukonboundaries.ca](http://www.yukonboundaries.ca) and available through the Commission's office. Contact information appears below.

Phone: 867-456-6730 or 1-855-967-8588 (toll-free) E-mail: <a href="mailto:boundaries@electionsyukon.ca">boundaries@electionsyukon.ca</a> Mail: Box 2703 (A-9), Whitehorse, Y1A 2C6 Facsimile: 867-393-6977 Facebook: <a href="https://facebook.com/yukonboundaries">facebook.com/yukonboundaries</a> Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/yukonboundaries">@yukonboundaries</a>
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## Part One: Mandate and Membership

### Mandate

The Commission was fully appointed on May 3, 2017, in accordance with the *Elections Act R.S.Y. 2002, c.63, as amended* (the *Act*).

The Commission is directed by the *Act* “to review the existing electoral districts established under the *Electoral District Boundaries Act S.Y. 2000, c.14* and to make proposals to the Legislative Assembly as to the boundaries, number, and names of the electoral districts of the Yukon.” This review ensures that electors have effective representation within electoral districts that reflect changes in communities across Yukon. The review is conducted independent of government.

The role of the Commission is specifically limited to the consideration of existing and future electoral districts. Recommendations regarding electoral reform, and other issues beyond the Commission’s mandate, were not considered.

Public input was invited to encourage electors to have a voice in shaping the areas that their Members of the Legislative Assembly will represent for the next two elections. The Commission developed a broad public outreach campaign to encourage participation and considered all recommendations in the decision-making process.

There are specific considerations in the *Act* that guide the Commission in its deliberations that lead to proposals for future electoral districts, which include:

- density and future growth
- accessibility, size and geographical features
- facilities, travel patterns and means of communication
- census data, current elector population and demographics
- any special circumstances of existing electoral districts
- municipal and First Nations boundaries
- public input

The Commission has specific timelines and responsibilities to fulfill its role:

- a process for receiving input to the interim report must be established,
- an interim report containing proposed electoral districts must be submitted to the Legislative Assembly within seven months of its appointment,
- public hearings must be held to allow for public input on the proposals set out in the interim report, and
- a final report containing proposed electoral districts must be submitted to the Legislative Assembly within five months of the interim report.

Full legal authority is contained in Part 7 of the *Act*, which appears in Appendix 1.

## **Membership**

The *Act* provides direction on composition of the Commission to include a judge or retired judge of the Supreme Court of Yukon as Chair, a representative chosen by each political party represented in the Legislative Assembly, and the chief electoral officer. This composition ensures political neutrality and brings multiple perspectives to the Commission's deliberations.

Mr. Justice Ron Veale was appointed by Order-in-Council as Commission Chair on April 28, 2017.

Mr. Currie Dixon, Mr. Darren Parsons, and Dr. Anne Tayler were appointed by Order-in-Council as Commission members on May 3, 2017.

Mr. Jonas Smith was appointed by Order-in-Council as a Commission member on May 25, 2017 following the May 15, 2017 resignation of Mr. Currie Dixon.

Ms. Lori McKee, Chief Electoral Officer, is a member of the Commission in accordance with the *Act*.

Biographies of Commission members appear in Appendix 2.

## **Public Consultation**

The Commission is guided in its deliberations by the considerations set out in Part Two of this report. Public consultation is one of the considerations prescribed by the *Act*.

Boundaries of future electoral districts, reflecting the changes in Yukon, will be established to ensure that electors across Yukon have effective representation. Public input is essential to ensure all changes and concerns are considered by the Commission.

A May 4, 2017 media release informed the public of the appointment and mandate of the Commission. A broad public outreach campaign began in June 2017 to solicit input from electors and their communities.

Written submissions received by October 1, 2017 were considered in the interim report, allowing more than three months for submissions; to date, seven written submissions have been received. Submissions were considered in developing the proposals contained in the interim report and were posted to the website to invite public dialogue. It is hoped that the interim proposals in this report will encourage public participation through written submissions and presentations at public meetings.

The outreach campaign was designed to reach all communities and all demographics. Communications informed the public of the role, timelines, and objectives of the Commission, offering options for participation and the means to access additional information.

- Stakeholder letters were mailed in June 2017 to invite participation from those with a particular interest in the process: Members of the Legislative Assembly and registered political parties; First Nation and municipal governments; community, business, and labour organizations
  - a stakeholder letter and complete list of stakeholders appear in Appendices 3 and 4
- Newspaper advertisements appeared in the *Yukon News*, *Whitehorse Star*, *Klondike Sun*, *l'Aurore boreale*, and *What's Up Yukon* to reach the broadest possible newspaper audience
  - the June 2017 publication announced the appointment of the Commission and invited early input, while the September 2017 advertisements provided a reminder of the October 1 deadline for interim submissions, recognizing that public availability and interest could increase after the summer months
  - newspaper advertisements appear in Appendix 5
- The website, launched in June 2017, provides additional details on the Commission's purpose, identifies the options for participation and ways to contact the Commission
  - written submissions appear on the website to facilitate the exchange of ideas and public consideration of different recommendations; a list of submissions appears in Appendix 6
- A social media campaign used Facebook and Twitter to reach people who follow current events online
- Householder notices inviting input were mailed to residences across Yukon in September 2017
  - the householder notice appears in Appendix 7

The Commission's office was available to the public during regular business hours to allow for personal visits and contact by telephone, mail, facsimile, and e-mail. The toll-free line and e-mail access ensured that recommendations could be shared by community members across Yukon at times most convenient for them.

Future communications will encourage comments on the Commission's proposals through written submissions and participation at public meetings. Radio advertisements will be included to expand the reach of notices announcing the public meetings.

## **Part Two: Considerations in the Decision-Making Process**

The Commission began its work with a detailed review of resources on redistribution of electoral districts in the Canadian context.

These combined resources provided the knowledge base needed to make informed and principled proposals that considered:

- legal requirements prescribed by the *Act*,
- judicial decisions relating to redistribution of electoral district boundaries,
- deliberations of past Commissions,
- projections on population growth in Yukon,
- areas of future development, such as the Whistle Bend community and the potential development of the Coffee and Eagle Gold projects, and
- demographic and economic trends in communities.

### **Legal Requirements Prescribed by the *Elections Act***

The *Act* sets out the following considerations, which were used to assess each proposed electoral district.

“For the purpose of the reports required under sections 415 and 417, the Commission shall take into account the following

- (a) the density and rate of growth of the population of any area;
- (b) the accessibility, size and physical characteristics of any area;
- (c) the facilities and patterns of transportation and communication within and between different areas;
- (d) available census data and other demographic information;
- (e) the number of electors in the electoral districts appearing on the most recent official lists of electors;
- (f) any special circumstances relating to the existing electoral districts;
- (g) the boundaries of municipalities and First Nations governments;
- (h) public input obtained under section 416;
- (i) any other reasons or information relied on by the Commission.”

S.Y. 2002, c.63, as amended s.419

It is important to note that population is not the sole consideration in developing proposed electoral districts, nor is it weighted more heavily than the other considerations.

### **Judicial Decisions Relating to Redistribution**

While a significant number of decisions were reviewed, three judgments are particularly relevant.

The right to effective representation was addressed by the Supreme Court of Canada in the 1991 *Saskatchewan Reference Case*. Madam Justice McLachlin stated:

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”.

The section does not guarantee the equality of voting power.

The decision ruled that equality of voting power is not the only factor that affects effective representation:

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.

The history or philosophy of Canadian democracy does not suggest that the framers of the *Charter* in enacting s. 3 had the attainment of voter parity as their ultimate goal. Their goal, rather, was to recognize the right long affirmed in this country to effective representation in a system which gives due weight to voter equity but admits other considerations where necessary. Effective representation and good government in this country compel that factors other than voter parity, such as geography and community interests, be taken into account in setting electoral boundaries. Departures from the Canadian ideal of effective representation, where they exist, will be found to violate s. 3 of the *Charter*.

The principles in the *Saskatchewan Reference Case* have been cited in a number of subsequent judicial decisions. They were cited in the 1994 *Alberta Reference Case*, which considered the tolerance for population variances in electoral divisions. The Alberta Court of Appeal stated that the constitution of Canada is sufficiently flexible to permit disparity to serve geographical and demographic reality.

At the same time, the Court cautioned that the variances could not be permitted without reason:

It is one thing to say that the effective representation of a specific community requires an electoral division of a below-average population. That approach invites specific reasons, and specific facts.

...

...there is no permissible variation if there is no justification. And the onus to establish justification lies with those who suggest the variation.

In 2015, the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories relied on the *Saskatchewan Reference Case* in dismissing an application to have electoral boundaries declared invalid. The application was made on the basis that electors in ten electoral districts were under-represented, including those in all districts within the city of Yellowknife. Statistics in the application showed that elector populations in urban electoral districts were considerably higher than in those outside Yellowknife. The Court dismissed the application, stating that “there exists a justification for this level of under-representation, all things considered, keeping in mind the overarching principle that the ultimate goal is overall effective representation.”

Justice L.A. Charbonneau, in her 2015 decision cited as *City of Yellowknife et al. v. Commissioner of NWT et al*, 2015 NWTSC 51, referred to the unique features of the Northwest Territories. These unique features – widespread geographic area, communities without year-round road access, costly air travel, First Nations without settled land claims – also exist in Yukon.

The Commission agreed that these judicial decisions provide guidance by establishing that:

- the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* guarantees the right to effective representation, not absolute equality of voting power
- effective representation is achieved through consideration of special circumstances
- where variances beyond the Canadian common law standard are deemed necessary to achieve effective representation, reasons must be given

## **Deliberations of Past Electoral District Boundaries Commissions**

The observations of past Commissions were a valuable resource. In spite of considerable change and growth, their considerations are still relevant today.

One particular observation, made by the 1991 Electoral District Boundaries Commission and referenced by subsequent Commissions, articulates special circumstances in Yukon that still exist today:

The entire region outside Whitehorse is sparsely populated, and ... no other Canadian city dominates its province or territory to the extent that Whitehorse dominates the Yukon. The disproportionate representation of rural areas in the existing legislature was explicitly intended to offset this feature of population distribution. Given relatively less developed municipal organization in much of rural Yukon, MLAs from those areas contend with a broader range of responsibilities toward their constituents than is common elsewhere in Canada. Also, Yukoners are used to intensive representation and expect to be able to meet with their representatives, face-to-face, on a regular basis.

The Commission carefully considered challenges noted in the past; the existing boundary of Pelly-Nisutlin is one example that this Commission proposes to address.



## Population Growth in Yukon

The Commission relied primarily on population projections prepared by the Yukon Bureau of Statistics. The statistical models incorporate historical and future economic growth data to produce a projection of Yukon's future population.

The Commission noted that total populations in the 2016 census data and the Statistics Canada 2026 projection tend to be lower than data provided by the Yukon Bureau of Statistics. While census data were considered, it was agreed that a calculation reflecting in-migration and a detailed local awareness of growing communities, like the Whistle Bend expansion, and anticipated economic growth, like the Eagle Gold project, could be expected to produce more accurate results.

Electoral district boundaries are in place for two general elections. Given that the maximum term of an Assembly is five years, in accordance with the *Yukon Act*, population projections for 2026 were used.

Based on these projections, the population of Yukon is expected to increase to 43,728 by 2026. This represents a total population increase of 5,870 in Yukon:

- an increase of 4,945 in Whitehorse and surrounding areas<sup>1</sup>
- an increase of 417 in Dawson City
- a decrease of 75 in Watson Lake
- an increase of 583 in areas outside these three main centres

The Commission relied on information shared by the City of Whitehorse; the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources; and on community knowledge to allocate the population increase to appropriate electoral districts on the basis of planned development and incremental growth.

The majority of growth is expected in Whitehorse and particularly in the Whistle Bend community. This unprecedented scale of growth creates a challenge in proposing electoral districts that will have equitable elector populations and respect neighbourhood boundaries in areas of Whistle Bend that are still in the planning stage. The Commission based its proposals on planned development, recognizing that the pace of construction is subject to the demand for housing and available capacity of local builders; two factors that could affect the 2026 population in the Whistle Bend community.

While limited population increases are anticipated in other communities in Whitehorse and surrounding areas, it was recognized that external factors could significantly affect the rate and locations of growth. One example is the potential for increased activity in the mining sector, which could affect a number of communities including Dawson City, Mayo, and Watson Lake.

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<sup>1</sup> The Yukon Bureau of Statistics includes the following people in its population data for Whitehorse: those with Whitehorse 'PO Box' addresses, those with inconsistent address information, those from Takhini River Bridge up to and including Fox Lake, those from Carcross Cut-off up to and including Annie Lake Road, and those from the Mayo Road Cut-off up to and including Mendenhall.

Outside the areas of concentrated growth, current trends in development plans could affect the population in several electoral districts, although not significantly. The Commission considered the development patterns and proposals for development, including:

- infill development in Whitehorse and surrounding areas
- addition of units to existing residences in response to incentives offered to Whitehorse homeowners
- acquisition and development of privately owned land parcels
- potential replacement of single family residences with multi-family residences
- subdivision of agricultural parcels
- addition of residences on properties outside of Whitehorse, and
- the conversion of seasonal homes to year-round use.

## **Consideration of Population in the Law**

Future population is one of nine considerations on which electoral district boundary proposals are based.

The previous Commission noted that, unlike a number of other provinces and territories, Yukon's legislation does not establish an acceptable population variance from the average, nor does it allow for the application of a separate variance for urban and rural electoral districts.

In lieu of specific statutory direction regarding the acceptable variance, the Commission has adopted the "Canadian standard" established by common law as a guideline. This standard allows for a variance of 25% above or below the average electoral district population.

The same standard has been applied by Commissions in Yukon since 1991. However, this Commission shares the view expressed by Commissions in the past, both in Yukon and elsewhere, that variances beyond the plus-or-minus 25% (+/-25%) are acceptable where the effect of other considerations outweighs the impact of population on effective representation. Reasons are given for proposed electoral districts with populations that are more than 25% below the variance and those that may exceed the variance by more than 25% in 2026.

Significant growth like the Whistle Bend expansion is concentrated in particular electoral districts, requiring a number of boundary changes. In order to allocate population increases to electoral districts, the Commission relied on those approved development plans which can be reasonably expected to proceed and generate growth by 2026. Limited population growth stemming from scattered pockets of smaller developments cannot be accurately predicted. It is expected that additional growth outside of the planned development areas will not have a significant effect on overall elector populations.

Basing proposals on population alone would be inconsistent with the intent of the law. Population density is the first of nine considerations prescribed by the *Act*. In Yukon, the variance in population density between urban and rural areas is extreme. As an example, by 2026 there will be approximately 697 electors per square kilometer in the electoral district of Whitehorse West, while the proposed electoral district of Carcross-Tagish-Teslin will have only one-thirtieth of one elector per square kilometer. The effect of population density – along with all other considerations - guided the Commission's deliberations to ensure that effective representation is maintained in the smaller communities spread across Yukon.

## **Application of the Quotient (Average Elector Population)**

The quotient is the average elector population per electoral district, which is calculated by dividing the total number of electors by the number of proposed electoral districts. This quotient is then used to determine whether electoral district populations are within the +/-25% acceptable variance established by Canadian common law and adopted by the Commission. Electoral districts that are above or below the acceptable variance are then assessed to determine whether special circumstances exist to justify a variance beyond the norm.

The Commission followed the practice of past Commissions in applying a quotient based on the projected number of electors. The most recent official list of electors, prepared following the November 2016 general election, contained the names of 24,668 electors. The projected elector population is expected to reach 29,152 by 2026; an increase of 4,484 electors.

The 2026 projected elector population was divided by 18 to derive the electoral quotient. While 19 electoral districts are proposed, the elector population (175) of Vuntut Gwitchin<sup>2</sup> has, by convention, been excluded from the calculation to avoid skewing the quotient. This Commission has maintained this approach.

In mathematical terms, the calculation is: 
$$\frac{29,152 - 175}{19 - 1} = 1,610$$

The resulting average of electoral district populations (the quotient) is 1,610. The acceptable variance of +/- 25% establishes a guideline for acceptable elector populations ranging from 1,208 to 2,013.

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<sup>2</sup> Application of additional considerations prescribed by the *Act* to the electoral district of Vuntut Gwitchin appears in Part Four: Proposed Electoral Districts.

The Commission agreed that a greater variance may be warranted, particularly in electoral districts that are geographically large and sparsely populated, to provide electors in communities outside Whitehorse with effective representation. This view has been supported by judicial decisions in the past, which recognize that the process of redistribution is not a simple mathematical exercise.

## **Guiding Principles**

After a thoughtful review of resources on the redistribution of electoral districts, the Commission adopted a set of principles to guide its work.

The Commission agreed that:

- a focus on public outreach is needed to give all Yukoners an opportunity to be included in the decision-making process
- the full set of considerations prescribed by the *Act* will be applied consistently to each situation
- the potential for personal or political gain is not a relevant factor for consideration
- decision-making will consider judicial decisions and deliberations of past Commissions
- decisions must be fair and equitable
- decisions must respect the special circumstances of Yukon to ensure that electors have effective representation
  - special circumstances have been identified by past Commissions and judicial decisions to include geography, accessibility, history, culture, minority representation, language differences, diversity of community interests, travel expenses, difficulties in communication with remote communities, and the varying degrees of dependence on territorial governance; the list is not exhaustive
- effective rural representation is needed to provide all electors with a voice in the Legislative Assembly
- elector populations may be more than 25% outside the quotient where other considerations are persuasive
- while the Commission will review the boundary of each existing electoral district, where change is not needed existing boundaries will be maintained
- to the greatest extent possible, boundaries will be clearly defined by recognizable geographic features (rivers, main roadways) to provide a clear understanding
- to the greatest extent possible, boundaries will anticipate future growth and avoid the division of communities

## **Part Three: Existing Electoral Districts**

The mandate of the Commission includes a review of the existing electoral districts established under the *Electoral District Boundaries Act*, the 19 electoral districts in place for the 2011 and 2016 general elections.

The past Commission identified 11 electoral districts as urban and 8 as rural, but noted that the existing electoral districts of Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes and Lake Laberge could also be characterized as country-residential. In the interim report, it was noted that these two electoral districts “are closer to being rural electoral districts than urban ones”.

The review identified a need for change in some existing electoral districts to accommodate past development patterns and plans for future growth. For example, in the electoral district of Porter Creek South, where planned development did not occur, there is a need to balance the elector population with those electoral districts in neighbouring areas which share similar characteristics. The boundary in the neighbouring electoral district of Porter Creek Centre will need to be adjusted to accommodate the significant population increases expected with the expansion of the Whistle Bend community.

Thirteen of the existing electoral districts are within the acceptable +/-25% variance based on the elector population on the most recent official list of electors. By 2026, only 11 will be within the acceptable variance, emphasizing the need for periodic review of the electoral districts.

## **Part Four: Proposed Electoral Districts**

The Commission proposes 19 electoral districts. While the option of increasing the number of electoral districts was considered, the Commission concluded that 19 electoral districts achieves the goal of effective representation. Electoral district populations in Yukon will remain relatively low compared to those across Canada.

In broad terms, there are 11 electoral districts that are characterized as urban, 6 that are rural, and 2 that share characteristics of both. The urban characteristics of these “hybrid” electoral districts reflect the changes that have occurred in country-residential areas outside of Whitehorse over time: in the existing electoral district of Lake Laberge and the proposed electoral district of Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake (the northern portion of the existing electoral district of Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes). Most electors in these electoral districts share employment, lifestyle, and travel patterns that are far more similar to electors in Whitehorse than, for example, those in Mayo-Tatchun or Pelly-Nisutlin.

Including these two “hybrid” electoral districts as urban electoral districts results in average urban elector populations of 1,747, while rural electoral districts average 1,252 (excluding Vuntut Gwitchin). The Commission believes that the variance is acceptable and necessary to achieve effective representation.

The diverse characteristics of urban and rural electoral districts were considered, as required by law. The Commission agreed that these disparities are best addressed by creating urban electoral districts with elector populations that approach the maximum acceptable variance of 2,013 and rural electoral districts that are closer to the minimum acceptable variance of 1,208.

Considerations in the decision-making process were identified in Part Two of this report. The Commission is satisfied that these proposals are submitted after careful reflection on these considerations, with the goal of effective representation for all electors in Yukon.

There are four proposed rural electoral districts below the +/-25% variance: Carcross-Tagish-Teslin, Kluane, Vuntut Gwitchin, and Watson Lake-Ross River. In making these proposals, the Commission examined all considerations prescribed by the *Act* and agreed that a greater variance was justified.

These four electoral districts cover more than one-half of the land mass in the territory. They have population densities that are far below the average. Population density has a significant impact on effective representation and was an important consideration in these proposals.

Travel to communities in these four electoral districts is time-consuming and, for much of the year, is dependent on weather. Both are factors that affect the ability of Members of the Legislative Assembly to interact with electors in the various communities.

Three of the four contain a number of small communities, increasing the likelihood that a Member of the Legislative Assembly will struggle with competing interests for assistance and resources. These communities have varying degrees of dependence on territorial governance. While some have access to services and facilities provided by municipal or First Nation governance, others rely solely on their Member of the Legislative Assembly for assistance in identifying and accessing services.

Past Commissions similarly established four rural electoral districts with populations more than 25% below the quotient. This Commission has taken the same approach in trying to respect the +/-25% variance where possible, but allowing for greater tolerance where effective representation for rural electors would otherwise be compromised. The *Saskatchewan Reference Case* recognized that “there are greater difficulties associated with representing rural ridings.”

Proposals seek to maintain effective rural representation to balance the effect of continued higher growth in urban areas. While rural electors will account for 22% of the population, the Commission agreed that they have the closest connection with issues that affect the 96% of Yukon’s land mass that falls outside of Whitehorse.

There are three proposed urban electoral districts that are projected to exceed the +/-25% variance by 2026: Porter Creek North, Whistle Bend, and Whitehorse Centre. Again, the Commission examined all considerations prescribed by the *Act* and agreed that a greater variance was justified.

These three electoral districts are geographically compact, with a much higher population density than rural areas. Members of the Legislative Assembly are in close proximity to all electors in their electoral districts, with a minimal requirement for travel. Electors in these areas are less dependent on territorial governance given their ready access to municipal services and facilities.

## **Proposed Electoral Districts with Substantive Changes to Existing Boundaries**

Changes are proposed to the boundaries of nine<sup>3</sup> existing electoral districts to accommodate growth, to connect areas that share common characteristics and travel patterns, and to address the effect of limited accessibility and significant distances between communities. The boundaries of municipalities and First Nations were respected, as were the historical and cultural influences that make Yukon so unique.

The proposals seek to address three main issues:

### **1. Unprecedented growth in the Whistle Bend community**

Planning for the Whistle Bend community has not been finalized. Completion of the expansion is dependent on a number of external factors, including the demand for housing and capacity of local builders, which can affect the development timeline.

The rate of population growth was a consideration in the proposals for electoral districts containing the Whistle Bend community, where population projections are based on areas of development that are still in the planning and construction stages. The Commission considered the possibility that the Whistle Bend community may not be fully developed by 2026.

The Commission agreed that the uncertainty with respect to the growth rate tempers the effect of the projected population variance, given that the development plans and completion schedule are largely unknown.

Like most urban electoral districts, those containing the Whistle Bend community are reasonably compact, benefiting from easy access to services and facilities in Whitehorse. The large-scale recent development lends itself to a shared community interest, with a population that is largely homogeneous.

The Whistle Bend community is divided into the proposed electoral districts of Porter Creek North and Whistle Bend to accommodate the significant population increase.

### **2. Concerns regarding the existing electoral district of Pelly-Nisutlin**

The Commission received public input suggesting that Teslin should be excluded from the existing electoral district due to a lack of common interest and an “overriding” effect on the electoral district.

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<sup>3</sup> These are Copperbelt South, Klondike, Mayo-Tatchun, Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes, Pelly-Nisutlin, Porter Creek Centre, Porter Creek North, Porter Creek South, and Watson Lake.

Another submission recommended the division of the existing electoral district of Pelly-Nisutlin, citing the considerable travel times and adverse road conditions that limit the time the Member of the Legislative Assembly is able to spend in each community. It identified the need for recognition of geographical and cultural considerations in estimating electoral district boundaries.

A third submission described the current boundary of Pelly-Nisutlin as “inadequate”. Again, travel within the existing electoral district was identified as a challenge. It recommended that Carcross, Tagish, and Teslin be combined into one electoral district, citing the communities’ geographic and cultural ties. It indicated that Ross River and Watson Lake had a cultural connection that would support combining those two communities into one electoral district.

Similar concerns were raised during the 2007/2008 review of electoral districts. The past Commission noted a particular concern with the electoral district of Pelly-Nisutlin and the “challenges facing the MLA in this electoral district because of the vastness of the area and the difficulties in travelling to all the included communities.”

The Commission seeks to address the various concerns through its proposals for three electoral districts: Carcross-Tagish-Teslin, Mayo-Carmacks-Faro, and Watson Lake-Ross River.

3. Increased “urbanization” of country-residential areas surrounding the city of Whitehorse

The existing electoral district of Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes combines the rural communities of Carcross and Tagish with the country-residential areas near the Whitehorse city limits. These country-residential areas have grown along with the Whitehorse population, with residents that enjoy easy access to facilities and services within Whitehorse. The majority of the population in these country-residential areas shares common interests more closely aligned with Whitehorse residents than those in rural communities.

The proposed electoral districts of Carcross-Tagish-Teslin and Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake recognize the strong rural characteristics of the southern communities and the urban influence of the subdivisions outside city limits.

The Commission is interested in feedback from affected communities with respect to its proposals.



### Elector Population Projections and Variances

<b>Proposed Electoral District</b>	<b>2026 Elector Population Projection</b>	<b>Variance from the 2026 Quotient (1,610)</b>
Carcross-Tagish-Teslin	1,041	-35.36
Copperbelt North	1,764	+9.57
Copperbelt South	1,385	-13.98
Klondike	1,760	+9.31
Kluane	983	-38.92
Lake Laberge	1,639	+1.80
Mayo-Carmacks-Faro	1,359	-15.59
Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake	1,242	-22.88
Mountainview	1,614	+0.26
Porter Creek North	2,458	+52.70
Porter Creek South	1,827	+13.50
Riverdale North	1,488	-7.60
Riverdale South	1,707	+6.01
Takhini-Kopper King	1,989	+23.52
Vuntut Gwitchin	175	-89.13
Watson Lake-Ross River	1,117	-30.61
Whistle Bend	2,104	+30.68
Whitehorse Centre	2,059	+27.89
Whitehorse West	1,442	-10.45

Descriptions of the proposed electoral districts follow, along with reasons for the proposals. The current elector population and projected 2026 elector population within each proposed boundary are included.

**Proposed Electoral Districts  
With Substantive Changes  
to Existing Boundaries**

## **Carcross-Tagish-Teslin**

The proposed electoral district of Carcross-Tagish-Teslin is created by combining the southern portions of two existing electoral districts: Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes and Pelly-Nisutlin. The communities of Carcross, Tagish, Teslin, and Johnsons Crossing are included, with the west portion of the north boundary extending past Jakes Corner and the east portion of the north boundary extending past Quiet Lake.

The proposed electoral district combines communities that share similar characteristics and elector populations, and respects the commonalities of members of the Teslin Tlingit Council and the Carcross/Tagish First Nations.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 961.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,041, which is below the acceptable variance. The Commission agreed that the effect of population is outweighed by other considerations, and that sufficient reasons exist to justify a variance greater than 25% below the elector quotient.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Carcross-Tagish-Teslin consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of latitude 60 degrees north and longitude 135 degrees 30 minutes west, then due north to latitude 60 degrees 15 minutes north, then due east to longitude 135 degrees west, then northeasterly in a diagonal line to a point at the intersection of latitude 60 degrees 23 minutes north and longitude 134 degrees 53 minutes west, then due east to longitude 133 degrees 45 minutes west, then due north to latitude 61 degrees 45 minutes north, then due east to longitude 131 degrees west, then due south to latitude 60 degrees 20 minutes north, then due west to longitude 131 degrees 30 minutes west, then due south to latitude 60 degrees north, then due west to the point of commencement.



## **Mayo-Carmacks-Faro**

Two changes are proposed to the existing electoral district of Mayo-Tatchun.

The first change adds the communities of Faro and Little Salmon, which are in the existing electoral district of Pelly-Nisutlin. This change combines the community of Faro with others that share a common transportation corridor and history of economic dependence on mining activity.

The second change adjusts a portion of the west boundary to move the McQuesten area to the proposed electoral district of Klondike. The change would accommodate the connection with Dawson City and the travel patterns of electors in that area.

The proposed electoral district includes the communities of Carmacks, Elsa, Faro, Keno Hill, Little Salmon, Mayo, Pelly Crossing, and Stewart Crossing.

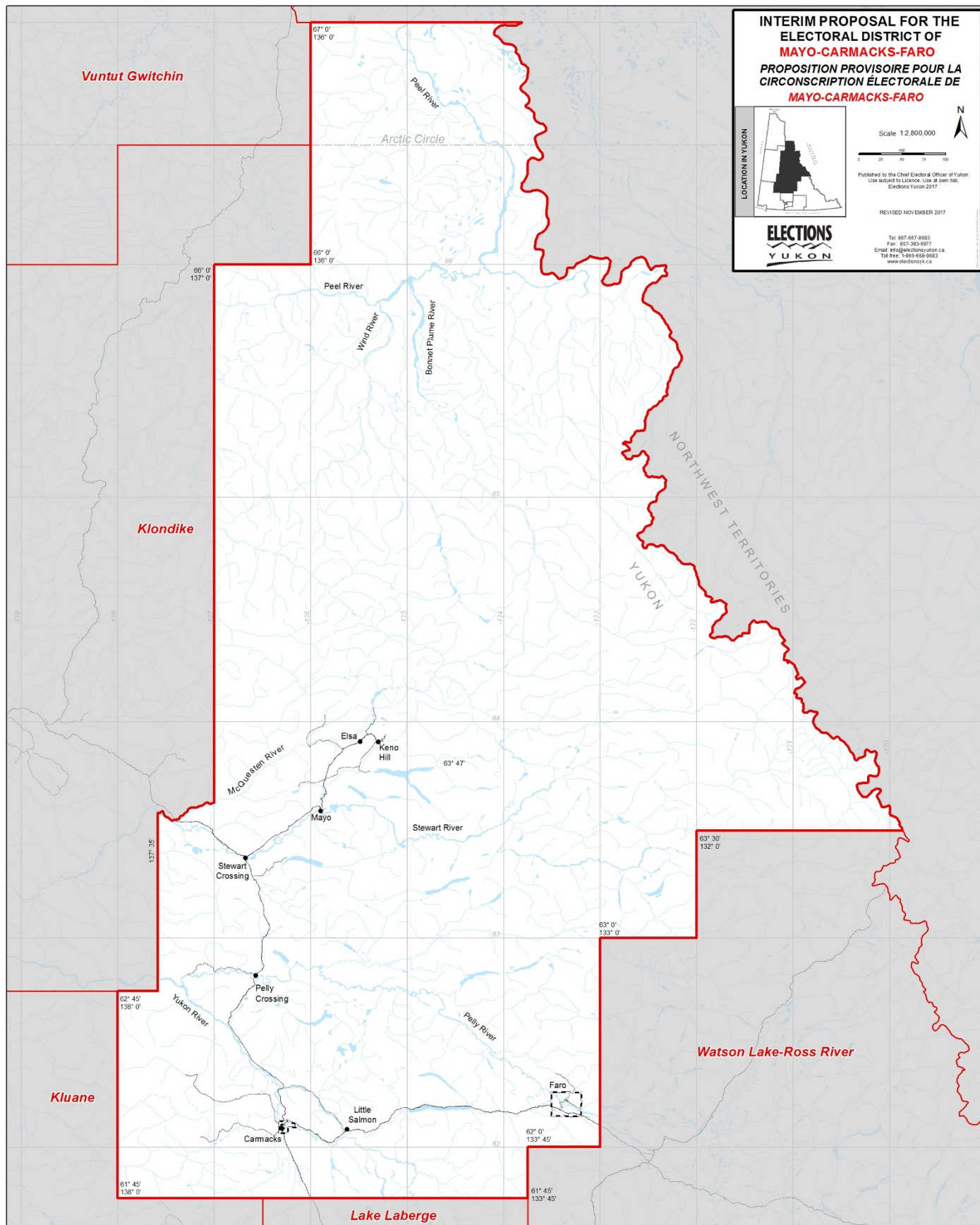
This electoral district is the largest in Yukon, with a geographic area exceeding 133,000 square kilometers.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 1,282. While there is potential for development through increased mining activity in the area, population growth could be accommodated within the variance.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,359; within the acceptable variance.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Mayo-Carmacks-Faro consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of latitude 61 degrees 45 minutes north and longitude 138 degrees west, then due north to latitude 62 degrees 45 minutes north, then due east to longitude 137 degrees 35 minutes west, then due north to latitude 64 degrees north, then due east to longitude 137 degrees west, then due north to latitude 66 degrees north, then due east to longitude 136 degrees west, then due north to the northern boundary of Yukon (latitude 67 degrees north), then easterly and southerly along that boundary to latitude 63 degrees 30 minutes north, then due west to longitude 132 degrees west, then due south to latitude 63 degrees north, then due west to longitude 133 degrees west, then due south to latitude 62 degrees north, then due west to longitude 133 degrees 45 minutes west, then due south to latitude 61 degrees 45 minutes north, then due west to the point of commencement.



## **Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake**

Two changes are proposed to the existing electoral district of Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes.

The first change adjusts the west boundary to follow the boundary of the City of Whitehorse. Golden Horn is included in recognition of the common interests shared by residents in other country-residential areas.

The second change adjusts the southern boundary to include areas on the periphery of Whitehorse: the Hamlet of Mount Lorne, the “Carcross Cut-off”, Annie Lake Road, Golden Horn, Marsh Lake and area, Lewes Lake, and the Robinson subdivision.

This change will establish the electoral district of Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake as a country-residential area with similar characteristics to urban electoral districts.

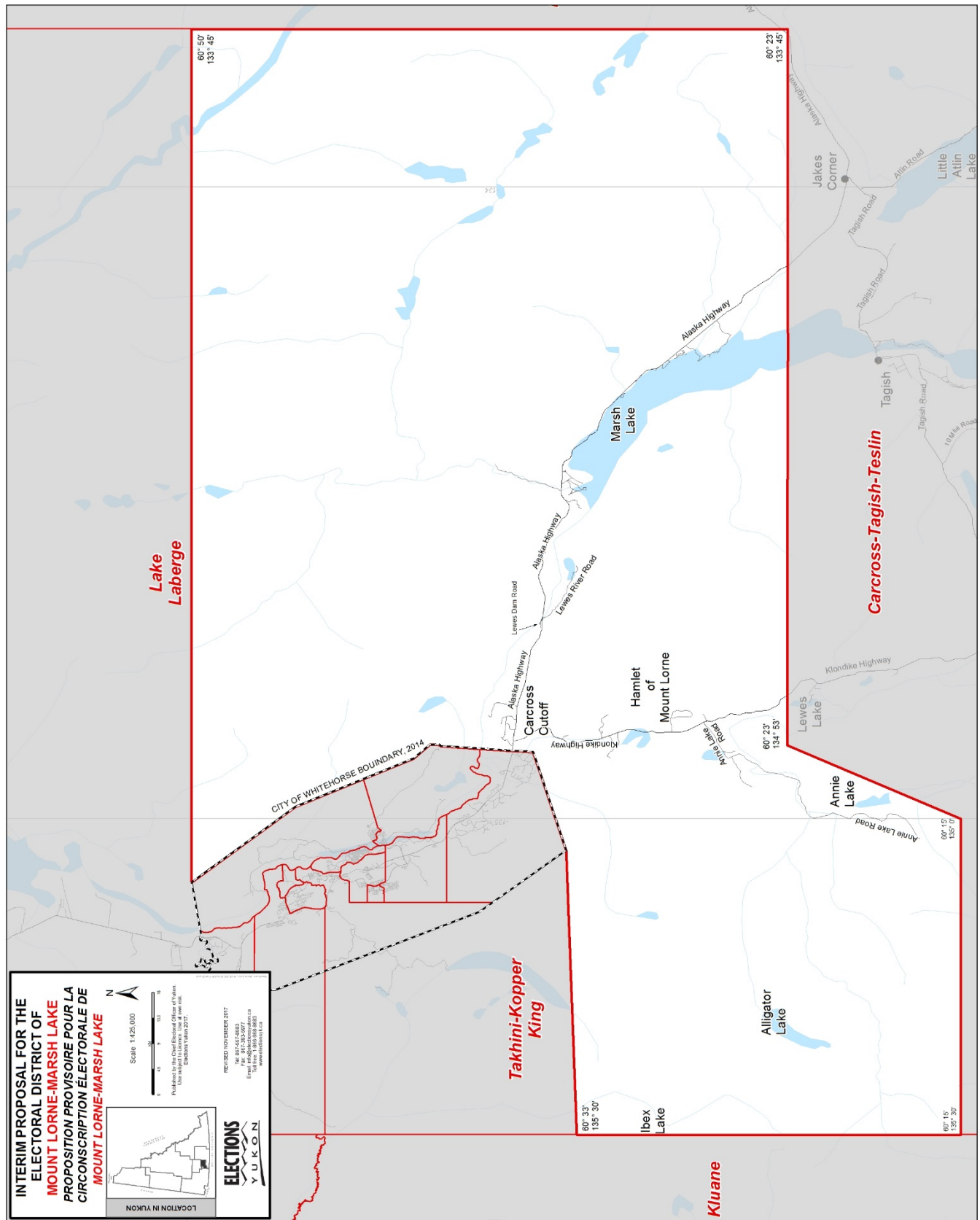
The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 1,132.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,242; within the acceptable variance.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of latitude 60 degrees 15 minutes north and longitude 135 degrees 30 minutes west, then due north to latitude 60 degrees 33 minutes north, then east to longitude 135 degrees 03 minutes west (limit of City of Whitehorse), then easterly, northerly and westerly along the limit to the point of intersection of latitude 60 degrees 50 minutes north and longitude 135 degrees 06 minutes west, then due east to longitude 133 degrees 45 minutes west, then due south to latitude 60 degrees 23 minutes north, then due west to longitude 134 degrees 53 minutes west, then southwesterly in a diagonal line to the intersection of latitude 60 degrees 15 minutes north and longitude 135 degrees west, then due west to the point of commencement.







## **Porter Creek North**

Two changes are proposed to the existing electoral district of Porter Creek North.

The first change adjusts the east portion of the south boundary to follow Wann Road.

The second change extends the north part of the east boundary to include the areas of long-term growth in Whistle Bend.

The proposed electoral district includes the northern portion of Porter Creek, Benchmark, Brookside, Crestview, Crocus Glen, Porter Ridge, the Kulan and Taylor Industrial areas, and future development (phases 5,6,7) in the northern portion of Whistle Bend.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 1,667, with major expansion expected in the Whistle Bend community. Currently, the development plans for this portion of the community have not been finalized.

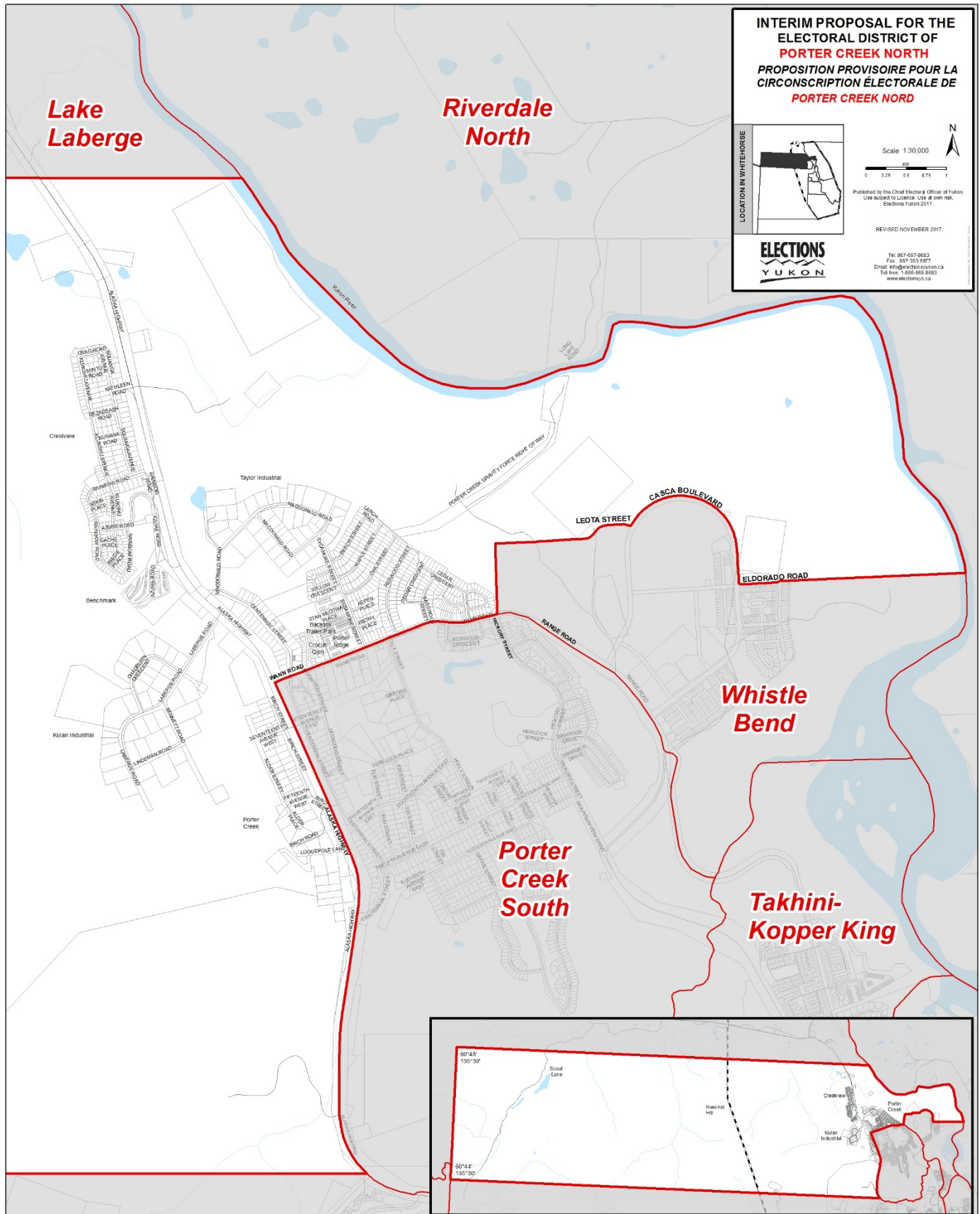
The projected 2026 elector population is 2,458, which is above the acceptable variance.

Completion of the Whistle Bend community is dependent on a number of external factors, including the demand for housing and capacity of local builders; the full population projection may not be attained by 2026.

The Commission agreed that the uncertainty with respect to the growth rate tempers the effect of the projected population variance, given that the development plans and completion schedule have not been finalized. Based on the considerations prescribed by the *Act*, the Commission believes that the potential increase above the acceptable variance is justified.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Porter Creek North consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of latitude 60 degrees 48 minutes north and longitude 135 degrees 30 minutes west, then due east to the centre line of the Yukon River, then southerly, northeasterly, and southerly along that centre line to a point due east of Eldorado Road, then west along Eldorado Road to the centre line of Casca Boulevard, then northerly, westerly, and southerly along the centre line of Casca Boulevard to the centre line of Leota Street, then westerly along the centre line of Leota Street and its extension to the point due north of the intersection of Hickory Street and Wann Road, then due south to Wann Road, then westerly and southwesterly along the centre line of Wann Road to the centre line of Alaska Highway, then southerly along that centre line to the centre line of McIntyre Creek, then due west to longitude 135 degrees 30 minutes west, then due north to the point of commencement.



## **Porter Creek South**

Two changes are proposed to the existing electoral district of Porter Creek South.

The first change adjusts the north boundary to follow Wann Road; adding a portion of the existing electoral district of Porter Creek North.

The second change extends the east boundary along Range Road to Wann Road; adding a portion of the existing electoral district of Porter Creek Centre.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 1,791.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,827; within the acceptable variance.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Porter Creek South consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of McIntyre Creek and Alaska Highway, then northerly and northwesterly along the centre line of Alaska Highway to the centre line of Wann Road, then northeasterly along that centre line to the centre line of Range Road, then southeasterly and southerly along the centre line of Range Road to the centre line of McIntyre Creek, then southerly and westerly along that centre line to the point of commencement.

LOCATION IN WHITEHORSE

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**ELECTIONS**  
  
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## **Watson Lake-Ross River**

One change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Watson Lake: adding the community of Ross River. This change reflects the historic connection between the communities of Watson Lake and Ross River, as well as the relationships amongst the Kaska people. The proposed electoral district includes the communities of Watson Lake, Ross River, Rancheria, Swift River, and Upper Liard.

This electoral district is the second-largest in Yukon, with a geographic area exceeding 94,000 square kilometers, and a population density far below the average. Watson Lake is projected to have a population decrease by 2026.

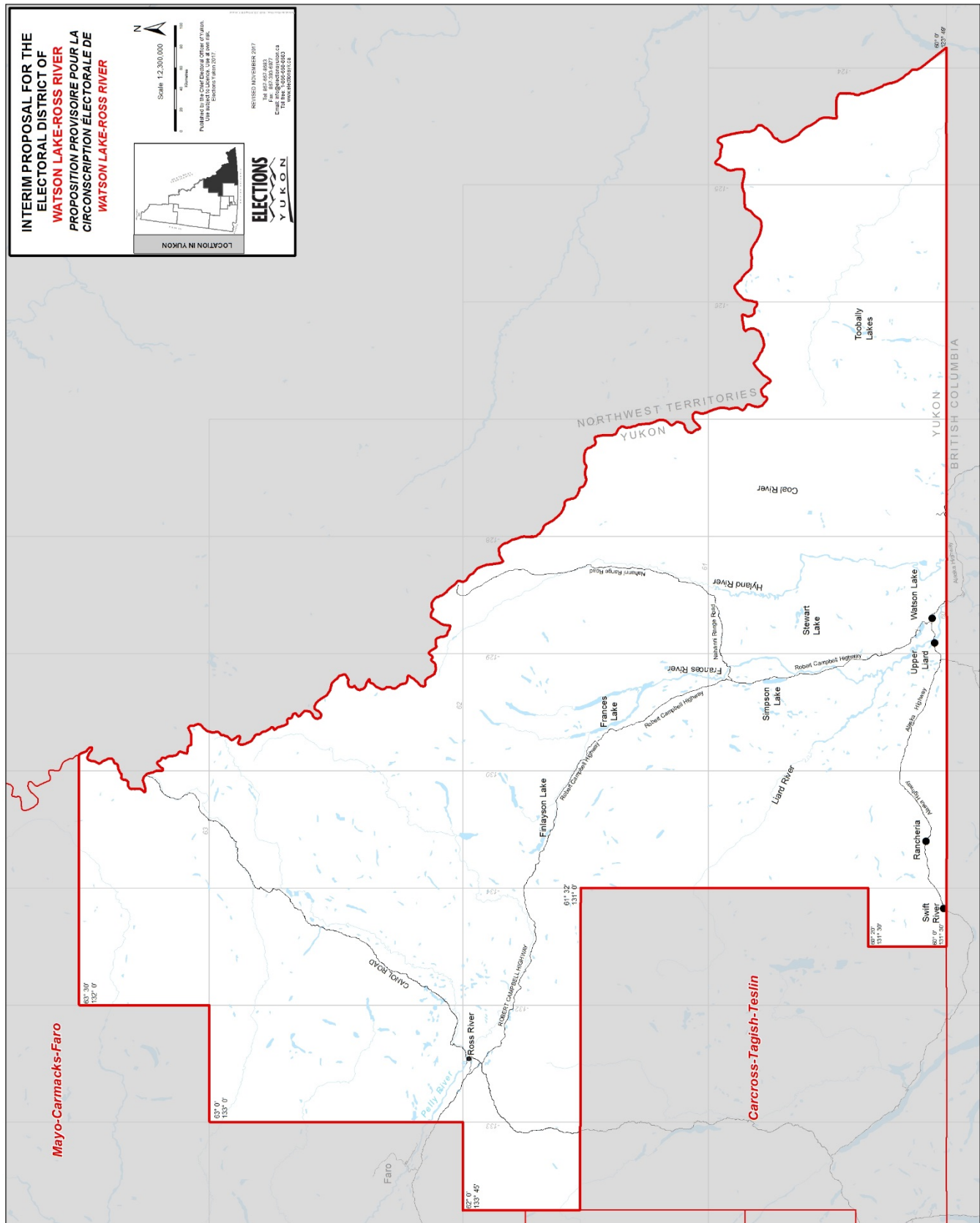
The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 1,145.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,117, which is below the acceptable variance. The Commission agreed that the effect of population is outweighed by other considerations, and that sufficient reasons exist to justify a variance greater than 25% below the elector quotient.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Watson Lake-Ross River consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of latitude 60 degrees north and longitude 131 degrees 30 minutes west, then due north to latitude 60 degrees 20 minutes north, then due east to longitude 131 degrees west, then due north to latitude 61 degrees 32 minutes north, then due west to longitude 133 degrees 45 minutes west, then due north to latitude 62 degrees north, then due east to longitude 133 degrees west, then due north to latitude 63 degrees north, then due east to longitude 132 degrees west, then due north to latitude 63 degrees 30 minutes north, then due east to the eastern boundary of Yukon, then southerly and easterly along that boundary to latitude 60 degrees north, then due west to the point of commencement.





## **Whistle Bend**

The proposed electoral district of Whistle Bend includes a portion of the existing electoral district of Porter Creek Centre.

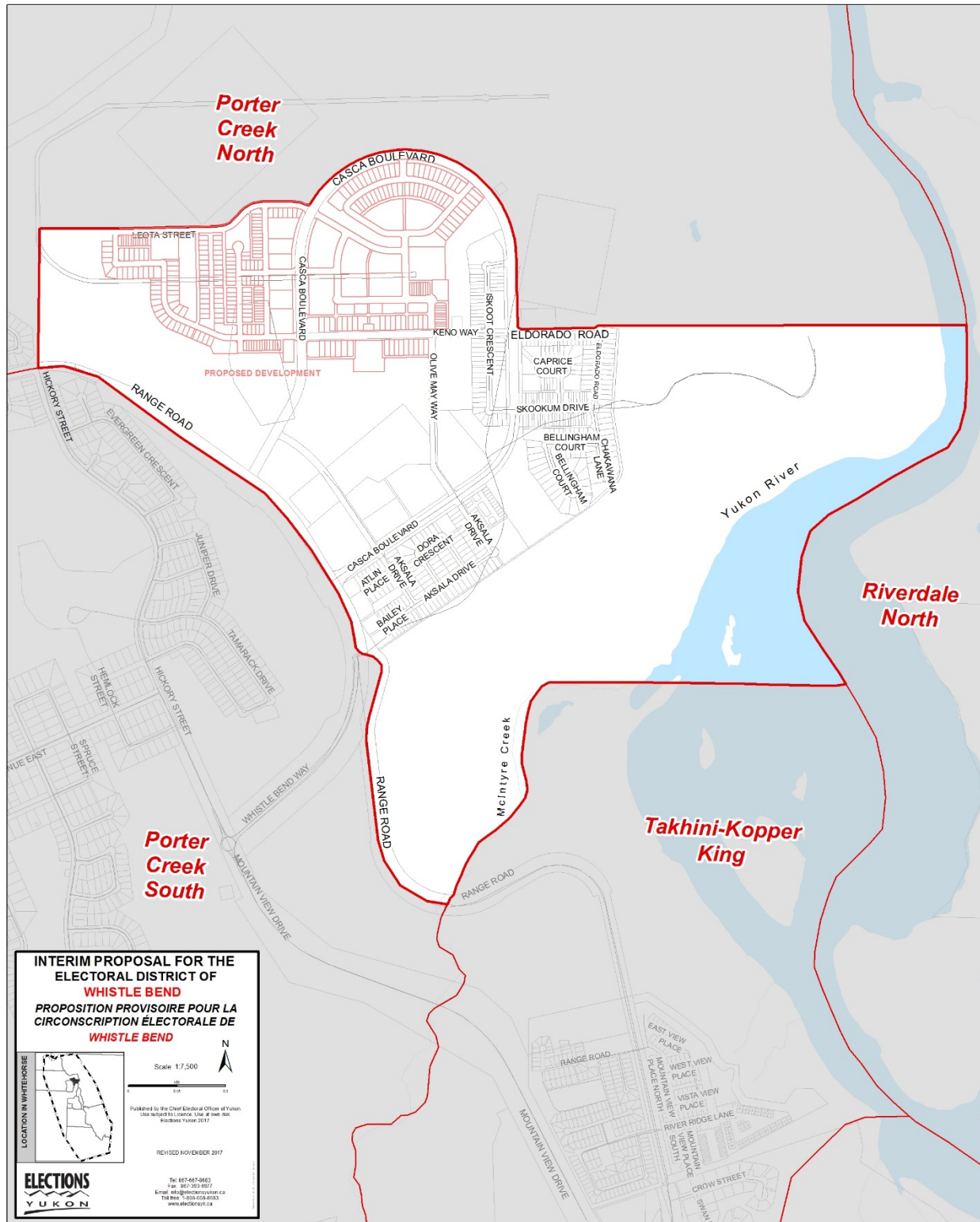
The proposed electoral district includes current development in the Whistle Bend community and the areas with finalized development plans in place, including those areas under construction and those with lots scheduled for release by 2018. It is reasonable to expect that the area will achieve the majority of the anticipated growth by 2026.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 357, with major development underway.

The projected 2026 elector population is 2,104, which is above the acceptable variance. Based on the considerations prescribed by the *Act*, the Commission believes that an increase above the acceptable variance is justified.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Whistle Bend consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of the centre lines of Hickory Street and Range Road, then due north of the intersection to the point due west of the centre line of Leota Street, then due east along the extension of Leota Street to the centre line of Leota Street, then easterly along Leota Street to the centre line of Casca Boulevard, then northeasterly and southerly along the centre line of Casca Boulevard to the centre line of Eldorado Road, then easterly along the centre line of Eldorado Road to the centre line of Yukon River, then southerly along that centre line to the centre line of McIntyre Creek, then southerly along that centre line to the centre line of Range Road, then northwesterly along that centre line to the point of commencement.





**Proposed Electoral Districts  
With Minor Changes  
to Existing Boundaries**

## **Copperbelt South**

One change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Copperbelt South: adjusting the east boundary to follow the boundary of the City of Whitehorse. Golden Horn is moved to the proposed electoral district of Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake in recognition of the common interests shared by residents in other country-residential areas.

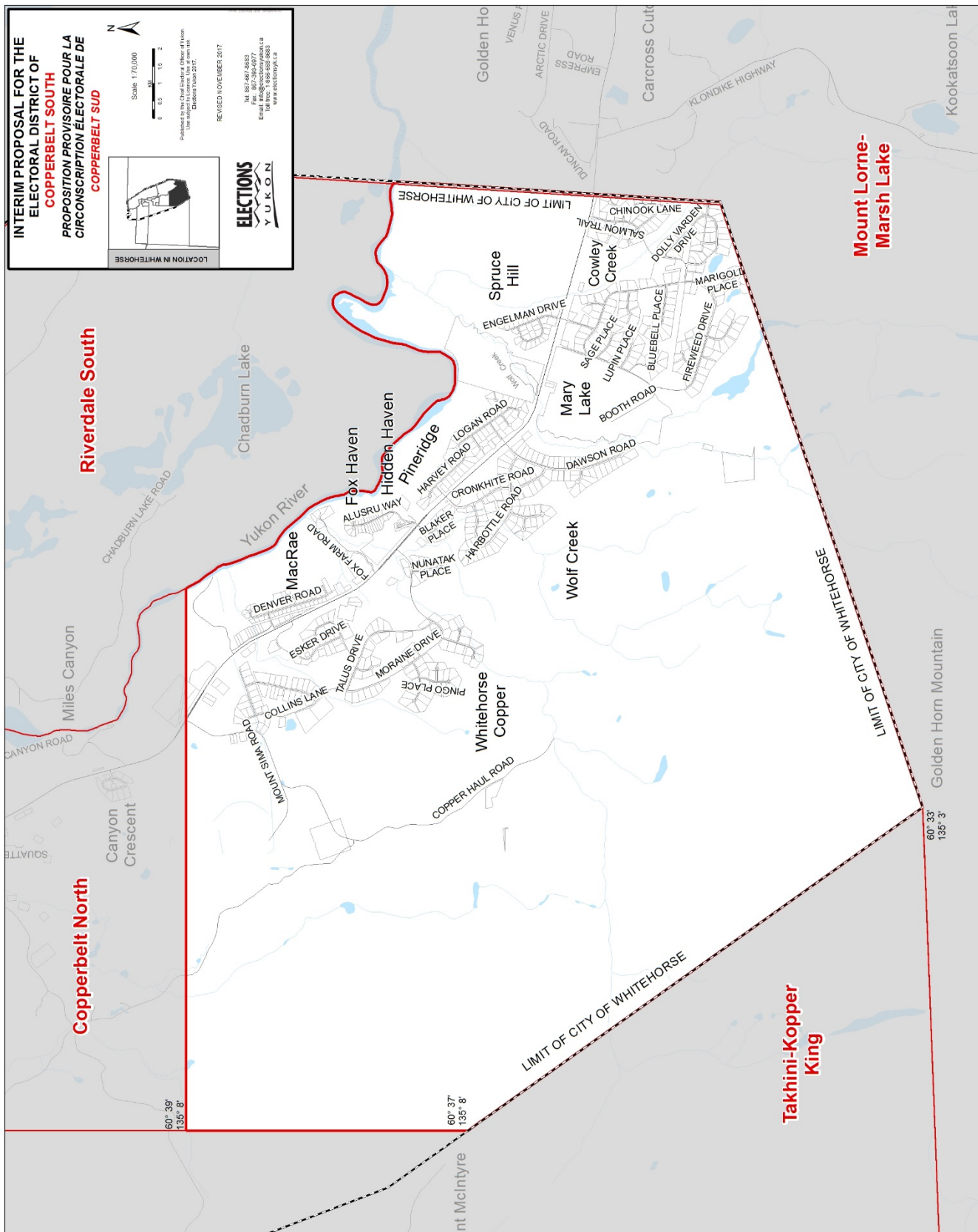
The proposed electoral district includes the southern portion of Copper Ridge and the subdivisions of Cowley Creek, Fox Haven, Hidden Haven, MacRae, Mary Lake, Mount Sima, Pineridge, Spruce Hill, Wolf Creek, Wolf Creek North, and Whitehorse Copper.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 1,318.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,385; within the acceptable variance.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Copperbelt South consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of Mount Sima Road and Alaska Highway, then due west to longitude 135 degrees 08 minutes west, then due south to latitude 60 degrees 37 minutes north (limit of the City of Whitehorse) then southerly, easterly and northerly along the limit to the centre line of the Yukon River, then northerly along that centre line to a point due east of the point of intersection of Mount Sima Road and Alaska Highway, then due west to the point of commencement.



## **Klondike**

One change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Klondike: adding the McQuesten area in recognition of the residents' travel patterns and connection with Dawson City.

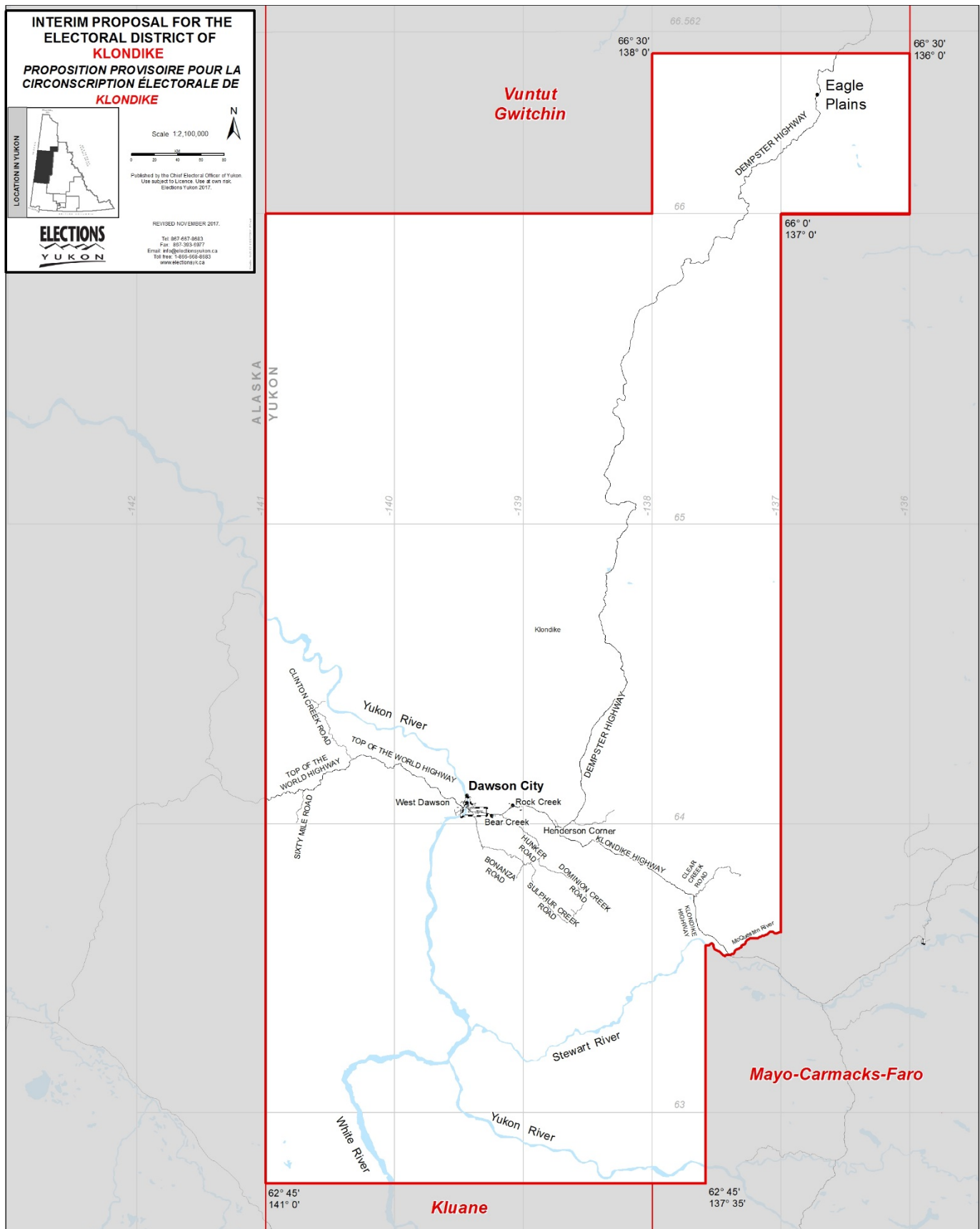
The majority of the population is in Dawson City and surrounding areas, with the boundary extending north to include Eagle Plains.

The current elector population is 1,399. Growth is expected in Dawson City, with potential for further growth if there is an unexpected increase of activity in the mining sector. Maintaining the existing boundary will accommodate future growth within the acceptable variance.

The projected 2026 population is 1,760; within the acceptable variance.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Klondike consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of latitude 62 degrees 45 minutes north and the western boundary of Yukon, then northerly along that boundary to latitude 66 degrees north, then due east to longitude 138 degrees west, then due north to latitude 66 degrees 30 minutes north, then due east to longitude 136 degrees west, then due south to latitude 66 degrees north, then due west to longitude 137 degrees west, then due south to latitude 64 degrees north, then due west to longitude 137 degrees 35 minutes west, then due south to latitude 62 degrees 45 minutes north, then due west to the point of commencement.



## **Proposed Electoral Districts with No Change to Existing Boundaries**

The Commission reviewed the boundary of each existing electoral district and determined that ten do not require change. This view will be reconsidered if public input on this interim report identifies a need for change to these established, recognizable boundaries.

While elector populations vary, it was agreed that there was no need to adjust the boundaries for the sole reason of balancing these populations. Maintaining the boundaries that are familiar to electors, where possible, will ensure clarity and understanding.

**Proposed Electoral Districts  
With No Change  
to Existing Boundaries**

## **Copperbelt North**

No change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Copperbelt North.

The existing electoral district includes Lobird and approximately two-thirds of the Copper Ridge subdivision.

The current elector population is 1,684.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,764; within the acceptable variance.

### **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Copperbelt North consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of the centre lines of Lazulite Drive and Hamilton Boulevard, then westerly along the centre line of Lazulite Drive to the centre line of Falcon Drive, then southerly along that centre line to the centre line of Aquamarine Place, then northwesterly along the extension of Aquamarine Place to Amethyst Trail, then southwesterly along Amethyst Trail to the point due west of the intersection of Aquamarine Place and Falcon Drive, then due west to longitude 135 degrees 08 minutes west, then due south to a point due west of the point of intersection of Mount Sima Road and Alaska Highway, then due east to the centre line of the Yukon River, then northerly along that centre line to the point of intersection of the western extension of the centre line of Selkirk Street, then due west to the foot of the Airport (Reserve) Escarpment, then due west to the most southerly point of the rear lot line of Hayes Place, then due west to the southerly extension of the centre line of Hamilton Boulevard, then northerly along that extension and centre line to the point of commencement.





## **Kluane**

No change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Kluane.

The existing electoral district includes a number of diverse communities within an area that, at 67,727 square kilometres, is geographically one of the largest. It has a population density far below the average and contains a number of small, sparsely populated communities.

The majority of the population is in Haines Junction and surrounding area, with the boundary extending north to include the sparsely populated communities of Beaver Creek, Burwash Landing, and Destruction Bay. Aishihik, Champagne, and country-residential areas in the Canyon Creek, Mendenhall, Nygren, Pine Lake, Silver City, and Takhini River subdivisions add to the diversity of the elector population.

The current elector population is 927.

The projected 2026 elector population is 983, which is below the acceptable variance. With the increase to the elector quotient, the variance from the quotient has increased. The Commission agreed that the effect of population is outweighed by other considerations, and that sufficient reasons exist to justify a variance greater than 25% below the elector quotient.

### **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Kluane consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of latitude 62 degrees 45 minutes north and the western boundary of Yukon, then due east to longitude 138 degrees west, then due south to latitude 61 degrees 45 minutes north, then due east to longitude 136 degrees 30 minutes west, then due south to latitude 61 degrees north, then due east to longitude 135 degrees 40 minutes west, then due south to the centre line of the Takhini River, then westerly and southerly along that centre line to the point of intersection of the centre line of the Ibex River, then easterly and southerly along that centre line to the point of intersection of longitude 135 degrees 30 minutes west, then due south to latitude 60 degrees north, then westerly and northerly along the southern and western boundary of Yukon to the point of commencement.



## **Lake Laberge**

No change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Lake Laberge.

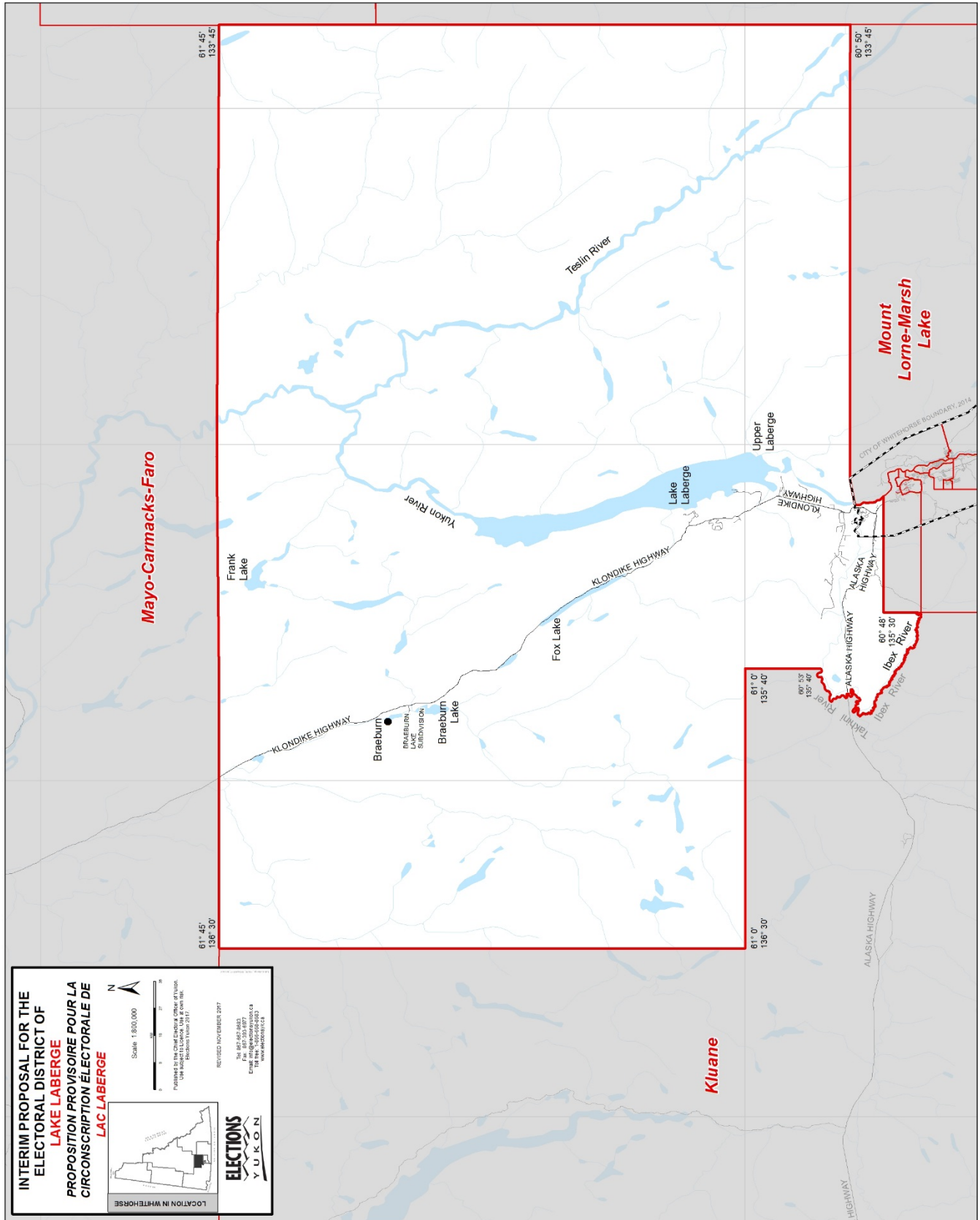
The existing electoral district includes the Hamlet of Ibex Valley, the Hotsprings and Lake Laberge areas, Braeburn, and the subdivisions of Hidden Valley, Grizzly Valley, Macpherson, Miner's Ridge, and Pilot Mountain.

The current elector population is 1,497. Nominal growth is expected through further development in Grizzly Valley and Hidden Valley, although the timeframe is unknown. Maintaining the existing boundary will accommodate future growth within the acceptable variance.

The projected 2026 population is 1,639; within the acceptable variance.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Lake Laberge consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of latitude 61 degrees north and longitude 136 degrees 30 minutes west, then due north to latitude 61 degrees 45 minutes north, then due east to longitude 133 degrees 45 minutes west, then due south to the eastern extension of the northern limit of the City of Whitehorse, then due west along that extension and limit to the centre line of the Yukon River, then southerly along that centre line to latitude 60 degrees 48 minutes north, then due west to longitude 135 degrees 30 minutes west, then due south to the point of intersection of the centre line of the Ibex River, then westerly and northerly along that centre line to the centre line of the Takhini River, then northerly and easterly along that centre line to longitude 135 degrees 40 minutes west, then due north to latitude 61 degrees north, then due west to the point of commencement.



**Mountainview**

No change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Mountainview.

The existing electoral district includes Granger, Hillcrest, McIntyre, and Valleyview.

The current elector population is 1,537.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,614; within the acceptable variance.

**Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Mountainview consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of Sumanik Drive and Hamilton Boulevard, then due west to longitude 135 degrees 08 minutes west, then due south to a point due west of the most southerly point of the rear lot line of McCandless Crescent, then due east to Hamilton Boulevard, then southerly along the centre line of Hamilton Boulevard and its extension to a point due west of the most southerly point of the rear lot line of Hayes Place, then due east to the foot of the Airport (Reserve) Escarpment, then northerly along the foot to the point of intersection of the centre line of Two-Mile Hill Road, then westerly and southerly along that centre line and the centre line of Hamilton Boulevard to the point of commencement.





## **Riverdale North**

No change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Riverdale North.

The electoral district includes a portion of one of the city's oldest, most established communities. It has natural, recognizable boundaries along the Yukon River and the city limits and a fairly homogeneous elector population.

The current elector population is 1,413, with the potential for future growth limited to the addition of suites to existing residences. The elector population is low compared to most other urban electoral districts and the boundary may need to be reviewed by a future Commission if the electoral quotient continues to increase.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,488; within the acceptable variance.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Riverdale North consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of the centre line of the Yukon River and the western extension of the centre line of Selkirk Street, then easterly along that extension and centre line to the centre line of Lewes Boulevard, then southerly along that centre line to the centre line of Klondike Road, then easterly along that centre line to the centre line of Peel Road, then southerly along that centre line to the centre line of Alsek Road, then westerly along that centre line to the centre line of Pelly Road, then southerly and easterly along that centre line to the extension of the centre line of the right-of-way between Lot 11 (61 Pelly Road), Block 233 and Lot 9 (63 Pelly Road), Block 228, then easterly along the extension and centre line to the eastern limit of the City of Whitehorse, then northerly and westerly along that limit to the centre line of the Yukon River, then southerly along that centre line to the point of commencement.





## **Riverdale South**

No change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Riverdale South.

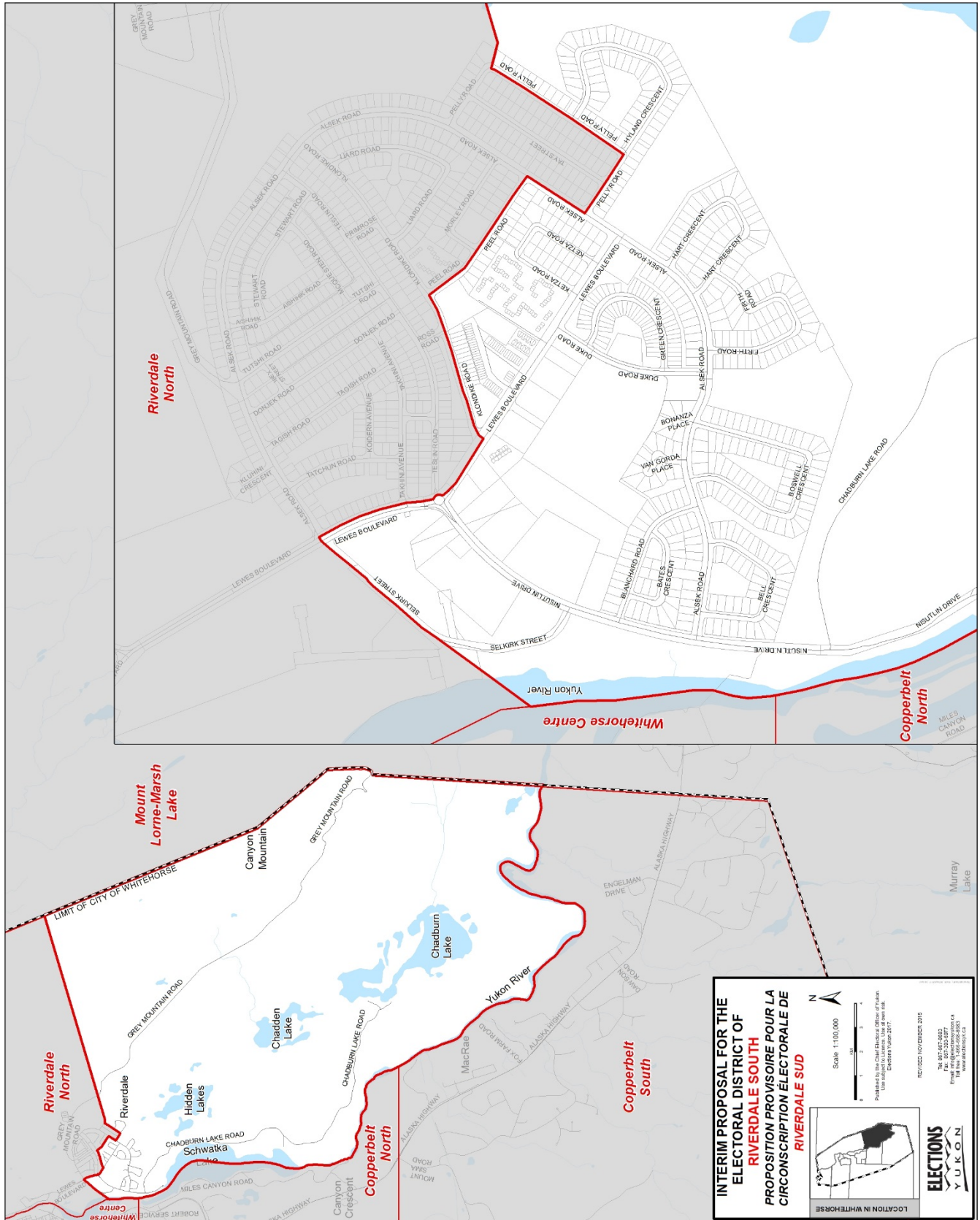
As in Riverdale North, the electoral district includes a portion of one of the city's oldest, most established communities. It has natural, recognizable boundaries along the Yukon River and the city limits and a fairly homogeneous elector population.

The current elector population is 1,471, with the potential for future development and the addition of suites to existing residences.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,707; within the acceptable variance.

### **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Riverdale South consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of the centre line of the western extension of the centre line of Selkirk Street and the centre line of the Yukon River, then southerly along the centre line of the Yukon River to the southern limit of the City of Whitehorse, then easterly and northerly along that limit to a point due east of the extension of the centre line of the right-of-way between Lot 11 (61 Pelly Road), Block 233 and Lot 9 (63 Pelly Road), Block 228, then westerly along the extension and centre line to the centre line of Pelly Road, then westerly and northerly along that centre line to the centre line of Alsek Road, then easterly along that centre line to the centre line of Peel Road, then northerly along that centre line to the centre line of Klondike Road, then westerly along that centre line to the centre line of Lewes Boulevard, then northerly along that centre line to the centre line of Selkirk Street, then westerly along that centre line and its extension to the point of commencement.



## **Takhini-Kopper King**

No change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Takhini-Kopper King.

The existing electoral district includes Fish Lake Road, Kopper King, Mountain Air Estates, Range Point, Raven's Ridge, Takhini East, Takhini North, and Takhini West. There has been significant new development in the area.

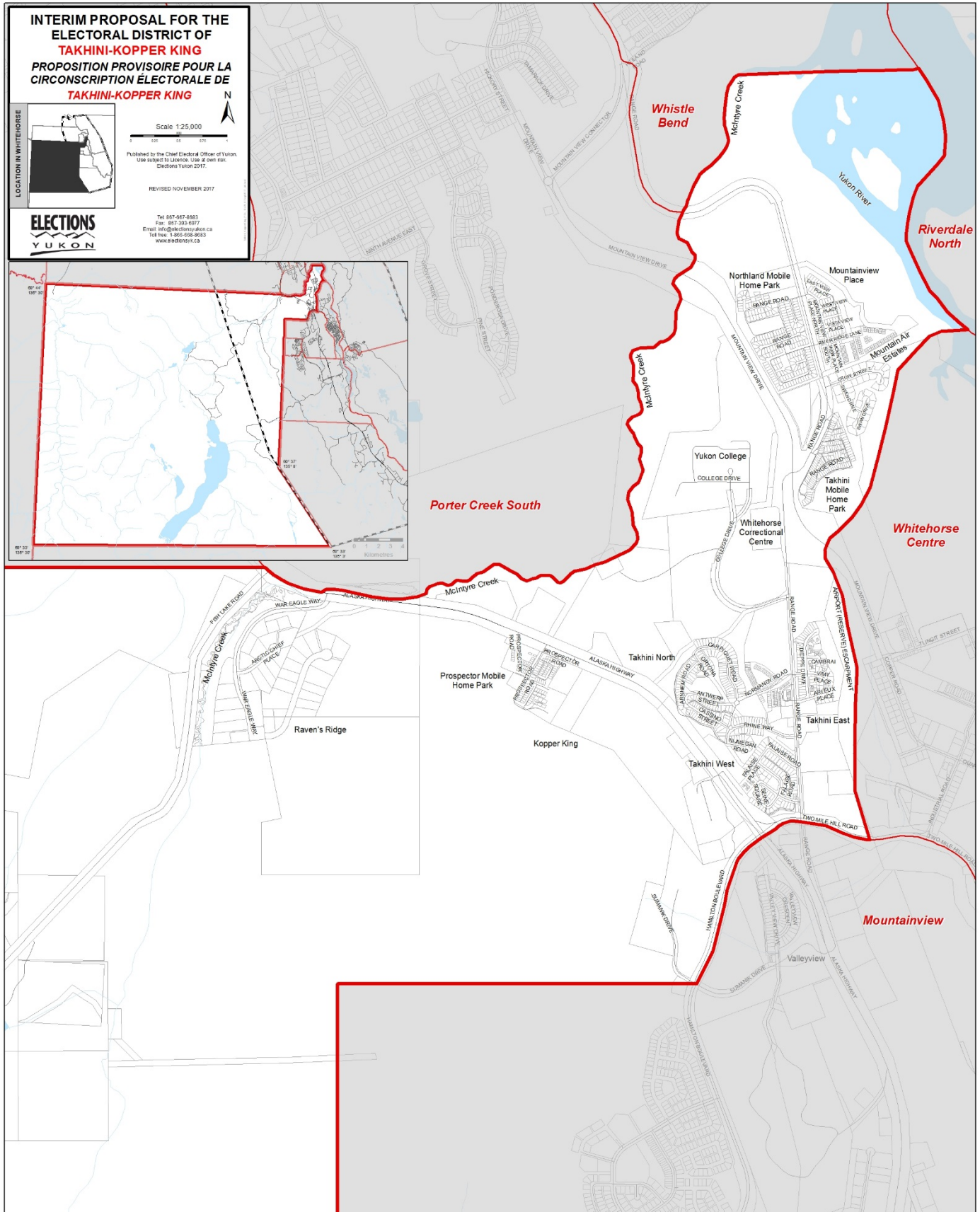
The current elector population is 1,904.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,989; within the acceptable variance.

### **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Takhini-Kopper King consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of the centre lines of McIntyre Creek and Alaska Highway, then due west to longitude 135 degrees 30 minutes west, then due south to latitude 60 degrees 33 minutes north, then due east to longitude 135 degrees 03 minutes west (limit of the City of Whitehorse), then northerly along the limit to the point of intersection of 135 degrees 08 minutes west and 60 degrees 37 minutes north, then due north to a point due west of the intersection of Hamilton Boulevard and Sumanik Drive, then due east to that intersection, then easterly along the centre line of Hamilton Boulevard and Two-Mile Hill Road to the foot of the Airport (Reserve) Escarpment, then northerly and easterly along that foot and its extension to the centre line of the Yukon River, then northerly along that centre line to the centre line of McIntyre Creek, then westerly and southerly along that centre line to the point of commencement.





## **Vuntut Gwitchin**

No change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Vuntut Gwitchin.

Since 1978, special circumstances have been identified and supported by past Commissions. These special circumstances still exist, although the Commission considered the degree to which these have been remediated through local facility development, regularly scheduled air travel, improved communications, and strong First Nation governance. Still, Old Crow is the only community without road access and is unique in many ways. The 1991 Commission described Old Crow as a “special case” and provided its reasons:

The area is sparsely populated and the most remote and least accessible district in the Yukon. The community of Old Crow is almost exclusively Vuntut Gwich'in and is the only such community in the Yukon. The Gwich'in language is not spoken elsewhere in the Yukon. Old Crow is distinct in language, culture, geography and lifestyle, even from its closest neighbours. Moreover, the traditional practices of the Gwich'in people give the area a special community of interest found nowhere else in Yukon.

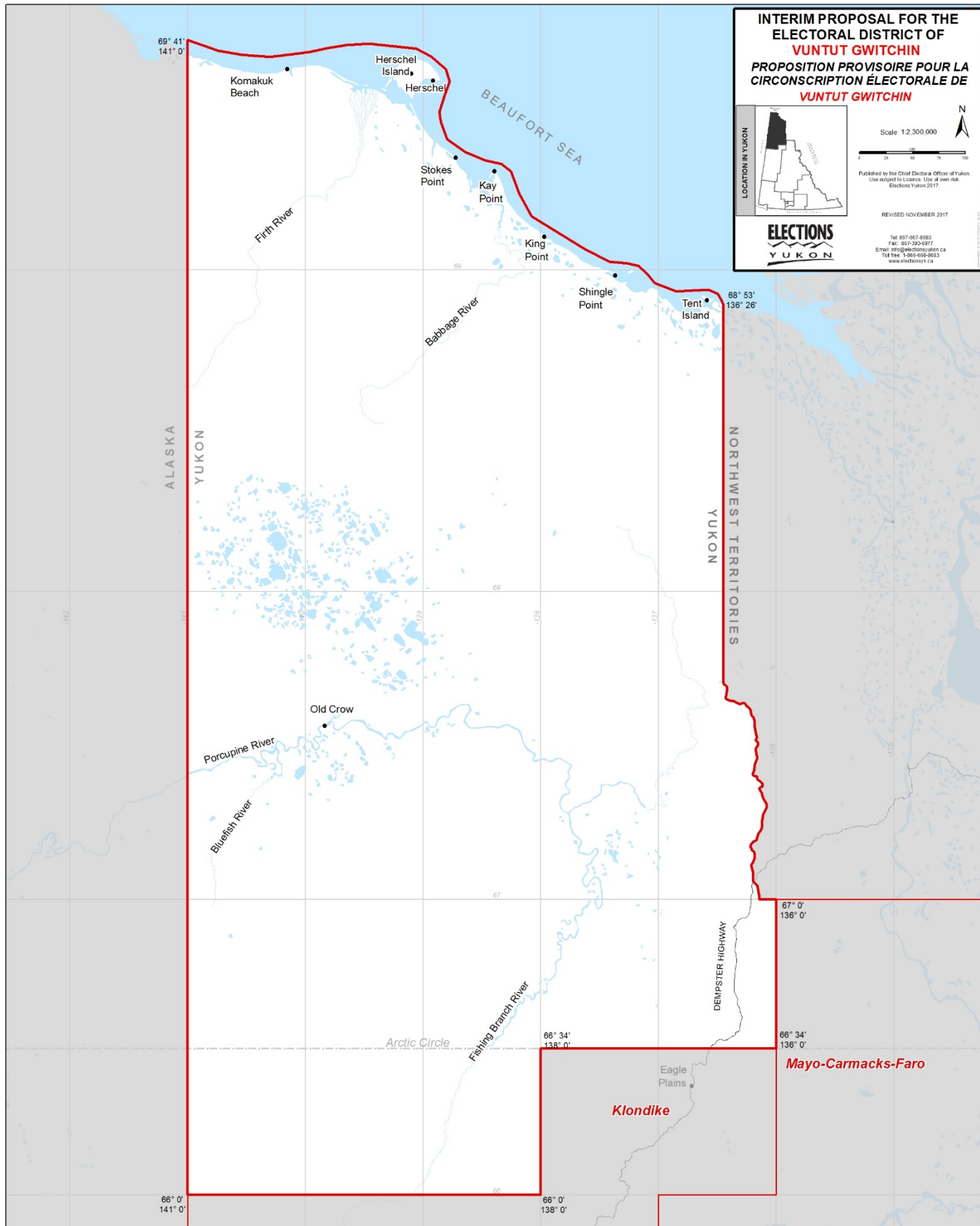
If the Old Crow community was joined with another riding, as it was prior to 1978, its own concerns might be submerged in those of the majority population...

The current elector population is 175.

The projected 2026 elector population is 175, which is below the acceptable variance. The Commission agreed that the effect of population is far outweighed by other considerations, and that sufficient reasons exist to justify a variance greater than 25% below the elector quotient.

## **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Vuntut Gwitchin consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of latitude 66 degrees north and the western boundary of Yukon, then northerly, easterly and southerly along the western, northern and eastern boundaries of Yukon to the point of intersection of the eastern boundary of the Yukon and longitude 136 degrees west, then due south to latitude 66 degrees 30 minutes north, then due west to longitude 138 degrees west, then due south to latitude 66 degrees north, then due west to the point of commencement, and includes Herschel Island.



## **Whitehorse Centre**

No change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Whitehorse Centre.

The electoral district includes a portion of downtown Whitehorse. It has natural, recognizable boundaries along the Yukon River and the airport (reserve) escarpment. There is no logical way to reduce the elector population without dividing an established community with well-defined natural boundaries.

The current elector population is 1,640, with the potential for future growth limited to infill development and the addition of suites to existing residences.

The projected 2026 elector population is 2,059, which is slightly above the acceptable variance. Based on the considerations prescribed by the *Act*, the Commission believes that a slight increase above the acceptable variance is justified.

### **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Whitehorse Centre consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at a point in the foot of the Airport (Reserve) Escarpment due west of the point of intersection of the western extension of the centre line of Selkirk Street and the centre line of the Yukon River, then northerly along the foot of the Airport (Reserve) Escarpment to the point of intersection of the extension of the foot of the Airport (Reserve) Escarpment and the centre line of the Yukon River, then southerly along the centre line of the Yukon River to the point of intersection of the eastern extension of the centre line of Selkirk Street, then due west to the point of commencement.



**INTERIM PROPOSAL FOR THE ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF WHITEHORSE CENTRE**  
**PROPOSITION PROVISOIRE POUR LA CIRCONSCRIPTION ÉLECTORALE DE WHITEHORSE CENTRE**

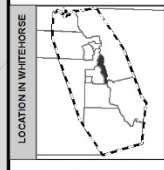
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REVISED NOVEMBER 2017

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LOCATION IN WHITEHORSE



## **Whitehorse West**

No change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Whitehorse West.

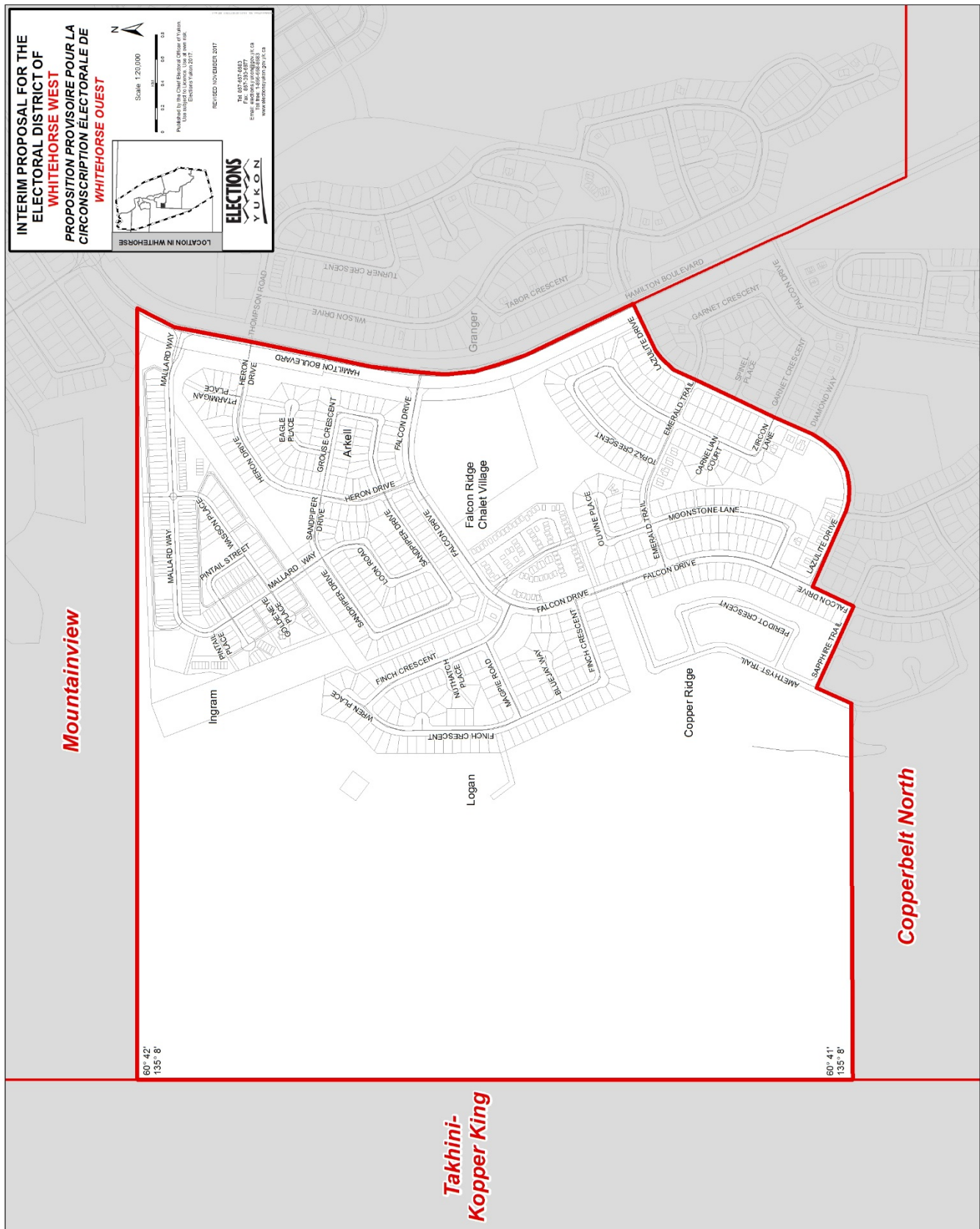
The electoral district includes Chalet Village, Falcon Ridge, Ingram, Logan, and the northern portion of Copper Ridge.

The current elector population is 1,368, with the potential for future growth limited to infill development and the addition of suites to existing residences.

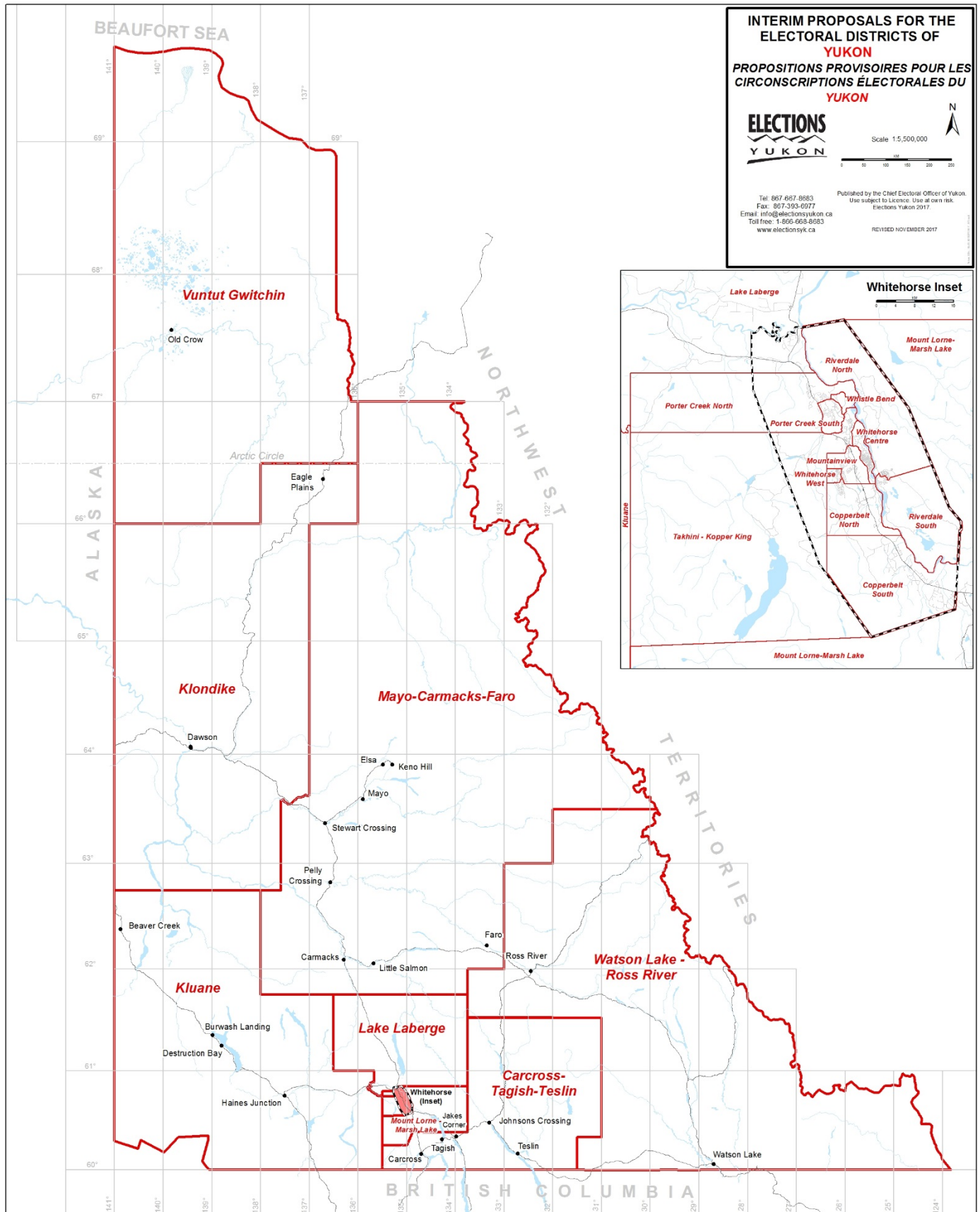
The projected 2026 elector population is 1,442; within the acceptable variance.

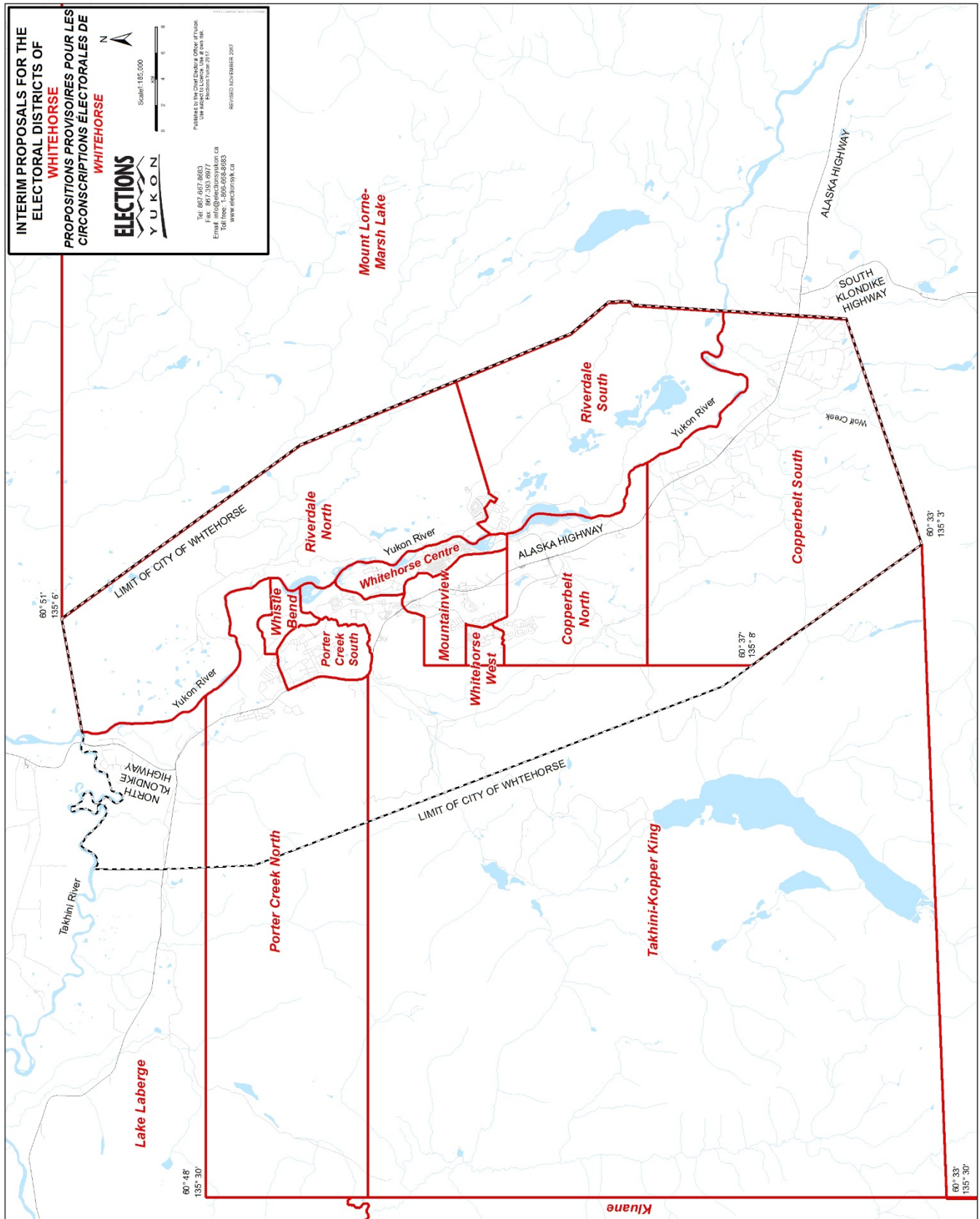
### **Electoral District Description**

The proposed Electoral District of Whitehorse West consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the intersection of the centre line of Hamilton Boulevard and the point due east of the most southerly point of the rear lot line of McCandless Crescent, then due west to longitude 135 degrees 08 minutes west, then due south to a point due west of the intersection of Aquamarine Place and Falcon Drive, then due east to Amethyst Trail, then northeasterly along Amethyst Trail to the northwesterly extension of Aquamarine Place, then southeasterly along that extension following the right of way between 141 Falcon Drive and 145 Falcon Drive to the intersection of Aquamarine Place and Falcon Drive, then northerly along the centre line of Falcon Drive to the centre line of Lazulite Drive, then easterly and northerly along that centre line to the centre line of Hamilton Boulevard, then northerly along that centre line to the point of commencement.









## **PART 7, ELECTIONS ACT**

### **REVIEW OF ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES**

#### **Definition**

**407** In this Part "Commission" means the Electoral District Boundaries Commission appointed under section 408.

#### **Electoral District Boundaries Commission**

**408**(1) There shall be an Electoral District Boundaries Commission consisting of

(a) the chief electoral officer,

(b) a judge or a retired judge of the Supreme Court who shall be chair, who shall be chosen by the senior judge of the Supreme Court and appointed by the Commissioner in Executive Council, and

(c) a representative of each registered political party represented in the Legislative Assembly at the time of the appointment. This representative shall be a Yukon resident who is not an employee of the Government of the Yukon, who is not a member of the Legislative Assembly, the Senate, or the House of Commons, and shall be chosen by the leader of the registered political party and appointed by the Commissioner in Executive Council.

(2) Each leader of a registered political party entitled to choose a member of the Commission shall, within 60 days of receipt of a written request from the Commissioner in Executive Council to do so, submit the name of the member to the Commissioner in Executive Council.

(3) Any vacancy in the Commission shall be filled within 30 days in the manner prescribed by subsection (1) by the person having the right to make the original appointment, except a vacancy resulting from failure to comply with subsection (2) or a vacancy resulting from the chief electoral officer's inability to act.

(4) A vacancy in the membership of the Commission does not affect the ability of the remaining members of the Commission to act.

#### **Function**

**409** The function of the Commission is to review the existing electoral districts established under the *Electoral District Boundaries Act* and to make proposals to the Legislative Assembly as to the boundaries, number, and names of the electoral districts of the Yukon.

## **Remuneration**

**410(1)** The Commission members who are appointed under paragraph 408(1)(b), or a retired judge appointed under paragraph 408(1)(a), shall be paid remuneration for their services on the Commission in an amount prescribed by the Commissioner in Executive Council.

(2) The Commission members shall be paid transportation, accommodation, and living expenses incurred in connection with the performance of their ordinary duties away from their ordinary place of residence and these payments shall conform as nearly as possible in all respects to the payment of those expenses for members of the public service of the Yukon.

## **Time of appointment**

**411(1)** The first Commission shall be appointed within three months of the coming into force of this Part.

(2) Subsequent Commissions shall be appointed within six months of polling day following every second general election after the appointment of the last Commission.

(3) Despite subsection (2), no Commission shall be appointed sooner than six years after the appointment of the last Commission.

(4) The term of membership in the Commission ends on the date of submission of the final report under subsection 417(1).

## **Powers of Commission**

**412** The Commission may make rules for the conduct of its proceedings.

## **Employees**

**413(1)** The Commission may, after consultation with the Elections Office, direct the Elections Office to employ or retain technical and other advisors and employees that the Commission considers necessary, on behalf of the Commission.

(2) Subject to the approval of the Commissioner in Executive Council, the Elections Office shall determine

(a) the conditions of employment; and

(b) the remuneration and reimbursement for expenses

of persons appointed, employed, or retained under subsection(1).

## **Costs of the Commission**

**414** The remuneration and expenses referred to in section 413 and all other costs of the Commission shall be provided for in a program under the Elections Office vote and paid out of the Yukon Consolidated Revenue Fund.

### **Interim report**

**415(1)** The Commission shall establish a process for receiving representations leading to an interim report.

(2) After considering any representations to it and within seven months of the date on which the Commission is appointed, the Commission shall submit to the Speaker an interim report, which shall set out the boundaries, number, and names of proposed electoral districts and which shall include the reasons for its proposals.

(3) On receipt of the interim report under subsection (2), the Speaker shall

(a) if the Legislative Assembly is sitting when it is submitted, table it within five sitting days in the Legislative Assembly; or

(b) if the Legislative Assembly is not then sitting, cause it to be transmitted to all members of the Legislative Assembly and then to be made public.

(4) If the office of Speaker is vacant, the interim report shall be submitted to the clerk of the Legislative Assembly, who shall comply with subsection (3).

### **Public hearings**

**416(1)** The Commission shall hold public hearings after the submission of the interim report.

(2) The public hearings shall be held at the places and times considered appropriate by the Commission to enable any person to make representations as to the boundaries and names of any proposed electoral district set out in its interim report.

(3) The Commission shall give reasonable public notice of the time, place and purpose of any public hearings.

### **Final report**

**417(1)** The Commission shall, after considering the representations made to it, and within five months of the date it submits an interim report under section 415, submit to the Speaker a final report.

(2) The final report of the Commission shall be tabled, transmitted to members of the Legislative Assembly and made public in the same manner as the interim report under section 415.

(3) If the office of the Speaker is vacant, the final report shall be submitted to the clerk of the Legislative Assembly, who shall comply with subsection (2).

### **Legislation creating new electoral districts**

**418(1)** Following the tabling of the final report, the government shall introduce legislation to establish the electoral districts.

(2) The legislation referred to in subsection (1) shall be introduced as soon as practicable, and in no event later than the end of the sitting of the Legislative



Assembly which follows the sitting in which the final report is tabled.

(3) The Act introduced pursuant to this section shall, once passed by the Legislative Assembly, come into force on the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly which passed it, subject to section 423.

### **Relevant considerations**

**419** For the purpose of the reports required under sections 415 and 417, the Commission shall take into account the following

- (a) the density and rate of growth of the population of any area;
- (b) the accessibility, size and physical characteristics of any area;
- (c) the facilities and patterns of transportation and communication within and between different areas;
- (d) available census data and other demographic information;
- (e) the number of electors in the electoral districts appearing on the most recent official lists of electors;
- (f) any special circumstances relating to the existing electoral districts;
- (g) the boundaries of municipalities and First Nations governments;
- (h) public input obtained under section 416;
- (i) any other reasons or information relied on by the Commission.

## BIOGRAPHIES OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

**Mr. Justice Ron Veale, Chair** (appointed by Order-in-Council 2017/76)  
Justice, Supreme Court of Yukon

### **Members:**

**Darren Parsons** (appointed by Order-in-Council 2017/85)

Darren Parsons has been extensively involved in electoral processes and democratic institutions across North America for more than 30 years. Darren has managed dozens of election campaigns on behalf of candidates from all political stripes at all levels. Throughout his career, he has worked for several government administrations as an advisor and consultant on communications, issue management, policy analysis, and organizational structure. Darren resides near Whitehorse along the Takhini Hotsprings Road.

**Jonas Smith** (appointed by Order-in-Council 2017/93)

Jonas Smith is the third generation in his family to make Yukon his home. His past professional experience includes serving as Deputy Chief of Staff to a former Yukon Premier as well as working on the 2006 and 2011 Census of Canada. This experience has afforded him the opportunity to travel the territory extensively and meet with Yukoners in every community. He currently manages several healthcare and mining advocacy contracts and resides in Whitehorse with his wife and two daughters.

**Anne Tayler** (appointed by Order-in-Council 2017/85)

Anne Tayler has lived and worked in the Yukon since 1973. She has worked in small business, as a Professor at Yukon College for over 20 years, and with First Nations governments. She has also volunteered widely in arts and environmental organizations. She lives on the Takhini River, outside of Whitehorse, with her husband, Frank Turner. They have three adult children, six grandchildren, and a number of fosterchildren.

**Lori McKee** (Section 408(1)(a) of the *Elections Act*)

Lori McKee, Chief Electoral Officer, is a member in accordance with the *Elections Act*, not by appointment. Lori has over 25 years of election administration experience and has provided support to 3 boundaries commissions in Alberta, before making Yukon her home.

Yukon Electoral District  
Boundaries Commission



Commission de délimitation des  
circonscriptions électorales du Yukon

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June 12, 2017

The Electoral District Boundaries Commission has begun reviewing the Yukon's 19 electoral districts. The Commission will review the existing electoral districts and make proposals to the Legislative Assembly for the boundaries, number, and names of the electoral districts that will be in effect for the next two elections.

Public input is critical to this process. You are invited to participate by sharing your ideas in writing. Your comments are important – you may have ideas for change or may feel that no changes to the existing boundaries are needed. The Commission will consider all submissions received by October 1, 2017 in the preparation of the interim report.

You will have a second opportunity to participate after the interim report is released. At that time, written submissions will be accepted and presentations may be made at public meetings. Dates and locations of public meetings will be announced after the interim report is released.

Your input is important to help this independent Commission make proposals on the boundaries, number, and names of electoral districts. The government will introduce legislation to establish the electoral district boundaries after the Commission has submitted its proposals in the final report.

Written submissions must be received by October 1, 2017 to be considered in the preparation of the interim report. Submissions are public documents; they will appear on the website and may appear, in full or in part, in the Commission's reports.

For more information, visit the Commission's website at [www.yukonboundaries.ca](http://www.yukonboundaries.ca) or contact the Commission office by email, facsimile, mail, or telephone. You can follow the Commission's work on Facebook and Twitter.

Sincerely,

Mr. Justice Ron Veale, Chair

Darren Parsons, Member

Anne Tayler, Member

Jonas Smith, Member

Lori McKee, Chief Electoral Officer



## STAKEHOLDERS LIST

### Members of the Legislative Assembly

Mr. Ted Adel  
MLA, Copperbelt North

Mr. Scott Kent  
MLA, Copperbelt South

Hon. Sandy Silver, Premier  
MLA, Klondike

Mr. Wade Istchenko  
MLA, Kluane

Mr. Brad Cathers  
MLA, Lake Laberge

Mr. Don Hutton  
MLA, Mayo-Tatchun

Hon. John Streicker  
MLA, Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes

Hon. Jeanie Dendys  
MLA, Mountainview

Mr. Stacey Hassard  
MLA, Pelly-Nisutlin

Mr. Paolo Gallina  
MLA, Porter Creek Centre

Ms. Geraldine Van Bibber  
MLA, Porter Creek North

Hon. Ranj Pillai  
MLA, Porter Creek South

Hon. Nils Clarke, Speaker  
MLA, Riverdale North

Hon. Tracy-Anne McPhee  
MLA, Riverdale South

Ms. Kate White  
MLA, Takhini-Kopper King

Hon. Pauline Frost  
MLA, Vuntut Gwitchin

Ms. Patti McLeod  
MLA, Watson Lake

Ms. Liz Hanson  
MLA, Whitehorse Centre

Hon. Richard Mostyn  
MLA, Whitehorse West

### Registered Political Parties

Mr. Philippe LeBlond, President  
Yukon Green Party

Mr. Devin Bailey, President  
Yukon Liberal Party

Ms. Alison Furniss, President  
Yukon New Democratic Party

Ms. Linda Hillier, President  
Yukon Party

### First Nations

Khà Shâde Hêni Andy Carvill  
Carcross/Tagish First Nations

Chief Steve Smith  
Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

Grand Chief Peter Johnston  
Council of Yukon First Nations

### First Nations (Continued)

Lois Joe, Co-ordinator  
Northern Tutchone Tribal Council

Chief Jack Caesar  
Ross River Dena Council

Chief Sharon Nelson  
Selkirk First Nation

Khà Shâde Hénì Albert James  
Dakh Ka Tlingit Tribal Council

Chief Simon Mervyn  
First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun

George Miller, Chairperson  
Kaska Dena Council

Chief Robert James Dickson  
Kluane First Nation

Chief Doris Bill  
Kwanlin Dün First Nation

Chief George Morgan  
Liard First Nation

Chief Russell Blackjack  
Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation

Shannon Walker, Executive Director  
Southern Tutchone Tribal Council

Chief Kristina Kane  
Ta'an Kwäch'än Council

Chief Richard Sidney  
Teslin Tlingit Council

Chief Roberta Joseph  
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation

Chief Bruce Charlie  
Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation

Chief Angela Demit  
White River First Nation

### **Municipalities, Local Governments and Community Associations**

Diana Rogerson, President  
Association of Yukon Communities

Craig Tuton, Chair  
Yukon Municipal Board

Lee Bodie, Mayor  
Village of Carmacks

Wayne Potoroka, Mayor  
City of Dawson

Jack Bowers, Mayor  
Town of Faro

Michael Riseborough, Mayor  
Village of Haines Junction

Scott Bolton, Mayor  
Village of Mayo

Clara Jules, Mayor  
Village of Teslin

Dan Curtis, Mayor  
City of Whitehorse

Shaunagh Stikeman, President  
Hillcrest Community Association

Leo Martel, President  
Keno City Community Club

Jane Woolverton, President  
Kluane Lake Athletic Association

Katherine Sheepway, Recreation Director  
Marsh Lake Community Society

Agnes Seitz, Executive Director  
Mount Lorne Community Association

Niki Denault, President  
Riverdale Community Association

Doug Heynen, President  
Tagish Community Association

Justin Brown, Mayor  
Town of Watson Lake

Peter Carr, Chair  
The Hamlet of Mount Lorne

### **Municipalities, Local Governments and Community Associations (Continued)**

Jo-Anne Smith/Perry Savoie, Co-Chairs  
Marsh Lake Local Advisory Council

Bonnitta Ritchie, Chair  
Tagish Local Advisory Council

Bev James, Recreation Director  
Carcross Recreation Board

Colleen James, Chair  
South Klondike Local Advisory Council

Terrance Whiteman, President  
Beaver Creek Community Club

Jordan Stackhouse, Community Advisor  
Community Services

## **Chambers**

Samson Hartland, Executive Director  
Yukon Chamber of Mines

Ron Berdahl, President  
Yukon Prospectors Association

Dick Van Nostrand  
Dawson City Chamber of Commerce

Rick Harder, President  
Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce

Teslin Regional Chamber of Commerce

Mike McDougall, President  
Klondike Placer Miners Association

Peter Turner, President  
Yukon Chamber of Commerce

Anne Leckie  
Silver Trail Chamber of Commerce

Rick Karp, President  
Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce

## **Labour**

Justin Lemphers, President  
Yukon Federation of Labour

Mark Lowes, President  
Intl. Brotherhood of Elec. Workers Local 1574

United Association of Plumbers and  
Pipefitters Local 310

Tom Brown, Yukon Business Representative  
Teamsters Local 31

Tom Sigurdson, Executive Director  
Yukon Building and Construction Trades Council

Jack Bourassa, Regional Executive VP  
North Public Service Alliance of Canada

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and  
Joiners of America Local 2499

Steve Geick, President  
Yukon Employees Union

## **Umbrella Groups and Other Agencies**

Anne Leckie, Chair  
Yukon Heritage Resources Board

Charlene Alexander, Executive Director  
Yukon First Nations Tourism Association

Blake Rogers, Executive Director  
Tourism Association of Yukon

Charles Shewen, President  
Yukon Trappers Association

## Umbrella Groups and Other Agencies (Continued)

Charlotte Hrenchuk, Coordinator  
Yukon Status on Women's Council

Dr. Alison Freeman, President  
Yukon Medical Association

Gord Zealand, Executive Director  
Yukon Fish and Game Association

Jackie Olson, Executive Director  
Klondike Visitors Association

Jennifer Hall, Executive Director  
Yukon Agricultural Association

Kalin Pallett, President  
Wilderness Tourism Association of Yukon

Marney Paradis, Executive Director  
Skookum Jim's Friendship Centre

Ron Cruikshank, Director  
Yukon Land Use Planning Council

Shawna Smith, President  
Yukon Conservation Society

Tracy Rispin/John Ritter, Co-Chairs  
Yukon Geographical Place Names Board

Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council

Yukon Council on Disability

Terry Sherman, President  
Yukon Contractors Association

Dan Reynolds/Mark Wierda, Co-Chairs  
Dawson District Renewable Resources Council

Mayo District Renewable Resources Council

Selkirk Renewable Resources Council

Northern Research Institute

Connie Dublenko, President  
Yukon Council on Aging

Frank Thomas, Chair  
Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board

Isabelle Salesse, Executive Director  
l'Association franco-yukonnaise

James R. Tucker, President  
Law Society of Yukon

Jill Mason, President  
Yukon Teachers Association

Kim Solonick, Chair  
Yukon Advisory Council on Women's Issues

Myles Thorp, Executive Director  
Yukon Wood Products Association

Sally Robinson, President  
Yukon Historical and Museums Association

Stanley Noel, Chief Executive Officer  
Yukon Indian Development Corporation

Wendy Randall, Chair  
Yukon Environ. and Socio-Economic Assessment Board

Yukon Association for Community Living

Yukon Outfitters Association

Paul Flaherty, Chair  
Yukon College Board of Governors


Sandy Smarch, Chair  
Teslin Renewable Resources Council

North Yukon Renewable Resources Council

Laberge Renewable Resources Council

## NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT - JUNE 2017

### Help us shape the electoral map for future elections



### Aidez-nous à dessiner la carte électorale en vue des prochaines élections

**Do you have comments on the electoral district boundaries that shape the area your MLA represents?**  
**We want to hear from you!**

The Electoral District Boundaries Commission has begun reviewing the Yukon's 19 electoral districts. Public input is important to help this independent Commission make proposals on the boundaries, number, and names of electoral districts that will be in place for the next election.

**You can participate** now by sharing your ideas in writing. Your comments are important — you may have ideas for change or may feel that no changes are needed. Written submissions received by October 1, 2017 will be used to prepare an interim report.

**You can participate** after the interim report is prepared by sharing your ideas in writing or in person, at a public meeting. Dates and locations of public meetings will be announced after the interim report is released.

**These boundaries affect you.** They identify the communities and neighbourhoods in your electoral district and determine in which electoral district you vote.

**Your ideas will help shape the future electoral map of Yukon!**

For more information, visit the Commission's website at [www.yukonboundaries.ca](http://www.yukonboundaries.ca) or contact the Commission office by email, facsimile, mail, or telephone.

**Avez-vous des commentaires à formuler au sujet des limites de la circonscription électorale que représente votre député?**  
**Nous voulons connaître votre opinion!**

La Commission de délimitation des circonscriptions électorales a entamé son examen des 19 circonscriptions électorales du Yukon. L'opinion du public est essentielle, car elle permettra à la Commission, un organisme indépendant, de présenter des propositions quant aux limites, au nombre et aux noms des circonscriptions électorales à établir en vue des prochaines élections.

**Vous pouvez participer** dès maintenant en nous faisant part de vos observations écrites. Vos commentaires sont importants — qu'il s'agisse de suggestions de changements à apporter ou, au contraire, de nous faire savoir que, selon vous, aucun changement n'est nécessaire. Dans la préparation de son rapport intérimaire, la Commission prendra en considération tous les commentaires reçus d'ici le 1<sup>er</sup> octobre 2017.


**Vous pouvez participer** après la publication du rapport intérimaire en présentant vos commentaires par écrit ou en personne lors d'une audience publique. Les dates et les endroits où se tiendront des audiences seront annoncés après la publication du rapport.

**Le découpage de la carte électorale vous concerne.** Il détermine à quelle circonscription les collectivités et les quartiers appartiennent et dans laquelle vous pouvez exercer votre droit de vote.

**Vos suggestions nous aideront à découper la prochaine carte électorale du Yukon.**

Pour de plus amples renseignements, visitez le site Web de la Commission, au [www.yukonboundaries.ca](http://www.yukonboundaries.ca), ou communiquez avec elle par courriel, par télécopieur, par la poste ou par téléphone.

Yukon  
Electoral  
District  
Boundaries  
Commission





Commission de  
délimitation des  
circonscriptions  
électorales  
du Yukon

**yukonboundaries.ca**

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 [@yukonboundaries](https://twitter.com/yukonboundaries)  
 [facebook.com/yukonboundaries](https://facebook.com/yukonboundaries)

The Independent, non-partisan Commission responsible for reviewing current electoral district boundaries and proposing boundaries for the future / La Commission indépendante et non partisane qui est chargée de revoir les limites actuelles des circonscriptions électorales et d'en proposer de nouvelles pour les années à venir.



## NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT - SEPTEMBER 2017

**Help us shape the electoral map for future elections**



**Aidez-nous à dessiner la carte électorale en vue des prochaines élections**

**The review of Yukon's electoral district boundaries is underway and submissions are being considered.**

**Do you have ideas for change?  
Do you think that no changes are needed?**

The **October 1, 2017** deadline is approaching for your ideas to be part of the interim proposals of the Electoral District Boundaries Commission.

The review of electoral district boundaries is important. The boundaries will be in effect for the next two general elections. The Commission wants to hear from you! Your invitation to participate will arrive in the mail.

**You can also participate after the interim report is prepared** by sharing your ideas in writing or in person, at a public meeting. Dates and locations of public meetings will be announced after the interim report is released later this year.

**For more information, visit the Commission's website at [www.yukonboundaries.ca](http://www.yukonboundaries.ca) or contact the Commission office by email, facsimile, mail, or telephone.**

**L'examen de la délimitation des circonscriptions électorales est en cours et tous les commentaires seront pris en considération.**

**Avez-vous des suggestions? Croyez-vous, au contraire, qu'aucun changement n'est nécessaire?**

La date limite pour présenter vos commentaires approche à grands pas. Seuls les commentaires reçus avant le **1<sup>er</sup> octobre 2017** pourront faire partie des propositions provisoires de la Commission de délimitation des circonscriptions électorales.


La révision de la délimitation des circonscriptions électorales est importante, car les délimitations seront utilisées pour les deux prochaines élections générales.

La Commission souhaite connaître votre point de vue. Vous recevrez sous peu une invitation par la poste.

**Vous pourrez aussi participer après la publication du rapport intérimaire** en présentant vos commentaires par écrit ou en personne lors d'une audience publique. Les dates et les endroits où se tiendront des audiences seront annoncés plus tard cette année, après la publication du rapport.

**Pour de plus amples renseignements, visitez le site Web de la Commission, au [www.yukonboundaries.ca](http://www.yukonboundaries.ca). Vous pouvez aussi communiquer avec ses membres par courriel, par télécopieur, par la poste ou par téléphone.**

**Yukon Electoral District Boundaries Commission**



**Commission de délimitation des circonscriptions électorales du Yukon**

**yukonboundaries.ca**

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[@yukonboundaries](https://twitter.com/yukonboundaries) [facebook.com/yukonboundaries](https://facebook.com/yukonboundaries)

The Independent, non-partisan Commission responsible for reviewing current electoral district boundaries and proposing boundaries for the future.  
La Commission indépendante et non partisane qui est chargée de revoir les limites actuelles des circonscriptions électorales et d'en proposer de nouvelles pour les années à venir.

## LIST OF WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

- 1) **Submitted by:** Keith Austin  
**Date Submitted:** June 24, 2017  
**Electoral District:** Pelly-Nisutlin
- 2) **Submitted by:** Joanne Green, Porter Creek Centre Returning Officer  
**Date Submitted:** June 30, 2017  
**Electoral District:** Porter Creek Centre
- 3) **Submitted by:** Jack Bowers, Mayor of Faro  
**Date Submitted:** July 21, 2017  
**Electoral District:** Pelly-Nisutlin
- 4) **Submitted by:** Megan Slobodin  
**Date Submitted:** September 12, 2017  
**Electoral District:** Copperbelt South
- 5) **Submitted by:** Charles Brunner, Klondike Returning Officer  
**Date Submitted:** September 17, 2017  
**Electoral District(s):** Klondike/Mayo-Tatchun
- 6) **Submitted by:** Richard Sidney, Kaa Sháade Háni, Teslin Tlingit Council and  
Clara Jules, Mayor of the Village of Teslin  
**Date Submitted:** September 14, 2017  
**Electoral District:** Pelly-Nisutlin
- 7) **Submitted by:** l'Association franco-yukonnaise  
**Date Submitted:** October 1, 2017  
**Electoral: District/Community:** Whitehorse area

## HOUSEHOLDER

You can help to shape the electoral  
district boundaries

*Vous avez votre mot à dire dans la  
délimitation des circonscriptions électorales.*



These boundaries will determine the  
communities and neighbourhoods your MLA  
will represent at the next election

*La carte électorale déterminera les  
collectivités et les quartiers que votre député  
représentera lors des prochaines élections.*



You can share your ideas, in  
writing, by October 1 to have them  
included in the interim proposals  
to the Legislative Assembly.



Later this year, you can  
comment on the interim  
proposals in the report.



Visit the website or call the  
office to find out how you  
can help to shape the future  
electoral map!



*Présentez vos commentaires par  
écrit avant le 1<sup>er</sup> octobre pour qu'ils  
fassent partie des propositions  
provisoires à l'Assemblée législative.*



*Plus tard dans l'année, vous pourrez  
commenter les propositions  
provisoires du rapport.*



*Visitez notre site Web ou téléphonez-  
nous pour découvrir comment  
contribuer à l'élaboration de la  
nouvelle carte électorale!*

Yukon  
Electoral  
District  
Boundaries  
Commission



*Commission de  
délimitation des  
circonscriptions  
électorales  
du Yukon*

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nouvelles pour les années à venir.*

## **HISTORY OF ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES COMMISSIONS IN YUKON**

Commissions are appointed after every second general election, with the restriction that the period between Commission appointments is not less than six years.

The last Commission was appointed in 2007 and submitted its final report to the Legislative Assembly on March 3, 2008. The 19 electoral districts proposed by the Commission were in place for the 2011 and 2016 general elections.

The previous Commission was appointed in 2001 and submitted its final report to the Legislative Assembly on January 29, 2002. The 18 electoral districts proposed by the Commission were in place for the 2002 and 2006 general elections.

Previous Commissions were appointed in 1974, 1977, 1984, and 1991. During this time, the number of electoral districts increased from 12 to 17 as the population of Yukon grew.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Commission would like to extend its appreciation for the information and assistance received in the course of its deliberations from:

Mike Ellis, Acting Manager, Planning and Sustainability Services, City of Whitehorse, for his insight into future growth in Whitehorse,

Bishnu Saha, Director, and Xiaoyu Yu, Socio-Economic Statistician, Yukon Bureau of Statistics, for explaining the methodology used to project future development and growth in Yukon,

Tomoko Hagio, Land Use Planner, Land Planning Branch, Yukon Energy, Mines and Resources, for identifying development trends in areas adjacent to the city of Whitehorse,

Debra Fendrick, for her detailed research and legal guidance,

Diedre Davidson, Drift Geomatics, for translating ideas for change into the maps contained in this report,

Dave Wilkie and Carrie Jackson of Elections Yukon, for their ongoing support over the past months, and

French Language Services Directorate, for their efforts that allowed the Commission to communicate in both official languages.

Particular thanks go to everyone who took the time to respond to the Commission's invitation for public input.

The Commission also wishes to recognize the contributions of past Commissions, which laid the groundwork for redistribution in Yukon. They established a model and principles for redistribution that helped to guide this process.