

Y U K O N

ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

COMMISSION

FINAL REPORT



APRIL 2018



April 20, 2018

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

Dear Mr. Speaker:

We are pleased to submit the final 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 final report is submitted in accordance with section 417 of the *Act* for tabling in the Legislative Assembly. This final report considers written submissions and input received at public hearings.

The Commission's term ends with the submission of this final report. On behalf of all Commission Members, I extend our gratitude for the opportunity to serve the people of Yukon through this process.

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

The Final Report of the Electoral Boundaries Commission reflects the Commission's deliberations from June 2017 through March 2018, culminating in its final proposals.

Throughout any public process, decisions are always improved through discussion and participation from members of the public. Public outreach efforts generated a great deal of engagement and input. The contributions of members of the public enhanced the Commission's understanding of Yukon's electoral districts and guided the development of the proposals presented here. Whether it was written submissions, formal presentations, or informal discussions at public hearings, all were valued and helped shape decisions on final proposals. With this in mind, the Commission extends its appreciation and thanks to all who participated in this process.

Taking public responses together with the considerations prescribed by law, the Commission considered the impacts of redistribution on individual electoral districts, adjacent electoral districts, and also the broader context of Yukon as a whole in reaching its conclusions. Throughout the entire process, the Commission worked by consensus.

Mandate

The Commission is both directed by and constrained by the Yukon *Elections Act* R.S.Y. 2002, c.63, as amended, (the *Act*). This legislation charges the Commission with the responsibility of reviewing "existing electoral districts established under the *Electoral District Boundaries Act*" to make "proposals to the Legislative Assembly as to the boundaries, number, and names of the electoral districts of the Yukon."

The *Act* further directs the Commission to take into account a set of "relevant considerations":

- population rates of growth and density, demographic data, and lists of electors;
- geographical characteristics of electoral districts;
- travel patterns and communication issues; and
- public input.

The Commission is also charged with considering "any special circumstances relating to the existing electoral districts." These factors were paramount in all of the Commission's deliberations.

Legislation restricts the Commission to the specific responsibilities set out above. Recommendations and submissions regarding other matters – such as electoral reform, inter-governmental relationships, regional governance, zoning, and territorial funding – were beyond the Commission's mandate and could not be considered. Finally, the legislation also imposes deadlines for the preparation and publication of the Interim and Final Reports, which the Commission was legally bound to meet.

Guiding Principles

In addition to the legislative mandate, the Commission adopted a set of principles to guide its work. Commission members all agreed on the importance of applying the legislated “relevant considerations” consistently, together with the need for public outreach and input, and the need to maintain a meaningful balance between urban and rural electoral districts.

The Commission further agreed that proposals must be fair and equitable, free of political or personal considerations, and must respect the special circumstances of electoral districts. The members of the Commission concluded that any guidelines related to population should be considered in the light of all other factors, such that population figures alone would not be the basis for proposals. A detailed list of the Guiding Principles is set out on page 9.

Given the significance of “special circumstances”, members relied on definitions and descriptions developed and used by past commissions, as well as judicial decisions. Accordingly, special considerations include, but are not limited to:

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.

Commission Deliberation Process

The following timeline is provided as background and context, to summarize the process involved in carrying out a territory-wide review of electoral districts under the *Act*.

The Commission was appointed in May 2017 and began its deliberations a month later. Elections Yukon staff immediately undertook efforts to publicize the nature and scope of the Commission’s work. Information was sent to a range of stakeholders – Town Councils, Local Advisory Councils, community groups, Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs), First Nations governments, etc. (See pages 91 to 94 for a detailed list). In addition, a website was set up to provide information and solicit input from members of the public. (www.yukonboundaries.ca).

June to August 2017

Commission members reviewed material relevant to the process of electoral redistribution, including:

- work by previous commissions,
- relevant judicial decisions,
- maps of existing electoral districts,
- statistical information about population and projected growth, and
- projections for specific development plans.

September 2017

Additional outreach began, to encourage submissions, comments and proposals related to existing electoral districts:

- householders mailed across Yukon (see page 95),
- print and radio advertising (see pages 96 to 100),
- social media campaign, including notices posted on Facebook and Twitter (see pages 101 and 102).

October 2017

To comply with timelines prescribed by legislation, initial submissions were required by October 1, 2017. Seven submissions were received within this timeframe and considered in development of the Interim Report.

Following this initial round of public consultation, a second phase of outreach occurred, to inform the public the Commission would be holding public hearings early in the new year. Members of the public and communities had until January 11, 2018 to request a public hearing.

November 2017

The Interim Report was released on November 20, 2017, presenting the Commission's initial proposals for 19 electoral districts. The Interim Report was tabled in the Legislative Assembly, shared with stakeholders, posted online, and made available to the public. To achieve the broadest possible distribution and engagement, submissions and comments were posted on the Commission's website as they were received.

January 2018

By January 11, 2018, the Commission had received 13 requests for public hearings in 10 communities. The Commission agreed to add 2 additional public hearings in areas that would be significantly affected by redistribution of boundaries, despite the fact that no requests were received for those communities. For perspective, the last Commission held 3 public hearings.

The schedule for public hearings was widely publicized with the goal of garnering as much public input as possible, within the time constraints of the legislation. Interested parties were encouraged to attend public hearings as well as submit proposals and responses to materials posted on the website. To meet timelines prescribed in the legislation, submissions were accepted until March 10, 2018.

February 2018

The first round of public hearings took place February 8, 9 and 12, in Carcross, Marsh Lake, Mount Lorne, Tagish, Teslin and the Porter Creek area of Whitehorse. There was significant participation at every meeting, with a total of 30 presenters.

March 2018

The second round of public hearings occurred March 8, 9 and 10, in Carmacks, Faro, Mayo, Pelly Crossing, Ross River and Watson Lake. As with the first round, there was strong attendance and participation, with 33 presenters, bringing the total of presentations at all public hearings to 63. The previous Commission engaged with 4 presenters altogether. By the close of the period allowed for public comment, a total of 42 submissions had been received, compared to 11 for the previous Commission.

To achieve the broadest possible distribution of submissions, they were posted on the Commission's website as quickly as possible following receipt. Following the March 10, 2018 deadline, members of the Commission examined all public input received since June 2017 and prepared the final proposals.

April 2018

The Final Report is the sum of the Commission's deliberations over the previous 10 months. Throughout the course of deliberations, the members of the Commission arrived at each proposal through consensus.

Summary of Significant Proposed Changes

Many differing views were represented in presentations and submissions, all of which had to be carefully weighed in the context of the Commission's Mandate and Guiding Principles. While some proposals included in the Interim Report remain the same, other proposals have been modified and revised based on public input received throughout the consultation process.

The most significant change is reflected in the number of electoral districts. Until the last round of public hearings, the members of the Commission agreed that there should be no change to the number of electoral districts. During the public hearings, the Commission heard compelling testimony that there was a need to create one additional electoral district, to address effective representation for electors in 3 particular electoral districts.

Redistribution of the Pelly-Nisutlin Electoral District

The proposed redistribution of Pelly-Nisutlin will address longstanding challenges facing that electoral district and will have significant impact on adjacent electoral districts.

- Carcross-Tagish-Teslin combines the southern portions of two existing electoral districts – Pelly-Nisutlin and Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes. The proposed electoral district includes Carcross, Johnsons Crossing, Tagish, and Teslin, recognizing shared cultural connections, geography and transportation patterns.
- Carmacks-Faro-Ross River would encompass much of the existing Pelly-Nisutlin electoral district, as well as Carmacks and Little Salmon, in recognition of shared cultural connections, travel, environment, and development issues.

- Mayo-Pelly would include Elsa, Keno Hill, Mayo, Pelly Crossing and Stewart Crossing, and as such would be the electoral district with the largest geographic area, with shared geographical conditions and transportation patterns

For additional information on this redistribution, please see pages 28 to 31.

Redistribution of Mount Lorne / Southern Lakes

This redistribution is the result of two other changes: the proposed Carcross-Tagish-Teslin electoral district and the realignment of boundaries to follow Whitehorse city limits. The proposed boundaries would encompass a distinctly rural electoral district, with rural concerns, rural physical characteristics and transportation patterns.

- Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake will encompass the communities of Annie Lake Road, Carcross Cutoff, Golden Horn, Lewes Lake, Marsh Lake and Mount Lorne. The northern boundary of Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake will now follow Whitehorse city limits, to respect that boundary and recognize the rural nature of the area outside of the city limits.

For additional information on this redistribution, please see pages 33 and 34.

Redistribution of Electoral Districts in Porter Creek

Population in the Whistle Bend area is projected to approach 10,000 by 2039. Shorter term projections suggest there will be over 2,500 electors in the neighbourhood by 2026, and the area is currently designed to accommodate the highest density population of any electoral district in Whitehorse. While obligated to undertake redistribution that allows for such growth, members of the Commission took a cautious and measured approach, and determined that at its current pace, growth by 2026 was not likely to achieve this maximum potential.

- Porter Creek electoral district would accommodate the established neighbourhoods of Porter Creek south of Wann Road, and from Range Road to the Alaska Highway.
- Whistle Bend electoral district would accommodate recent, ongoing and projected growth in the new neighbourhood, as well as the continuing care facility and other approved current and future development plans.
- Whitehorse North would encompass the majority of the area north of Wann Road, along with MacKenzie, Kulan, Crestview, MacPherson and Hidden Valley.

For additional information on this redistribution, please see pages 32 and 33.

Redistribution of Electoral Districts within City Limits

Five changes are proposed to align electoral district boundaries with the boundary of the City of Whitehorse, in accordance with the *Act's* legal direction to consider municipal boundaries and create clear, recognizable boundaries. Proposed changes also recognize public input emphasizing the differences in the interests of city residents compared with those living in rural areas outside the city limits.

- Copperbelt South would include the southern part of Copper Ridge, Cowley Creek, Fox Haven, Hidden Haven, MacRae, Mary Lake, Mount Sima, Pineridge, Spruce Hill, Whitehorse Copper, Wolf Creek and Wolf Creek North.
- Lake Laberge would include Braeburn, Deep Creek, Fish Lake Road, Fox Lake, Grizzly Valley, Horse Creek, Ibex Valley, Lake Laberge, Miner's Ridge, Pilot Mountain, Takhini Hotsprings Road, Takhini River Road, and the Hotsprings area.
- Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake electoral district is detailed on page 5.
- Takhini-Kopper King would include the areas of Eagle Eye Estates, Kopper King, Range Point, Raven's Ridge, Takhini East, Takhini North, Takhini West, and Yukon College.
- Whitehorse North electoral district is detailed on page 5.

For additional information on this redistribution, please see pages 34.

Minor Redistributions

One minor change, affecting 2 electoral districts, is proposed in recognition of the travel patterns of residents in the McQuesten River area and their connection to Dawson City.

- Klondike would include Dawson City and surrounding areas, Eagle Plains, and the McQuesten River area.
- Mayo-Pelly electoral district is detailed on page 5.

A second minor change, also affecting two electoral districts, is proposed in recognition of development planned for the Copper Ridge area.

- Copperbelt North would see its northern boundary adjusted to accommodate future growth adjacent to Falcon Drive and North Star Drive and its southern boundary adjusted to fully include an industrial site projected to include connected residential units.
- Whitehorse West would have its boundary adjusted to encompass an area of existing and future development adjacent to Falcon Drive and North Star Drive.

For additional information on these minor redistributions, please see pages 42, 46, 50 and 62.

Details on the proposals for the boundaries and names of 20 electoral districts appear on pages 38 to 79 of this report.

Next Steps

The term of the Commission ends with the submission of this Final Report to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, under section 417 of the *Act*. Further steps with respect to the Final Report are outlined under section 418 of the *Act*.

Part One: Development Process for Proposals

Commission Members and Statutory Mandate

The *Act* sets out the 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. The Commission was fully appointed on May 3, 2017, in accordance with the *Act*.

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, upon the resignation of Mr. 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 1.

The *Act* directs the Commission “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.” The Commission's statutory mandate has been fulfilled.

- A process for receiving input to the Interim Report was established and began in June 2017.
- An Interim Report containing proposed electoral districts was submitted to the Legislative Assembly on November 20, 2017, within 7 months of the Commission's appointment.
- Public hearings were held in February and March 2018 to allow for public input on the proposals set out in the Interim Report.
- A Final Report containing proposed electoral districts, including their boundaries and names, was submitted to the Legislative Assembly within 5 months of the Interim Report.

Full legal authority is contained in Part 7 of the *Act*, which appears in Appendix 2.

Direction and Resources

The review of electoral districts is designed to ensure that electors have effective representation within electoral districts, reflecting changes in communities across the territory. The review is conducted independent of government.

The Commission takes its direction from the *Elections Act*.

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.

The first task of the Commission is to review existing materials related to the distribution of electoral districts. In accordance with its mandate, the Commission took into consideration the following resources:

1. legal requirements, as outlined in legislation;
2. judicial decisions relating to the redistribution of electoral boundaries, from jurisdictions across the country;
3. deliberations and reports of previous commissions, going back as far as 1991, including existing electoral district maps;
4. report on the previous general election in Yukon;
5. projections of population growth throughout Yukon from a variety of sources, including presentations by the City of Whitehorse and Yukon Bureau of Statistics;
6. areas of future development, including residential and commercial development, proposed development by First Nations governments, and mining industry developments; and
7. demographic and economic trends in all communities.

Guiding Principles

In addition to the legislative mandate and direction, and 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:

1. A focus on public outreach is needed to give all Yukoners an opportunity to be included in the decision-making process.
2. The full set of considerations prescribed by the *Act* will be applied consistently to each situation.
3. The potential for personal or political gain is not a relevant factor for consideration.
4. Decision-making will consider judicial decisions and deliberations of past commissions.
5. Decisions must be fair and equitable.
6. 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.
7. Effective rural representation is needed to provide all electors with a voice in the Legislative Assembly.
8. Elector populations may be more than 25% outside the quotient where other considerations are persuasive.
9. While the Commission will review the boundary of each existing electoral district, where change is not needed existing boundaries will be maintained.
10. To the greatest extent possible, boundaries will be clearly defined by recognizable geographic features (rivers, main roadways, etc.) to provide a clear understanding.
11. To the greatest extent possible, boundaries will anticipate future growth and avoid the division of communities.

Very early in the Commission's deliberations, members unanimously agreed that the current level of representation was appropriate, with 19 representatives in the Legislative Assembly. As a result, it was agreed that every effort be made to keep the number of electoral districts at 19, in recognition of the financial impacts of increasing the number of electoral districts, particularly given Yukon's small population, multiple levels of government, and relatively high level of representation.

Part Two: Preparation of the Interim Report

Review of 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.

To begin, the Commission considered issues that had been identified in 2007/08 by the previous Commission. The most significant issues revolved around the configuration of the Pelly-Nisutlin electoral district, which included Faro, Little Salmon, Ross River and Teslin. While not the largest electoral district, Pelly-Nisutlin required the most travel by its elected representative to serve its population. The Commission committed to redistributing the affected communities to achieve more effective representation for the electors in that electoral district.

Another issue identified relates to the matter of electoral districts that encompass both urban and rural neighbourhoods. This issue has been raised across the country, and the previous Commission did take some preliminary steps towards separating rural from urban. The current Commission was prepared to move this effort forward, especially when public input also underscored the issue.

Finally, the Commission had to consider issues of projected growth and development trends. Given the nature of Yukon's small economy, the impact of resource development historically has had a significant, and sometimes disproportionate, impact on population. Through the initial review process, the Commission identified a need for change in some existing electoral districts to accommodate past development patterns and plans for future growth.

For example, in the existing electoral district of Porter Creek South, future residential development that was in the planning stages during the drafting of the 2008 report ultimately did not proceed. Consequently, this Commission undertook efforts to balance the elector population with electoral districts in surrounding areas that share similar characteristics. Likewise, the boundary in the adjacent electoral district of Porter Creek Centre was adjusted to accommodate the significant population increases expected with the expansion of the Whistle Bend community. Whistle Bend development has started, but has yet to achieve its full potential.

Interim Report

Initially the Commission proposed no change to the number of existing electoral districts, maintaining the current number of 19. The Interim Report proposed changes to the boundaries of 9 existing electoral districts.

1. Pelly-Nisutlin

Three changes were proposed in recognition of the shared travel patterns and cultural connections of residents in communities within the existing electoral district of Pelly-Nisutlin.

- With the proposed redistribution, Teslin was to be included in an electoral district with Carcross and Tagish; Ross River was to be included in an electoral district with Watson Lake; and Faro was to be included in an electoral district with Mayo, Pelly Crossing and Carmacks.
- These changes affected the boundaries of 4 existing electoral districts – Mayo-Tatchun, Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes, Pelly-Nisutlin, and Watson Lake.
- This redistribution was reflected in the boundaries for the electoral districts proposed in the Interim Report: Carcross-Tagish-Teslin, Mayo-Carmacks-Faro, and Watson Lake-Ross River.

2. Whistle Bend

Three changes were proposed to accommodate development in Porter Creek and future growth in the Whistle Bend community.

- The expected growth and expansion was divided into the interim proposals for the electoral districts of Porter Creek North and Whistle Bend.
- These changes affected the boundaries of 3 existing electoral districts – Porter Creek Centre, Porter Creek North, and Porter Creek South.

3. Copperbelt South and Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake

Two changes were proposed to realign communities within, and outside of, the City of Whitehorse in recognition of shared travel patterns and community interests.

- Separation of the rural and urban areas was reflected in the interim proposals for the electoral districts of Copperbelt South and Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake.
- These changes affected the boundaries of 2 existing electoral districts – Copperbelt South and Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes.

4. McQuesten River Area

One minor change was proposed in recognition of the travel patterns of residents in the McQuesten area and their connection to Dawson City.

- The connection of McQuesten to Dawson City was reflected in the proposed electoral districts of Klondike and Mayo-Carmacks-Faro.
- These changes affected the boundaries of 2 existing electoral districts – Klondike and Mayo-Tatchun.

Public Consultation and Engagement

The Commission is guided in its deliberations by the considerations set out in the *Act*, as shown in Part I of this report, under Direction and Resources. Public consultation is one of those considerations. The Commission agreed that public input was essential and placed considerable emphasis on the public outreach campaign.

Broad public input ensures that electors from communities across Yukon have a voice in shaping the areas that their MLAs will represent for the next two general elections. The Commission focused on encouraging participation and considered all comments received throughout the decision-making process.

The first phase of the public outreach campaign began in June 2017 and involved multiple forms of communications to reach all communities and demographics. Initial communications were designed to inform the public of the appointment, mandate, and timeline of the Commission and to solicit input from electors and other stakeholders.

Householder notices inviting input were mailed to residences across Yukon in early September 2017 to ensure electors were aware of the opportunity to help shape the future electoral map. Input received by October 1, 2017 was considered by the Commission in the development of interim proposals for electoral districts.

The second phase of communications began with the November 2017 release of the Interim Report, containing proposals for electoral districts. The Commission sought to encourage comments on the interim proposals, and to invite requests for public hearings.

The Commission accepted requests for public hearings from municipalities, First Nations, community groups, MLAs and members of the public. Due to limited timelines prescribed in the *Act*, requests for public hearings were required to be submitted by January 11, 2018. Despite the time constraints, the Commission received 13 requests for public hearings in 10 communities.

During and following preparation of the Interim Report, communications included the following:

1. Stakeholder letters were mailed in November 2017 to invite feedback on the interim proposals. Stakeholders included MLAs and registered political parties; First Nation and municipal governments; community, business, and labour organizations.
 - Stakeholder letters from June 2017 and November 2017, along with a complete list of stakeholders, all appear in Appendices 3 and 4.

2. 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:
 - June 2017 advertisements announced the appointment of the Commission and invited input.
 - September 2017 advertisements and household notices invited input for consideration in the interim proposals.
 - November/December 2017 advertisements announced the release of the Interim Report, encouraged comments on the proposals, and invited the public to request a public hearing in their communities.
 - January and February 2018 advertisements provided details of the public hearing schedule and locations.

Newspaper advertisements appear in Appendix 5.

3. Radio advertisements aired on CKRW and CHON in November 2017 and January 2018, inviting electors to participate in the electoral district redistribution process through written submissions and presentations at public hearings.
4. The website, initially launched in June 2017, continued to provide additional details and options for participation.
 - Written submissions were posted on the website to facilitate the exchange of ideas and public consideration of recommendations; a list of submissions appears in Appendix 6.
5. A social media campaign used Facebook and Twitter to reach people who follow current events online.
 - Messaging was updated regularly to provide ongoing information on Commission activities.
 - Social media posts and inquiries were responded to as promptly as possible.
6. Public comment and social media discussions occurred, and were monitored, throughout the process.

Written submissions were invited throughout the Commission's term, allowing a total of 9 months for submissions to be made. Forty-two written submissions were received: 7 were received prior to the preparation of the interim proposals and 35 were received following the release of the Interim Report.

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 that were most convenient for them.

Responses to the Interim Report

Provisions of the *Act* ensure that public consultation will occur throughout the process of electoral district redistribution. This process included the release of a report containing interim proposals and the conduct of public hearings following its release.

This process provides an opportunity for electors and other stakeholders to consider the initial proposals of the Commission and their effect on Yukon communities. The process also allowed communities to offer alternate recommendations and identify key principles from a local perspective.

The release of the Interim Report on November 20, 2017 was accompanied by an invitation for public input. Comments on the interim proposals, made via written submissions and in person at public hearings, were considered by the Commission in these final proposals. Social media traffic was also monitored and comments were considered.

All input received by March 10, 2018 – written, verbal, formal presentations, social media traffic and other forms – was considered by the Commission in preparing the final proposals for electoral districts.

Public Presentations and Comments

Prior to the January 11, 2018 deadline, the Commission received requests for public hearings to be conducted in 10 Yukon communities. The Commission visited each community that requested a public hearing, as well as 2 additional communities that would be affected by redistribution of electoral districts. Everyone who attended a public hearing was welcome and encouraged to share their views, in addition to more formal presentations made by registered presenters.

In February 2018, the Commission held public hearings in Carcross, Marsh Lake, Mount Lorne, Tagish, Teslin, and Whitehorse. In the course of these public hearings, community members made 30 presentations.

Presenters included representatives of First Nations and local governments; current and former MLAs; representatives of local advisory councils; and members of the public. All input was considered by the Commission in the preparation of the final proposals.

Carcross – Marsh Lake – Mount Lorne – Tagish – Teslin

A number of presentations and written submissions were received in response to the interim proposals for the electoral districts of Carcross-Tagish-Teslin and Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake. These submissions provided a great deal of insight into the communities' values, connections and concerns.

- Most of the presentations emphasized a strong community identity of rural residents with rural lifestyles, in response to a description of the electoral district as experiencing “increased ‘urbanization’.”

- Elector populations in Mount Lorne and Marsh Lake increased significantly from 2000 to 2016¹; a trend that has not been evident in other rural areas. However, the description of Mount Lorne and Marsh Lake as increasingly “urban” was not supported by presenters.
- The Interim Report described the communities of Mount Lorne and Marsh Lake as country-residential, with easy access to facilities and services within Whitehorse. This description was not supported in presentations to the Commission. It is more accurate to say that the area contains Rural Residential lots and that residents’ proximity to Whitehorse affords them access to the city’s facilities more readily than residents of more distant communities.
- Some presentations favoured the inclusion of the entire Southern Lakes region in one electoral district.
- A number of presentations recommended continuity, since electoral district boundaries in this area were changed by electoral district redistribution in 2002 and 2008.
- While some participants at a number of public hearings supported the Commission’s commitment to maintaining the number of electoral districts at 19 for matters of fiscal prudence; others felt that need for effective rural representation outweighed the costs associated with the addition of an electoral district.

Whitehorse – Whistle Bend

A number of presentations and written submissions were received in response to the interim proposals for the electoral districts of Porter Creek North, Porter Creek South, and Whistle Bend.

- Most presentations related to the population growth in these areas and agreed that achieving a population balance in these electoral districts was desirable. There were different views expressed on the actual growth that could be expected in Whistle Bend within the term of the boundaries proposed in the Interim Report.
- Some members of the public suggested that the population figures for the established area of Porter Creek were understated, given ongoing development and a trend towards replacing single family residences with multi-family dwellings. Others suggested that the new areas of Whistle Bend would have different priorities than the established community of Porter Creek, and that future development in the Whistle Bend community should be contained in one electoral district.

¹ Marsh Lake grew from 260 in 2000 to 522 in 2016; Mount Lorne grew from 242 in 2000 to 418 in 2016. Elector populations were taken from the Lists of Electors, as recorded in previous election reports. Electoral district and polling division boundaries changed over time, so the geographic areas compared were not identical.

In March 2018, the Commission held public hearings in Carmacks, Faro, Mayo, Pelly Crossing, Ross River and Watson Lake. In the course of these public hearings, community members made 33 presentations.

Presenters included representatives of First Nations and local governments; current and former MLAs; representatives of local Chambers of Commerce; and members of the public.

Carmacks – Faro – Mayo – Pelly Crossing

There was strong engagement from all the communities within the proposed electoral district of Mayo-Carmacks-Faro. Presentations and written submissions in response to the interim proposals generally supported change for the Pelly-Nisutlin electoral district, but not the redistribution set forth in the Interim Report. The submissions overall provided a great deal of insight into the values, connections and concerns of these communities.

- Initial responses to the Interim Report supported the need to make changes to the Pelly-Nisutlin electoral district; however, they did not support the redistribution of Faro into this proposed electoral district.
- Some participants in public hearings indicated that they wanted the Mayo-Tatchun electoral district to remain unchanged, and to keep the Northern Tutchone First Nations in one electoral district.
- The Village of Mayo was willing to consider a range of options, including the redistribution of Faro to their electoral district. While they had a preference to have the electoral district of Mayo-Tatchun remain unchanged, they also indicated their understanding of the rationale for the proposed redistribution.
- Some members of the public were not aware that Little Salmon was in the Pelly-Nisutlin electoral district; the majority supported the idea of having Little Salmon included in the same electoral district as Carmacks.
- Some community members expressed concern that the proposed redistribution would result in a geographic area too large for electors to reasonably expect effective representation.
- Some members of the public expressed a desire for Faro to remain connected to Ross River, due to their proximity, interdependency for housing and economic development, common transportation corridor and intrinsic cultural connections.
- The Town of Faro made an extensive presentation which included two alternatives to the redistribution proposed in the Interim Report:
 1. an electoral district encompassing Faro and Ross River, similar to the existing electoral district, but without the Teslin area; or
 2. an electoral district encompassing Carmacks, Faro and Ross River, centered along the Robert Campbell Highway.

These alternatives were shared with all other affected communities and First Nations, in advance of the public hearings, and they were available on the Commission's website.

- During the course of the Commission's visits to the communities in this area, significant developments were announced regarding mining operations near Mayo which are expected to result in population growth in the Mayo area.
- While some participants at a number of public hearings supported maintaining the number of electoral districts at 19 for matters of fiscal prudence, others felt that need for effective rural representation outweighed the costs associated with the addition of an electoral district.

Ross River – Watson Lake

As was the case with other rural communities, a number of members of the public provided input related to the interim proposal for the electoral district of Watson Lake-Ross River. The need for some form of redistribution of the Pelly-Nisutlin electoral district was acknowledged and supported; but the specific changes proposed in the Interim Report were not supported.

- The majority of participants at public hearings did not support the redistribution of Ross River into this proposed electoral district.
- Presentations were made by the Town of Watson Lake, Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce and the MLA for Watson Lake, along with several members of the community. Most presentations were opposed to the proposed redistribution.
- A number of Ross River residents acknowledged the need for some form of redistribution and referenced family connections between the two communities; that said, they were mainly supportive of any change that would provide them with more effective representation.
- A number of presentations and informal comments expressed general concern regarding the poor conditions of the Robert Campbell Highway, between Ross River and Watson Lake, and the physical distance between the two communities. It was felt that an MLA would not be able to provide effective representation to both communities.
- While some participants at a number of public hearings supported maintaining the number of electoral districts at 19 for matters of fiscal prudence, others felt that need for effective rural representation outweighed the costs associated with the addition of an electoral district.

Part Three: Preparation of the Final Report

The first step in the preparation of the Final Report was a review all of the submissions made at public hearings, along with all the written submissions received prior to the March 10, 2018 deadline. The Commission revisited the Guiding Principles established at the outset of its deliberations, including the need to apply the full set of considerations to every situation and to respect the special circumstances of Yukon (see page 9 for full list).

The Commission also relied on extensive resource material during its final deliberations:

- reports of past Electoral District Boundaries Commissions;
- legal requirements prescribed by the *Elections Act*;
- judicial decisions relating to redistribution of electoral district boundaries;
- projections on growth of elector populations in Yukon, along with information about areas of planned future development, such as the Whistle Bend community and the potential development of the Coffee and Eagle Gold projects; and
- demographic and economic trends within all the communities.

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.

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

Legal Requirements Prescribed by the *Elections Act*

Section 419 of the *Elections Act* sets out the following considerations, which the Commission used to assess each proposed electoral district:

- (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.

The factors on this list are considered together, and not in isolation. As such 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”.

This case holds that section 3 does not guarantee the equality of voting power. Moreover, 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.

As Madam Justice McLachlin further stated:

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.

...there is little in the history or philosophy of Canadian democracy that suggests that the framers of the *Charter* in enacting s. 3 had as their ultimate goal the attainment of voter parity.... the goal was to recognize the right long affirmed in this country ... to effective representation in a system which gives due weight to voter parity but admits other considerations where necessary...departures from the Canadian ideal of effective representation may exist. Where they do, they will be found to violate s. 3 of the *Charter*....effective representation and good government in this country compel those charged with setting electoral boundaries sometimes to take into account factors other than voter parity, such as geography and community interests.

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 10 electoral districts were under-represented, including those in all electoral 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: widespread geographic area, communities without year-round road access, costly air travel, and First Nations without settled land claims. Those unique features 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.

The Commission carefully reviewed these precedents and has used them to inform the proposals outlined in this report.

Projections of Population Growth and Areas of Future Development

In considering population projections, the Commission relied primarily on figures compiled by the Yukon Bureau of Statistics (YBS). Statistical models prepared by YBS incorporate historical and future economic growth data to produce a projection of Yukon's future population. In comparison, total populations in the 2016 census data and Statistics Canada 2026 projections tend to be lower than data provided by YBS.

The Commission further relied on information shared by the City of Whitehorse and the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. The Commission also recognized the value of community knowledge, recognizing that detailed local awareness of growing communities – such as the Whistle Bend expansion – and anticipated economic growth with planned development – like the Eagle Gold project – could be used to augment statistical information. The information reviewed sometimes lacked sufficient detail for the Commission's purposes, so the Commission has endeavoured to balance technical advice with local input in drafting its proposals.

Electoral district boundaries are in place for 2 general elections. Given that the maximum term of a Legislative Assembly is 5 years, in accordance with the *Yukon Act S.C. 2002, c.7*, population projections for 2026 were used. Based on the 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 the surrounding area²
- an increase of 417 in Dawson City
- a decrease of 75 in Watson Lake
- an increase of 583 in areas outside these three main centers

Working with any long-range projections for population growth is challenging. As the list above suggests, the majority of growth is expected in Whitehorse. Based on information provided by the City of Whitehorse, much of growth within the city will occur in the Whistle Bend neighbourhood.

² As defined by Yukon Bureau of Statistics (see www.eco.gov.yk.ca/stats/ybs.html)

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 stages.

The deliberations of this Commission have also been informed by developments in the Porter Creek South electoral district. Significant growth was anticipated in that electoral district, based on planned development for the McIntyre Creek area. That development did not move forward as expected; as a result, that electoral district had fewer than 900 electors, compared to 1,546 and 1,379 in adjacent electoral districts – so the elector populations were not equitable. In considering this scenario, the Commission has tempered its approach to projections for the Whistle Bend neighbourhood.

While carefully considering the projected population growth, the Commission recognized that the pace of construction is subject to the demand for housing, available capacity of local builders and variable zoning issues; all factors that could affect the 2026 population in the Whistle Bend community. Progress on the Whistle Bend care facility would also have an impact on the pace of growth in this area.

While limited population increases are anticipated in communities other than Whitehorse, 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. Indeed, while the Commission was holding a public hearing in Mayo, there was an announcement that major financing had been put in place for Victoria Gold's Eagle Gold mining development near Mayo. Work on the clean-up of the Faro mine has increased, and could develop further, and multiple efforts are underway to develop significant tourism business in the Carcross and Teslin areas.

Demographic and Economic Trends

Outside the areas of concentrated growth, current trends in development plans could affect the population in several electoral districts. The Commission considered the development patterns and proposals for development, including:

1. infill development in Whitehorse and surrounding areas;
2. addition of rental units to existing residences in response to incentives offered to Whitehorse homeowners;
3. acquisition and development of privately owned land parcels;
4. potential replacement of single family residences with multi-family residences;
5. subdivision of agricultural parcels;
6. addition of residences on properties outside of Whitehorse;
7. the conversion of seasonal homes to year-round use; and
8. First Nations governments' planned residential development of settlement land parcels.

Developing a Quotient (Average Elector Population)

The previous Commission noted that, unlike a number of other provinces and territories, Yukon's *Elections Act* does not establish an acceptable population variance from the average, nor does it comment on the application of separate variances 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. Based on considerable public input, this Commission deemed that a greater variance was warranted in a number of cases. Rationale are provided for proposed electoral districts where the population is projected to be more than 25% below the variance or to exceed the variance by more than 25% in 2026 (see pages 31 and 32).

The effect of population density was considered within the context of the other 8 considerations under the *Act*, to ensure that effective representation is maintained in the smaller communities spread across Yukon. The Commission considered geographic conditions, including the size of electoral districts and accessibility, in conjunction with travel distances and road quality. The Elector Population Density table on page 26 shows the comparable sizes of all the electoral districts.

Application of the Quotient

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.

As previously indicated, the Commission followed the practice of past commissions in applying a quotient based on the projected number of electors. The most recent official lists 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 19 to derive the electoral quotient. While 20 electoral districts are proposed, the elector population (175) of Vuntut Gwitchin³ 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: $\frac{29,152 - 175}{20 - 1} = 1,525$

The resulting average of electoral district populations (the quotient) is 1,525. The acceptable variance of +/-25% establishes a guideline for elector populations ranging from 1,144 to 1,906.

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.

³ Application of additional considerations prescribed by the *Act* to the electoral district of Vuntut Gwitchin appears in Part Four: Final Proposals.

Elector Population Projections and Variances

Proposed Electoral District	2016 Elector Population ⁴	2026 Elector Population Projection	Variance from the 2026 Quotient (1,525)
Carcross-Tagish-Teslin	931	1,010	-33.77
Carmacks-Faro-Ross River	799	838	-45.05
Copperbelt North	1,639	1,719	+12.72
Copperbelt South	1,318	1,385	-9.18
Klondike	1,399	1,760	+15.41
Kluane	927	983	-35.54
Lake Laberge	1,184	1,255	-17.70
Mayo-Pelly	692	734	-51.87
Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake	1,162	1,272	-16.59
Mountainview	1,537	1,614	+5.84
Porter Creek	2,019	2,060	+35.08
Riverdale North	1,413	1,488	-2.43
Riverdale South	1,471	1,707	+11.93
Takhini-Kopper King	1,881	1,966	+28.92
Vuntut Gwitchin	175	175	-88.52
Watson Lake	936	904	-40.72
Whistle Bend	357	2,634	+72.72
Whitehorse Centre	1,640	2,059	+35.02
Whitehorse North	1,775	2,002	+31.28
Whitehorse West	1,413	1,587	+4.07

⁴ Totals reflect elector populations within the newly proposed electoral district boundaries. Where boundaries have changed, totals will not be consistent with those in existing electoral districts at the time of the 2016 general election.

Elector Population Density

Proposed Electoral District	Area in Square Kilometers	Population Density (Number of Electors per Square Kilometer)⁵	2026 Elector Population Projection
Carcross-Tagish-Teslin	28,130.25	0.036	1,010
Carmacks-Faro-Ross River	66,569.17	0.013	838
Copperbelt North	30.99	55.477	1,719
Copperbelt South	95.27	14.537	1,385
Klondike	72,145.14	0.024	1,760
Kluane	67,726.82	0.015	983
Lake Laberge	14,751.39	0.085	1,255
Mayo-Pelly	104,285.43	0.007	734
Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake	4,546.95	0.280	1,272
Mountainview	10.87	148.439	1,614
Porter Creek	7.12	289.301	2,060
Riverdale North	85.67	17.370	1,488
Riverdale South	58.50	29.182	1,707
Takhini-Kopper King	52.97	37.116	1,966
Vuntut Gwitchin	70,594.95	0.002	175
Watson Lake	56,099.80	0.016	904
Whistle Bend	6.39	412.515	2,634
Whitehorse Centre	6.11	337.101	2,059
Whitehorse North	63.00	31.779	2,002
Whitehorse West	2.87	552.661	1,587

⁵ Electoral district areas have been rounded for the purpose of presentation. Density calculations are affected minimally by this rounding.

Proposed Electoral Districts

The Commission now proposes 20 electoral districts. While the Commission initially felt very strongly that 19 electoral districts achieved the goal of effective representation, and proposed maintaining that number in the Interim Report, information received during the consultation process demonstrated to the Commission that an additional electoral district was justified, and indeed necessary. In broad terms, of the 20 proposed electoral districts, 11 are characterized as urban and 9 as rural. The average elector population of rural electoral districts is 1,095 (excluding Vuntut Gwitchin), while urban electoral districts average 1,838.

The diverse characteristics of urban and rural electoral districts were considered: size, physical features, accessibility of the areas, transportation patterns, cultural connections and communications. The Commission agreed that these disparities are best addressed by creating urban electoral districts with elector populations close to the maximum acceptable variance of 1,906 and rural electoral districts that are closer to the minimum acceptable variance of 1,144.

Travel to rural communities is time-consuming and, for much of the year, is dependent on weather. Both are factors that affect the ability of MLAs to serve electors in the various communities.

Most of the electoral districts contain a number of small communities, increasing the likelihood that an MLA 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 Nations governance, others rely more on their MLA for assistance in identifying and accessing services.

Throughout the course of the consultation with outlying communities, the Commission repeatedly heard concerns from rural residents that decisions affecting their livelihoods were disproportionately being influenced by the greater number of urban electoral districts. While the proportion of electors residing within the Whitehorse city limits is approaching three quarters of Yukon's total, the city accounts for less than 1% of the land mass.

The Commission believes that the proposed addition of a rural electoral district addresses these concerns and provides a measured ratio of urban to rural influence in the representation within the Legislative Assembly. The Commission is satisfied that these proposals reflect the considerations set out in the *Act*, with the goal of effective representation for all electors in Yukon. Most rural electoral districts fall below the +/-25% variance, and the Commission agreed that greater variances were warranted in those cases.

Past commissions similarly established rural electoral districts with populations that were more than 25% below the quotient. This Commission seeks to respect the +/-25% variance where possible, but also to allow 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.”

Final Proposals

The Commission’s final proposals include the addition of 1 electoral district and a redistribution that affects the boundaries of 12 existing electoral districts. The proposed addition and redistribution are needed to accommodate growth, to connect areas that share common characteristics and transportation patterns, and to address the effect of limited accessibility and significant distances between communities. The boundaries of municipalities and First Nations’ Traditional Territories were considered and incorporated where possible, as were historical and cultural connections of communities.

The proposals seek to address five main issues:

- historic challenges to providing reasonable and effective representation for electors in the Pelly-Nisutlin electoral district;
- the impact of adding one electoral district;
- projections for unprecedented growth in the Whistle Bend neighbourhood;
- increasing population growth and community development in the existing electoral district of Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes; and
- the distinct interests of rural residents.

1. Providing reasonable and effective representation for electors in Pelly-Nisutlin

Faro and Ross River are located in the northern part of this large electoral district. These two communities have strong economic ties and are located 77 kilometers apart on the same road. They share accessibility and environmental issues, as well as geography. Teslin, located in the southernmost part of the electoral district, has significantly different geographical influences, transportation patterns, and, consequently, different cultural connections.

Concerns related to the existing electoral district of Pelly-Nisutlin date back to the previous Commission’s mandate. In the 2007/2008 review of electoral districts, that Commission noted particular concerns for electors in 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 the included communities.” These challenges, which have a significant impact for the representation of all electors in the communities of Faro and Ross River, have not lessened appreciably over the past decade.

The Commission received public input suggesting that Teslin should not be included with the other communities in the existing Pelly-Nisutlin electoral district due to a lack of common interest and an “overriding” influence on the electoral district. Presentations at the February public hearings expressed strong support for boundaries that include Teslin with other communities within the Southern Lakes region.

One 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 MLA is able to spend in each community. Another submission pointed out the challenges of travel within the existing electoral district, and recommended that Carcross, Tagish and Teslin be combined into one electoral district, citing the communities’ geographic and cultural ties. There was also a suggestion that Ross River and Watson Lake had a cultural connection that would support combining those two communities into one electoral district. And finally, one submission proposed combining Ross River with Carmacks and Faro, given their connections along the Robert Campbell Highway.

The Commission agreed unanimously that the communities in the existing electoral district of Pelly-Nisutlin required special attention with respect to 3 of the 8 considerations set out in the *Act*, section 419, namely sub-sections (b), (c) and (f):

- (b) the accessibility, size and physical characteristics of any area;
- (c) the facilities and patterns of transportation and communication within and between different areas;
- (f) any special circumstances relating to the existing electoral districts.

While not the largest electoral district, Pelly-Nisutlin involves travel south of Whitehorse to Teslin on the Alaska Highway, and also north on the Klondike and Robert Campbell highways. Travelling from Teslin to Ross River takes approximately 10 hours, a distance of over 580 kilometers. For the last 70 kilometers of the journey, conditions of the road are frequently poor. In contrast, the driving distances involved in two other large electoral districts, Kluane and Klondike, are 445 kilometers (approximately five and a half hours) and 532 kilometers (approximately 7 hours) respectively, along a primary highway. In addition, services and amenities are lacking, particularly for the community of Ross River, and to a lesser degree, Faro. Internet access is severely limited in Ross River, further reducing the community’s level of access.

Today the community of Ross River arguably faces greater accessibility issues than Old Crow. For example, there are no regularly scheduled flights to Ross River, yet there are regular flights to Old Crow, connecting electors to the capital city in under three hours (depending on routing). Travel on the South Canol Road is an option only during the summer months; because the narrow road has no services and is unpaved, it’s not typically used. Residents of Ross River, however, can face up to an 8-hour drive to Whitehorse (via Carmacks) or a 6-hour drive to Watson Lake. Winter conditions often make the drive hazardous, sometimes impossible, for both electors and their MLA. Transportation conditions this difficult, over these distances, do not affect any other community in the territory to the same extent.

The Commission also recognized significant special circumstances faced by electors in the Ross River area. The Ross River Dena Council has not settled its land claims, and as such the MLA and the Yukon Government have broader responsibilities with respect to providing supports for Ross River Dena, compared to beneficiaries of Self-Governing First Nations. Additionally, the community of Ross River is unincorporated and is therefore without a municipal council, further adding to area residents' dependence on the territorial government.

The community of Faro faces issues similar to Ross River, but to a lesser degree. The two communities share resources and have a degree of interdependence. Some residents of Faro work in Ross River, and vice versa. In addition, the remediation of the Faro mine will continue to influence and affect the area for decades, having a significant impact on the environment and the economy of both communities.

Given these interconnections, the Commission concludes that Ross River and Faro should be included in a single electoral district. Further, with such a large and complex remediation project, involving federal, territorial and First Nation governments, electors in these communities would benefit from a smaller, less populous electoral district, allowing for more focused representation.

The Commission further acknowledges the transportation patterns and historical connections along the Robert Campbell Highway, for residents in Carmacks, Faro, Ross River, and also Little Salmon. The Town of Faro submitted a proposal to the Commission, suggesting two alternatives to the boundaries set out in the Interim Report:

1. an electoral district encompassing Faro and Ross River, similar to the existing electoral district, but without the Teslin area; or
2. an electoral district encompassing Carmacks, Faro and Ross River, centered along the Robert Campbell Highway.

Copies of this proposal were provided to all affected municipalities and First Nations councils prior to the public hearings held in March. Most of the responses to their alternatives were informal and generally supportive. The second option presented by the Town of Faro largely informed the Commission's final proposal.

In comparison to Ross River and Faro, the community of Teslin is relatively close to Whitehorse (177 kilometers) and easily accessible for electors and their MLA by way of the Alaska Highway. In addition, electors in the Teslin area have access to multiple levels of government. Taking into account information presented to the Commission, along with the considerations identified in the *Act*, Teslin has fewer connections to Ross River and Faro – different geography, different cultures, and different transportation patterns.

Teslin does, however, have strong cultural connections with Carcross and Tagish, deep historical connections throughout the Southern Lakes area, and shared transportation patterns with Carcross and Tagish. Given these considerations, the Commission proposes an electoral district which encompasses the three communities of Carcross, Tagish and Teslin. In summary, the Commission's final proposal for the existing Pelly-

Nisutlin electoral district involves the establishment of 1 new electoral district – Carmacks-Faro-Ross River – and redistribution in 2 other electoral districts: Carcross-Tagish-Teslin and Mayo-Pelly.

While these electoral districts will have population variances lower than 25% below the quotient, the Commission concludes that the considerations and special circumstances set out above warrant these greater variances. While the Mayo-Pelly electoral district will have the lowest elector population (excepting Vuntut Gwitchin), it will be the largest electoral district geographically. This proposal is in keeping with a statement by the 1991 Commission:

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.

2. Impact of adding one rural electoral district

Adding one electoral district has a significant impact on the average elector population per electoral district, reducing it to 1,525 from the 1,610 calculated in the Interim Report. This lower elector population average results in a smaller range for the quotient, so the acceptable variance ranges from 1,144 to 1,906. The consequence of this change is that some urban electoral districts are projected to have elector populations in 2026 with variances greater than 25% above the acceptable variance: for example, Porter Creek and Whitehorse Centre.

Yukon Electoral District Boundaries Commissions have adopted the +/-25% variance established by Canadian common law because Yukon's legislation does not provide statutory direction regarding an acceptable population variance, nor does it comment on the application of separate variances for urban and rural electoral districts.

The constraints inherent to the application of this "acceptable" population variance in Yukon results in a number of challenges for this Commission. Adhering firmly to the +/-25% variance could result in electoral districts with complicated, and possibly impractical, boundaries. Rural electoral districts would end up being extremely large physically, with poor accessibility and little concern for patterns of transportation or the boundaries of municipalities and First Nations (much like the situation found in the existing Pelly-Nisutlin electoral district). Providing effective representation for such electoral districts would be extremely difficult.

The converse is also true, that changes to electoral boundaries can result in urban electoral districts having higher numbers of electors. The Commission strives to balance these competing interests, keeping in mind the overarching principle that the ultimate goal is overall effective representation.

In carrying out its mandate, the Commission is obliged to respect all 9 considerations prescribed under section 419 of the *Act*, and not just the population of an electoral district. Where variances would exceed the +/-25% Canadian common law standard – either above or below the quotient – the Commission has carefully reviewed the other 8 considerations, and also examined the projected population numbers in other nearby electoral districts.

While the 4 electoral districts listed below would have projected elector populations that exceed the 25% variance, the projected numerical differences are relatively low (see the Elector Population Projections and Variances table on page 25). All 4 of these electoral districts have similar characteristics – they are reasonably compact and accessible, both for the residents and their MLA. The elector projections for population in each of these electoral districts are all close to 2,000:

Porter Creek	2,060
Takhini-Kopper King	1,966
Whitehorse North	2,002
Whitehorse Centre	2,059

These 4 projected elector populations range from 128 to 222 greater than the average population of the proposed 11 urban electoral districts (1,838). For context, at the time of the 2016 general election, the elector population of the Takhini-Kopper King electoral district was 1,904. Given this comparison, as well as the other characteristics listed above, the Commission concludes that these variances are acceptable.

3. Unprecedented growth projected for Whistle Bend

The lists of electors from the 2016 general election show an elector population of 357 in the neighbourhood of Whistle Bend. It is estimated that the elector population has since increased to approximately 600 (February 2018), with approximately 200 new dwellings constructed and occupied in the intervening time frame.

Early projections for the neighbourhood of Whistle Bend have indicated that there will be approximately 6,000 electors (8,000 to 10,000 residents) by 2039. While planning for the development of Whistle Bend has not been finalized, it is clear that population growth will be higher in the Whistle Bend area than in any other part of Yukon.

Ongoing development in Whistle Bend includes both single and multi-unit dwellings. In addition, the new Whistle Bend care facility is scheduled to open in the fall of 2018, housing approximately 150 residents and requiring a significant number of new staff, many of whom are anticipated to reside in close proximity. Completion of the neighbourhood expansion is dependent on a number of external factors, including the demand for housing, capacity of local builders, and zoning or other issues that may arise. And, as experienced in the past, sometimes developments do not proceed as planned.

The difficulty of accurately predicting the rate of population growth for the electoral district of Whistle Bend was a significant consideration in the development of this proposal. The Commission relied on approved development plans, which can be reasonably expected to proceed and generate growth by 2026, but at the same time, applied a cautious approach when considering projections for the elector population.

Using official data, the elector population is projected to be 2,634 in 2026, which would be well above the acceptable variance. With the information available, including the rate of growth to date, the Commission expects that the elector population for the next election (expected by 2021) will be significantly higher than the current 600, but well below the 2026 projection of 2,634. For example, if the elector population continues to grow at the current rate, there would be approximately 1,400 electors by the fall of 2021. Additionally, should the care facility open and be fully occupied, there would be approximately 150 more electors, for a total of 1,550 electors, still considerably below the 2026 projection. However, looking beyond 2021 is far more difficult, and projections are far less certain.

The Commission proposes a separate electoral district for the new neighbourhood of Whistle Bend, recognizing the demonstrable growth to date, including developments recently approved. However, the Commission did not consider a rate of growth based on the early forecasts of 8,000 to 10,000 residents. The Commission agreed growth of that nature may not be realized within the term of this Commission's proposals, and it can reasonably be assumed to be spread out over a longer period of time. Of note, the neighbourhood has been designed to have the highest population density of any area within Whitehorse city limits. The Commission concludes that a variance significantly higher than acceptable is warranted in this case. However, the Commission also recognizes that the Whistle Bend electoral district may need to be revisited by the next Commission.

4. Increased population growth in the existing electoral district of Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes/Southern Lakes region

The existing electoral district of Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes includes the communities of Carcross, Marsh Lake, Mount Lorne and Tagish. The Interim Report proposed redistribution in 2 electoral districts to encompass all the communities within the Southern Lakes region, including Teslin.

A number of public comments recommended the inclusion of the Southern Lakes region in one electoral district. This proposed electoral district would include the entire Southern Lakes region: Carcross, Marsh Lake, Mount Lorne, Tagish, Teslin and surrounding areas. This configuration respects considerations related to transportation patterns, with relatively easy access for most of the residents and their MLA. In addition, many of the communities share common interests. The Commission considered this configuration in that light. However, the Commission also had to consider the overall size of the electoral district, and accessibility to the various neighbourhoods.

Significant growth has been experienced in some neighbourhoods, with the elector population doubling since 2000. The Commission also noted that the population density in some areas of the Southern Lakes is higher than in most other rural electoral districts. With the elector population projected to be 2,282 by 2026, this larger electoral district would be one of the most populous electoral districts in Yukon, with a much greater amount of travel required when compared to other electoral districts that have similar populations.

In addition, several developments are in planning stages which could result in greater population growth than currently forecast. Projections at the territorial and national levels do not always capture targeted growth in smaller communities.

The Commission proposes 2 electoral districts: Carcross-Tagish-Teslin and Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake. The projected elector population for the electoral district of Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake would be within the +/-25% variance. The proposed boundaries of Mount Lorne-Marsh Lake would encompass a distinctly rural electoral district, recognizing rural concerns, rural physical characteristics and transportation patterns.

The Carcross-Tagish-Teslin electoral district is projected to have an elector population that is below the acceptable variance of 25%, yet the actual elector population numbers are similar to several other rural electoral districts. Moreover, communities and First Nations in this proposed electoral district are working on development plans, some of which may be well underway by 2026, which would generate elector population growth not captured by the more general population projections. Carcross, Tagish and Teslin have strong cultural connections and deep historical interconnections throughout the area, as well as shared transportation patterns.

5. Distinct interests of rural and urban electors

The distinct interests of rural electors were emphasized during the public hearings. Presentations emphasized the significant impact of transportation challenges, water protection and management, land use and exploration, historic development, and culture that is unique to rural Yukon, regardless of proximity to the City of Whitehorse.

The *Act* establishes the consideration of municipal boundaries as one factor in the decision-making process. Presenters stressed the importance of these boundaries as an effective separation of rural and urban interests.

The previous Commission took some steps towards the separation of rural from urban, and this Commission undertook to continue that effort.

The Commission proposes redistribution of the electoral district boundaries of Copperbelt South, Lake Laberge, Takhini-Kopper King, and Whitehorse North to follow the municipal boundary of the City of Whitehorse. These redistributions do not impact population variances. However, two of these electoral districts do have higher variances. The details and explanations for those variances are covered earlier in Point 2: Impact of adding one rural electoral district.

Looking Ahead

The express function of the Commission, in accordance with the *Act*, is to make proposals on the boundaries, number, and names of the electoral districts in Yukon. In carrying out its statutory function, the Commission made a number of observations that are shared for consideration in future planning.

Observations for the Legislative Assembly:

Given the distribution of Yukon's population, the Commission was challenged to achieve a measured balance of urban/rural representation within the Canadian common law standard, which establishes an acceptable variance of 25% above or below the average electoral district population. Unlike a number of other Canadian jurisdictions, Yukon's legislation is silent on the matter of alternative means of addressing these challenges.

A more flexible approach to population averages and variances could enhance future commissions' efforts to maintain effective representation for Yukon's varied rural communities throughout Yukon's vast geographic area. Statutory direction to this effect could provide guidance to future commissions and would increase clarity in the recommendation process.

The confines of the legislated timelines required that strict deadlines were imposed, limiting the Commission's ability to obtain public response to the Interim Report and discussions that followed. Having the authority to request an extension to the deadline for Final Report submission would allow for an extended timeframe for public input following the conduct of public hearings.

Significant public engagement in response to the broad outreach campaign, and the use of social media, in particular, resulted in a number of challenges. The wealth of public input demanded a greater commitment of resources and Commission members' attention than was initially contemplated. Having greater flexibility to determine and adjust funding, staffing, and compensation relative to activity levels would ensure that public consultation is not limited by budgetary restrictions.

The Commission received expert advice on future development plans in Yukon. Major development, as in the Whistle Bend community, is difficult to accommodate with clear boundary lines when development is in the planning stage and city infrastructure has yet to be determined. A mechanism for making minor adjustments of electoral district boundaries by way of regulation would address the unintended consequences of a boundary splitting future residential development that could not be anticipated during the Commission's term.

The Commission anticipates this contingency would be limited to unique and extraordinary circumstances, where an adjustment to the line would not alter from the intentions of the legislation; for example, if a new single- or multi-unit housing development was constructed right on or across an electoral boundary, leaving a residence divided by the line.

Observations for Future Commissions:

This Commission advanced the preliminary steps taken by the previous Commission in aligning the boundaries of urban electoral districts with the municipal boundary of Whitehorse. As such, the need for clear, recognizable boundaries was prioritized over the need for balancing urban populations within the city. However, with this work now complete, future commissions may choose to revisit elector distribution within the City of Whitehorse, particularly if future development increases the population variances.

In the Whistle Bend community, the Commission created a clear, recognizable boundary using existing landmarks. If development meets or exceeds the growth projected for the area, the next Commission may be tasked with dividing the proposed electoral district to accommodate future expansion.

Finally, there were a significant number of comments regarding the special status of Vuntut Gwitchin – it came up at every public hearing and in a number of written submissions. On the one hand, it is acknowledged the electoral district continues to experience realities unique to its fly in-only location. On the other hand, members of the public observed that the challenges which existed in the past, with respect to accessibility and communication, are no longer as extreme. Given ongoing improvements in technology, regular air service to Whitehorse, and electronic communication, those challenges will continue to lessen. As such, future commissions should anticipate public dialogue on the special circumstances identified for this electoral district.

Part Four: Final Proposals

Proposed Electoral Districts With Changes to Existing Boundaries

Current elector populations are taken from the 2016 lists of electors, and then applied to the proposed electoral district boundaries.

This allows for comparison with the 2026 elector population projections within the same geographic areas.

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 Commission prioritized a redistribution of the Pelly-Nisutlin electoral district, which included Teslin, Faro and Ross River. This realigned electoral district, including Teslin, represents a more geographically accessible combination of communities.

The boundaries for this electoral district recognize the cultural connections of two Tlingit First Nations, as well as regional interests and common transportation patterns.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 931.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,010, 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 21 minutes 20 seconds north and longitude 134 degrees 54 minutes 30 seconds west, then due east to the centre line of the Klondike Highway, then northerly along that centre line to the point of intersection of latitude 60 degrees 22 minutes 20 seconds north and longitude 134 degrees 46 minutes 50 seconds west, then due east to longitude 133 degrees 45 minutes west, then due north to latitude 61 degrees 32 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.

Carmacks-Faro-Ross River

The proposed electoral district of Carmacks-Faro-Ross River is created by combining the southern portion of the existing electoral district of Mayo-Tatchun and the northern portion of the existing electoral district of Pelly-Nisutlin. The communities of Carmacks, Little Salmon, Faro, and Ross River are included.

The Commission was committed to revisiting representation for Faro and Ross River from the outset. A number of options were considered for a redistribution of the existing electoral district of Pelly-Nisutlin, which had included Faro, Ross River, and Teslin.

The boundaries reunite the First Nations communities of Little Salmon and Carmacks, maintain the intrinsic connection between Faro and Ross River, and reflect the transportation patterns along the Robert Campbell Highway.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 799.

The projected 2026 elector population is 838, 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 Carmacks-Faro-Ross River 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 27 minutes 30 seconds north, then due east to longitude 135 degrees 45 minutes 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 southeasterly along that boundary to latitude 61 degrees 45 minutes north, then due west to longitude 131 degrees west, then due south to latitude 61 degrees 32 minutes north, then due west to longitude 133 degrees 45 minutes west, then due north to latitude 61 degrees 45 minutes north, then due west to the point of commencement.

Copperbelt North

Two minor changes are proposed to the existing electoral district of Copperbelt North to accommodate future development that has been identified adjacent to the electoral district of Whitehorse West.

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

The current elector population is 1,639.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,719; 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 North Star Drive, then southerly along that centre line to the centre line of Iron Horse Drive, then due west to a point at the intersection of latitude 61 degrees 41 minutes 34 seconds north and longitude 135 degrees 8 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 Alaska Highway, then southeasterly along that centre line to the southwest boundary of land parcel KDFN C-9 5B (Old Laundry Road), then easterly along the southern boundary of land parcels KDFN C-9 5B and KDFN C-31B (Old Laundry Road) 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.

Copperbelt South

Two changes are proposed to the existing electoral district of Copperbelt South. These minor changes are to accommodate planned development in the vicinity of the northeastern electoral district boundary, and are based on public input for clear delineation between urban and rural electoral districts. The new boundary follows the southern city limits.

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 8 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 westerly, southwesterly, and northwesterly along that centre line to the southeast boundary of land parcel KDFN C-31B (Old Laundry Road), then westerly along the southern boundary of land parcels KDFN C-31B and KDFN C-9 5B (Old Laundry Road to the centre line of the Alaska Highway, then northerly to the point of commencement.

Klondike

One change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Klondike: the minor change accommodates the travel patterns of electors residing in the McQuesten River area who were previously included in the existing electoral district of Mayo-Tatchun.

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. While the projected elector population is greater than other rural electoral districts, Klondike includes Dawson City, the second largest incorporated community in Yukon.

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 longitude 141 degrees west (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 the centre line of the McQuesten River, then along that centre line 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.

Lake Laberge

One change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Lake Laberge: adjusting the electoral district boundary to follow the boundary of the City of Whitehorse, thereby removing the neighbourhoods of Hidden Valley and MacPherson, while adding the sparsely populated areas west of the Whitehorse city limits formerly included in the existing electoral districts of Porter Creek North and Takhini-Kopper King.

The proposed electoral district includes the Hamlet of Ibex Valley, the Hotsprings and Lake Laberge areas, Braeburn, Deep Creek, Horse Creek, Jackfish Bay, Pilot Mountain, Takhini Hotsprings Road, Takhini River Road, Fish Lake Road, and the subdivisions of Grizzly Valley and Miner's Ridge.

The proposed change completes work begun by the previous Commission, to clearly delineate rural districts from urban ones.

The Commission received public input from various Whitehorse periphery communities regarding the differing realities faced by residents within and without the Whitehorse city limits.

This particular change was proposed after the Interim Report and during the public consultation process. As such considerable input was received via written submissions.

Fulsome conversation about the proposed new boundary took place over social media; those discussions were monitored by the Commission and considered in its deliberations.

The current elector population is 1,184. Nominal growth is expected through further development in Grizzly Valley, although the timeframe is unknown. The boundary will accommodate future growth within the acceptable variance.

The projected 2026 population is 1,255; 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 northerly to a point of intersection of latitude 61 degrees 45 minutes north and longitude 136 degrees 30 minutes west, 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 to the northern limit of the City of Whitehorse, then westerly and southerly along the limit of the City of Whitehorse to a point of intersection at latitude 60 degrees 33 minutes 30 seconds north and longitude 135 degrees 3 minutes west, then due west to longitude 135 degrees 30 minutes west, then due north to the centre line of the Ibex River, then northwesterly along that centre line to the centre line of the Takhini River, then northeasterly 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.

Mayo-Pelly

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

The first change reflects the realities of logistics involved in effectively representing five communities (Pelly Crossing, Stewart Crossing, Mayo, Elsa and Keno) spread out over the largest electoral district in Yukon, with an area exceeding 100,000 square kilometers.

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 current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 692. There is potential for development through increased mining activity in the area, which could be accommodated within the variance.

The projected 2026 elector population is 734, which is below the acceptable variance. However, between the release of the Interim Report and close of public input, significant developments regarding mining operations in the area were announced, leading the Commission to believe the region is poised to experience considerably more growth than was projected earlier. The Commission agreed that this expectation of increased population growth justifies a variance greater than 25% below the elector quotient.

Electoral District Description

The proposed Electoral District of Mayo-Pelly consists of that part of Yukon bounded by a line commencing at the point of intersection of latitude 62 degrees 27 minutes 30 seconds 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 the centre line of the McQuesten River, then easterly along that centre line 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 135 degrees 45 minutes west, then due south to latitude 62 degrees 27 minutes 30 seconds 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 areas of development outside of the city.

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

The changes incorporate common realities of distinctly rural communities that are in the immediate periphery of Whitehorse. While distinctly rural, the experiences of residents vary from those in outlying communities: they are relatively closer to Whitehorse; the geographic size of the electoral district is smaller; and the population density is higher.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 1,162.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,272; 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 30 seconds north, then east to the south boundary of the limit of the City of Whitehorse, then easterly, northerly and westerly along the limit to the northeast boundary of the limit of the City of Whitehorse, then due east to longitude 133 degrees 45 minutes west, then due south to latitude 60 degrees 22 minutes 20 seconds north, then due west to the centre line of the Klondike Highway, then southerly along that centre line to latitude 60 degrees 21 minutes 20 seconds north, then due west to longitude 134 degrees 54 minutes 30 seconds 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

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 northeast boundary to Whistle Bend Way and includes the area east of Redwood Street; adding a portion of the existing electoral district of Porter Creek Centre.

These changes balance the elector population of the proposed electoral districts of Whitehorse North and Porter Creek.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 2,019, with limited potential for future growth. Porter Creek is a large, urban, established electoral district with many common realities. The proposed changes address the established neighborhood and common realities within an easily identifiable geographic area.

The projected 2026 elector population is 2,060, 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 Porter Creek 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 back lot line of the lots on the east side of Redwood Street, then northerly along that lot line to the back lot line of the lots on the north side of Cedar Crescent and Balsam Crescent, then southwesterly along the back lot line of Balsam Crescent to the intersection of Hickory Street and Whistle Bend Way, then southeasterly along the centre line of Whistle Bend Way to the centre line of Range Road, then southerly along that centre line to the centre line of McIntyre Creek, then southerly and westerly along that centre line to the point of commencement.

Takhini-Kopper King

One change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Takhini-Kopper King. The minor change is based on public input for clear delineation between urban and rural electoral districts. The new boundary follows the western city limits.

The existing electoral district includes Eagle Eye Estates, Kopper King, Range Point, Raven's Ridge, Takhini East, Takhini North, Takhini West, and Yukon College. There has been significant new development in the area.

The current elector population is 1,881. This is a large urban electoral district with densified developments.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,966, which is slightly 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 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 the limit of the City of Whitehorse, then southeasterly along that limit to a point of intersection of latitude 60 degrees 37 minutes north and longitude 135 degrees 8 minutes west, 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.

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 areas of current and future development in the Whistle Bend community. This community is expected to accommodate the vast majority of residential growth in the City of Whitehorse for the foreseeable future.

In 2010, the community was projected to have an elector population of approximately 6,000 electors (8,000 to 10,000 residents) by 2039. Given the pace of development, it is reasonable to expect that the area will have significant growth by 2026, but will not be fully completed.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary, based on the most recent List of Electors from the 2016 General Election, is 357. It is estimated that the elector population may have increased to approximately 600 electors by February 2018, with approximately 200 new dwellings occupied in a two-year timeframe. Growth is ongoing, with major development underway.

Completion of the Whistle Bend community is dependent on a number of external factors, including the demand for housing and capacity of local builders. It is impossible to accurately predict whether this population projection will be attained by 2026. However, it can be reasonably expected that the elector population could still be well below the average by November 2021; the latest date for the next election of Members of the Legislative Assembly.

The projected 2026 elector population is 2,634, which is above the acceptable variance. However, the Commission took a more cautious view of the timelines for the predicted growth than was estimated in projections provided. If actual growth meets or exceeds projected growth, this electoral district will need to be revisited by the next Commission. This Commission has attempted to have clearly defined boundaries that will facilitate future division.

The Commission agreed that the uncertainty with respect to the growth rate tempers the effect of the projected 2026 population variance, given that the project planning and completion schedule for all phases of development have not yet 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 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 Whistle Bend Way, then northerly and northwesterly along the back lot lines of Balsam Crescent and Cedar Crescent to the centre line of the Porter Creek Gravity Force Right of Way, then northeasterly along that centre line to the centre line of the Yukon River, then easterly and 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 and the centre line of Whistle Bend Way to the point of commencement.

Whitehorse 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. This balances the elector population of the proposed electoral districts of Whitehorse North and Porter Creek to accommodate future development.

The second change adjusts the north and west boundaries to follow the boundary of the City of Whitehorse, creating a clear, recognizable boundary. This proposed change is based on public input for clear delineation between urban and rural electoral districts, and the new northern boundary will follow the city limits.

This electoral district will bring together the areas of Hidden Valley, MacPherson and Crestview, which share common rural residential surroundings yet are within the city limits. Additionally, the electoral district includes MacKenzie, Kulan and the northern-most part of Porter Creek, which includes the majority of residences north of Wann Road.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 1,775, with ongoing development, infill building, and the transition of single family dwellings to multi-family residential.

The projected 2026 elector population is 2,002, 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 Whitehorse North 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 the limit of the City of Whitehorse, then northerly along the city limit to the centre line of the Takhini River, then easterly along that centre line to the Yukon River, then southerly along that centre line to the centre line of the Porter Creek Gravity Force Right of Way, then southwesterly along that centre line to the centre line of Oak Street, then southerly to the back lot line of the lots on the east side of Redwood Street, then southerly along the lot line to the centre line of Wann Road, then southwesterly along that centre line to the centre line of the Alaska Highway, then southerly along that centre line to the point of commencement.

Whitehorse West

One change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Whitehorse West. The minor change accommodates future development that has been identified adjacent to the electoral district of Copperbelt North.

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

The current elector population is 1,413, with planned development in Copper Ridge and additional potential for future growth from infill development and the addition of suites to existing residences.

The projected 2026 elector population is 1,587; 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 8 minutes west, then due south to a point due west of the intersection of North Star Drive and Iron Horse Drive, then due east to the centre line of the intersection of North Star Drive and Iron Horse Drive, then northerly along the centre line of North Star Drive to the centre line of Falcon Drive, then northerly along 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.

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

Kluane

No change is proposed to the existing electoral district of Kluane, which is very large and encompasses several communities.

The majority of the population is in Haines Junction and surrounding area, with the boundary extending north to include the 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. 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 (the southern boundary of Yukon), then westerly and northerly along the southern and western boundary of Yukon 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 earliest communities. It has natural, recognizable boundaries along the Yukon River and the city limits, and a fairly established 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 earliest communities. It has natural, recognizable boundaries along the Yukon River and the city limits, and a fairly established 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.

Vuntut Gwitchin

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

Since 1978, special circumstances have been identified and supported by past Commissions. 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 Commission acknowledges the ongoing realities unique to this electoral district, however based on significant public input regarding improvements in technology, regular air service to Whitehorse, and electronic communication, the boundaries of this electoral district should likely be revisited by a future Commission.

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.

Watson Lake

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

The Interim Report included a proposal to change the boundaries of the Watson Lake electoral district. Upon further deliberation, considered within the context of public input, the Commission now proposes to leave this electoral district unchanged.

The current elector population within the proposed electoral district boundary is 936.

The projected 2026 elector population is 904, 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 Electoral District of Watson Lake 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 45 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.

Whitehorse Centre

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

Whitehorse Centre is a large urban electoral district with densified developments. It includes downtown Whitehorse and Marwell Industrial Area. 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 future growth from multi-family residential development, infill building, and the addition of suites to existing residences.

The projected 2026 elector population is 2,059, which is 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.

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 foster children.

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.

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.

**Yukon Electoral District
Boundaries Commission**



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

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 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

Jonas Smith, Member

Anne Tayler, Member

Lori McKee, Chief Electoral Officer

Box • C.P. 2703 (A-9) Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6 Phone • téléphone (867) 456-6730 • 1-855-967-8588 toll free/sans frais
Fax • Télécopieur (867) 393-6977

e-mail • courriel boundaries@electionsyukon.ca website • site Web www.yukonboundaries.ca



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**Yukon Electoral District
Boundaries Commission**



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

November 20, 2017

A copy of the Interim Report of the Electoral District Boundaries Commission is enclosed. It contains interim proposals for the boundaries, number, and names of electoral districts in Yukon. Your comments on the proposals are invited.

Public input plays an essential role in shaping the future electoral map. The Commission needs to hear from communities throughout Yukon to ensure that final proposals for future electoral district boundaries will maintain effective representation for all Yukoners.

Input may be provided in person at a public meeting or by submitting your comments in writing. Additional information is available on the website (yukonboundaries.ca).

Please contact the Commission's office by January 11, 2018 if you wish to make a presentation at a public meeting in your community. Public meetings will be held in February and March 2018; locations will be based on public interest.

All input received by March 10, 2018 will be considered by the Commission in preparing the final recommendations, which will be submitted to the Legislative Assembly by April 20, 2018.

Contact the Commission's office if you wish to obtain additional copies of the report or need more information.

Sincerely,

Mr. Justice Ron Veale, Chair

Darren Parsons, Member

Anne Tayler, Member

Jonas Smith, Member

Lori McKee, Chief Electoral Officer

Enclosure

Box • C.P. 2703 (A-9) Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6 Phone • téléphone (867) 456-6730 • 1-855-967-8588 toll free/sans frais
Fax • Télécopieur (867) 393-6977

e-mail • courriel boundaries@electionsyukon.ca website • site Web www.yukonboundaries.ca



www.facebook.com/yukonboundaries



@yukonboundaries

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. Belinda Stick, President
Yukon New Democratic Party

Mr. Mark Beese, President
Yukon Party

First Nations

Khà Shâde Hénì Andy Carvill
Carcross/Tagish First Nations

Chief Steve Smith
Champagne and Aishihik First Nations

Grand Chief Peter Johnston
Council of Yukon First Nations

Lois Joe, Co-ordinator
Northern Tutchone Tribal Council

Chief Jack Caesar
Ross River Dena Council

Chief Sharon Nelson
Selkirk First Nation

First Nations (Continued)

Khà Shâde Hénì Albert James
Dakh Ka Tlingit Tribal Council

Shannon Walker, Executive Director
Southern Tutchone Tribal Council

Chief Simon Mervyn
First Nation of Na-Cho Nyak Dun

Chief Kristina Kane
Ta'an Kwäch'än Council

Chief Robert James Dickson
Kluane First Nation

Chief Richard Sidney
Teslin Tlingit Council

Chief Doris Bill
Kwanlin Dün First Nation

Chief Roberta Joseph
Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation

Chief George Morgan
Liard First Nation

Chief Bruce Charlie
Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation

Chief Russell Blackjack
Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation

Chief Angela Demit
White River First Nation

Municipalities, Local Governments and Community Associations

Diana Rogerson, President
Association of Yukon Communities

Shaunagh Stikeman, President
Hillcrest Community Association

Craig Tuton, Chair
Yukon Municipal Board

Leo Martel, President
Keno City Community Club

Lee Bodie, Mayor
Village of Carmacks

Jane Woolverton, President
Kluane Lake Athletic Association

Wayne Potoroka, Mayor
City of Dawson

Recreation Director
Marsh Lake Community Society

Jack Bowers, Mayor
Town of Faro

Agnes Seitz, Executive Director
Mount Lorne Community Association

Michael Riseborough, Mayor
Village of Haines Junction

Niki Denault, President
Riverdale Community Association

Scott Bolton, Mayor
Village of Mayo

Doug Heynen, President
Tagish Community Association

Clara Jules, Mayor
Village of Teslin

Justin Brown, Mayor
Town of Watson Lake

Dan Curtis, Mayor
City of Whitehorse

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

Colleen James, Chair
South Klondike Local Advisory Council

Bonnitta Ritchie, Chair
Tagish Local Advisory Council

Terrance Whiteman, President
Beaver Creek Community Club

Bev James, Recreation Director
Carcross Recreation Board

Jordan Stackhouse, Community Advisor
Comm. Services, Comm. Development, Comm. Affairs

Chambers

Samson Hartland, Executive Director
Yukon Chamber of Mines

Mike McDougall, President
Klondike Placer Miners Association

Ron Berdahl, President
Yukon Prospectors Association

Peter Turner, President
Yukon Chamber of Commerce

Dick Van Nostrand
Dawson City Chamber of Commerce

Anne Leckie
Silver Trail Chamber of Commerce

Rick Harder, President
Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce

Rick Karp, President
Whitehorse Chamber of Commerce

Teslin Regional Chamber of Commerce

Labour

Justin Lemphers, President
Yukon Federation of Labour

Tom Sigurdson, Executive Director
Yukon Building and Construction Trades Council

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

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

United Association of Plumbers and
Pipefitters Local 310

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and
Joiners of America Local 2499

Tom Brown, Yukon Business Representative
Teamsters Local 31

Steve Geick, President
Yukon Employees Union

Umbrella Groups and Other Agencies

Anne Leckie, Chair
Yukon Heritage Resources Board

Blake Rogers, Executive Director
Tourism Association of Yukon

Charlene Alexander, Executive Director
Yukon First Nations Tourism Association

Charles Shewen, President
Yukon Trappers Association

Umbrella Groups and Other Agencies (Continued)

Charlotte Hrenchuk, Coordinator Yukon Status on Women's Council	Connie Dublenko, President Yukon Council on Aging
Alex Poole, President Yukon Medical Association	Frank Thomas, Chair Yukon Fish and Wildlife Management Board
Gord Zealand, Executive Director Yukon Fish and Game Association	Isabelle Salesse, Executive Director l'Association franco-yukonnaise
Jackie Olson, Executive Director Klondike Visitors Association	James R. Tucker, President Law Society of Yukon
Jennifer Hall, Executive Director Yukon Agricultural Association	Jill Mason, President Yukon Teachers Association
Kalin Pallett, President Wilderness Tourism Association of Yukon	Kim Solonick, Chair Yukon Advisory Council on Women's Issues
Marney Paradis, Executive Director Skookum Jim's Friendship Centre	Myles Thorp, Executive Director Yukon Wood Products Association
Ron Cruikshank, Director Yukon Land Use Planning Council	Sally Robinson, President Yukon Historical and Museums Association
Shawna Smith, President Yukon Conservation Society	Stanley Noel, Chief Executive Officer Yukon Indian Development Corporation
Tracy Rispin/John Ritter, Co-Chairs Yukon Geographical Place Names Board	Wendy Randall, Chair Yukon Environ. and Socio-Economic Assessment Board
Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council	Yukon Association for Community Living
Yukon Council on Disability	Yukon Outfitters Association
Terry Sherman, President Yukon Contractors Association	Paul Flaherty, Chair Yukon College Board of Governors
Dan Reynolds/Mark Wierda, Co-Chairs Dawson District Renewable Resources Council	Sandy Smarch, Chair Teslin Renewable Resources Council
Mayo District Renewable Resources Council	North Yukon Renewable Resources Council
Selkirk Renewable Resources Council	Laberge Renewable Resources Council
Northern Research Institute	

HOUSEHOLDER – SEPTEMBER 2017

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^{er} 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

yukonboundaries.ca

E-mail/Courriel : boundaries@electionsyukon.ca

Tel./Tél. : 456-6730 Fax/Téléc. : 393-6977

Box/C.P. : 2703, Whitehorse (Yukon) Y1A 2C6

Toll free in Yukon/Sans frais au Yukon : 1-855-967-8588



@yukonboundaries



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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 - 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 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^{er} 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, 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

E-mail/Courriel: boundaries@electionsyukon.ca
 Tel./Tél.: 456-6730 Fax/Téléc.: 393-6977


Box/C.P.: 2703, Whitehorse (Yukon) Y1A 2C6
 Toll free in Yukon/Sans frais au Yukon: 1-855-967-8588

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.

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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 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^{er} 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. 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

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NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017

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



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

**Electoral district boundaries
for future elections have
been proposed.**

**Now we want to hear
your comments!**

You may have ideas to change the proposed boundaries – or may support the changes. Either way, your opinion is important and will be considered in creating final proposals for Yukon's electoral districts.

Mark your calendar now — so you can participate.

- Make a presentation in person: send your request by January 11, 2018 to schedule a public meeting in your community
- Share your ideas in writing by March 10, 2018

Public meetings will be conducted in February and March, 2018. Locations will be based on public interest. Comments received by March 10, 2018 will be considered in the final proposals of the Commission.

To get a copy of the interim report, or more information, visit the Commission's website at www.yukonboundaries.ca or contact the Commission office by email, facsimile, mail, or telephone.

Des propositions ont été présentées concernant les limites des circonscriptions électorales qui serviront aux prochaines élections.

Nous voulons maintenant savoir ce que vous en pensez!

Vous êtes peut-être d'avis qu'on doit modifier les limites proposées — ou alors ces limites vous conviennent. Quel que soit le cas, votre opinion compte et servira à l'élaboration des propositions définitives concernant les circonscriptions électorales du Yukon.

Prenez note de ces dates importantes — afin de ne pas rater l'occasion de vous faire entendre :

- *Présentation de commentaires en personne : faites une demande d'ici le 11 janvier 2018 pour qu'on organise une audience publique dans votre localité.*
- *Envoi de commentaires par écrit : la date limite est le 10 mars 2018.*

Des audiences publiques se tiendront en février et mars 2018; les lieux seront déterminés en fonction de l'intérêt du public. La Commission prendra en considération les commentaires reçus d'ici le 10 mars 2018 dans la préparation de ses recommandations définitives.

Pour obtenir de plus amples renseignements ou un exemplaire imprimé du rapport intérimaire, visitez le site Web de la Commission au www.yukonboundaries.ca ou communiquez avec elle par courriel, par télécopieur, par la poste ou par téléphone.

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NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT – JANUARY 2018

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



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

**Public meetings are being held
to hear your comments on
the proposals for Yukon's
electoral districts.**

The Electoral District Boundaries Commission made interim proposals for the electoral districts that will be in place for the next two elections. The boundaries affect you: they identify the communities and neighbourhoods that your MLA will represent.

You can share your comments at a public meeting. Meetings will be held in:

**Des audiences publiques auront lieu au
cours desquelles vous êtes invités à vous
prononcer sur les propositions relatives
aux circonscriptions électorales du Yukon.**

La Commission de délimitation des circonscriptions électorales a fait des propositions provisoires quant aux circonscriptions à établir en vue des deux prochaines élections générales. Le découpage électoral vous concerne : il détermine les collectivités et les quartiers qui seront représentés par votre député.

Vous pouvez exprimer votre opinion à l'une des audiences publiques suivantes :

LOCATION / LIEU	DATE / DATE	TIME / HEURE
Teslin: Rec Plex (Recreation Room)	Thursday, February 8 / Le jeudi 8 février	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. / de midi à 14 h
Marsh Lake: Community Centre	Thursday, February 8 / Le jeudi 8 février	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. / de 18 h à 20 h
Carcross: Ghùch Tlá Community School (Cafeteria)	Friday, February 9 / Le vendredi 9 février	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. / de midi à 14 h
Tagish: Community Centre	Friday, February 9 / Le vendredi 9 février	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. / de 17 h à 19 h
Mount Lorne: Community Centre	Monday, February 12 / Le lundi 12 février	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. / de midi à 14 h
Whitehorse: Porter Creek Secondary School (Cafeteria)	Monday, February 12 / Le lundi 12 février	5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. / de 17 h 30 à 19 h 30

Contact the Commission's office by February 1 to be added to the list of presenters.

Public meetings will be held in Carmacks, Faro, Mayo, Pelly Crossing, Ross River, and Watson Lake in March. Dates and locations are available on the website.

You can also share your ideas in writing. Written submissions received by March 10, 2018 will be considered in developing final proposals for electoral districts.

To get a copy of the interim report, or more information, visit the Commission's website at www.yukonboundaries.ca or contact the Commission office by email, facsimile, mail, or telephone.

Veuillez communiquer avec la Commission d'ici le 1^{er} février si vous désirez que votre nom soit ajouté à la liste des personnes qui présenteront des commentaires.

Des audiences publiques auront lieu à Carmacks, Faro, Mayo, Pelly Crossing, Ross River et Watson Lake en mars. Consultez notre site Web pour les dates et lieux de ces audiences.

Vous pouvez aussi nous faire parvenir vos commentaires par écrit. On prendra en considération les commentaires reçus avant le 10 mars 2018 au moment de préparer les propositions définitives portant sur les circonscriptions électorales.

Pour obtenir de plus amples renseignements ou un exemplaire imprimé du rapport intérimaire, visitez le site Web de la Commission au www.yukonboundaries.ca, ou communiquez avec elle par courriel, par télécopieur, par la poste ou par téléphone.

**Yukon
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NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT - FEBRUARY 2018

Help us shape the electoral map for future elections



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

Public meetings are being held to hear your comments on the proposals for Yukon's electoral districts.

The Electoral District Boundaries Commission made interim proposals for the electoral districts that will be in place for the next two elections. The boundaries affect you: they identify the communities and neighbourhoods that your MLA will represent.

You can share your comments at a public meeting. Meetings will be held in:

Des audiences publiques auront lieu au cours desquelles vous êtes invités à vous prononcer sur les propositions relatives aux circonscriptions électorales du Yukon.

La Commission de délimitation des circonscriptions électorales a fait des propositions provisoires quant aux circonscriptions à établir en vue des deux prochaines élections générales. Le découpage électoral vous concerne : il détermine les collectivités et les quartiers qui seront représentés par votre député.

Vous pouvez exprimer votre opinion à l'une des audiences publiques suivantes :

LOCATION / LIEU	DATE / DATE	TIME / HEURE
Pelly Crossing: Eliza Van Bibber School (Library)	Thursday, March 8 / <i>Le jeudi 8 mars</i>	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. / de midi à 14 h
Mayo: Community Hall	Thursday, March 8 / <i>Le jeudi 8 mars</i>	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. / de 17 h à 19 h
Camacks: Tantalus School (Round Room)	Friday, March 9 / <i>Le vendredi 9 mars</i>	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. / de midi à 14 h
Faro: Recreation Centre (Sportsman's Lounge)	Friday, March 9 / <i>Le vendredi 9 mars</i>	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. / de 17 h à 19 h
Ross River: Ross River School (Gathering Room)	Saturday, March 10 / <i>Le samedi 10 mars</i>	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. / de midi à 14 h
Watson Lake: Recreation Centre (Curling Lounge)	Saturday, March 10 / <i>Le samedi 10 mars</i>	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. / de 17 h à 19 h

Contact the Commission's office by March 1 to be added to the list of presenters.

You can also share your ideas in writing. Written submissions received by March 10, 2018 will be considered in developing final proposals for electoral districts.


To get a copy of the interim report, or more information, visit the Commission's website at www.yukonboundaries.ca or contact the Commission office by email, facsimile, mail, or telephone.

Veuillez communiquer avec la Commission d'ici le 1^{er} mars si vous désirez que votre nom soit ajouté à la liste des personnes qui présenteront des commentaires.

Vous pouvez aussi nous faire parvenir vos commentaires par écrit. On prendra en considération les commentaires reçus avant le 10 mars 2018 au moment de préparer les propositions définitives portant sur les circonscriptions électorales.

Pour obtenir de plus amples renseignements ou un exemplaire imprimé du rapport intérimaire, visitez le site Web de la Commission au 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

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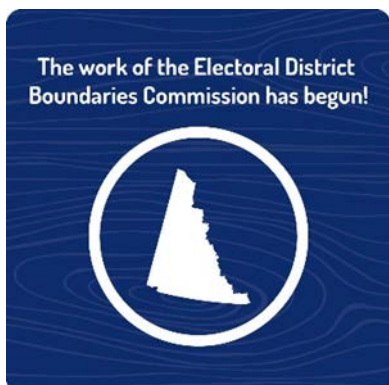
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SOCIAL MEDIA ADVERTISEMENTS – JUNE 2017



The Electoral District Boundaries Commission has begun reviewing Yukon's 19 electoral districts. Public input is important.

The electoral districts determine which communities are represented by each MLA.

Share your input as we review the boundaries and propose boundaries for future elections.



La Commission de délimitation des circonscriptions électorales a entamé son examen des 19 circonscriptions du Yukon.

Les circonscriptions électorales déterminent quelles collectivités sont représentées par chaque député.

Faites-nous part de vos commentaires au sujet des limites et aidez-nous à dessiner la carte électorale en vue des prochaines élections.



The electoral districts determine which communities are represented by each MLA.

Share your input as we review the boundaries and propose boundaries for future elections.

For information, visit www.yukonboundaries.ca or contact us at boundaries@electionsyukon.ca or 456-6730 / 1-855-967-8588



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Faites-nous part de vos commentaires au sujet des limites et aidez-nous à dessiner la carte électorale en vue des prochaines élections.

Pour en savoir plus, visitez le www.yukonboundaries.ca ou communiquez avec nous, à boundaries@electionsyukon.ca ou au 456-6730 / 1-855-967-8588.

SOCIAL MEDIA ADVERTISEMENTS – NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017



The Interim Proposals have been released and are available on-line. A print copy may also be requested.

The Commission wants to hear your input on the interim proposals at public meetings or via further submissions. For more information visit the Commission's website:
<http://bit.ly/YTboundaries>



Les propositions provisoires ont été rendues publiques. Vous pouvez les consulter en ligne ou en demander un exemplaire papier.

La Commission vous invite à exprimer votre opinion lors des audiences publiques ou par écrit. Pour de plus amples renseignements, visitez le site Web de la Commission :
<http://bit.ly/YTboundaries>



The review of electoral district boundaries is important. If you would like to have a public meeting in your community, please contact the Boundaries Commission by **Jan. 11**

For more information, visit the Commission's website: <http://bit.ly/YTboundaries>



L'examen des limites des circonscriptions est important. Si vous souhaitez qu'une audience publique soit organisée dans votre collectivité, contactez la Commission de délimitation des circonscriptions électorales d'ici le 11 janvier.

Pour en savoir plus, visitez le site Web de la Commission : <http://bit.ly/YTboundaries>

LIST OF SUBMISSIONS

Interim Report

- 1) **Submitted by:** Keith Austin
Date Submitted: June 24, 2017
Electoral District: Pelly-Nisutlin
- 2) **Submitted by:** Joanne Green, Returning Officer, Porter Creek Centre
Date Submitted: June 30, 2017
Electoral District: Porter Creek Centre/Porter Creek South
- 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, Returning Officer, Klondike
Date Submitted: September 17, 2017
Electoral District: 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

Final Report

- 8) **Submitted by:** Jack Bowers, Mayor of the Town of Faro and Scott Bolton, Mayor of the Village of Mayo
Date Submitted: October 26, 2017
Electoral District: Pelly-Nisutlin
- 9) **Submitted by:** David Laxton
Date Submitted: November 22, 2017
Electoral District: Porter Creek North

LIST OF SUBMISSIONS

Final Report

- 10) **Submitted by:** Andy Carvill, Khà Shâde Hénì, Carcross/Tagish First Nation
Date Submitted: December 15, 2017
Electoral District: Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes
- 11) **Submitted by:** Perry Savoie, Co-Chair, Marsh Lake Local Advisory Council
Date Submitted: February 8, 2018
Electoral District: Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes
- 12) **Submitted by:** Shirley LaRoy
Date Submitted: February 8, 2018
Electoral District: Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes
- 13) **Submitted by:** Katy Delau
Date Submitted: February 8, 2018
Electoral District: Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes
- 14) **Submitted by:** Bonnitta Ritchie, Co-Chair, Tagish Local Advisory Council
Date Submitted: February 12, 2018
Electoral District: Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes
- 15) **Submitted by:** Don Hutton, MLA, Mayo-Tatchun
Date Submitted: February 27, 2018
Electoral District: Mayo-Tatchun
- 16) **Submitted by:** Harold Roche
Date Submitted: February 28, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 17) **Submitted by:** Brian Farrell
Date Submitted: February 28, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 18) **Submitted by:** Trish MacPherson, Returning Officer, Lake Laberge
Date Submitted: February 28, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 19) **Submitted by:** Randy Carey
Date Submitted: February 28, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 20) **Submitted by:** Dallas Schaber
Date Submitted: February 28, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North

LIST OF SUBMISSIONS

Final Report

- 21) **Submitted by:** Vickie Roche
Date Submitted: March 1, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 22) **Submitted by:** Dahn Casselman
Date Submitted: March 2, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 23) **Submitted by:** Erin Stehelin
Date Submitted: March 5, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 24) **Submitted by:** Kristen Trotter
Date Submitted: March 7, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 25) **Submitted by:** Jenelle Gray
Date Submitted: March 7, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 26) **Submitted by:** Dr. James Purnell
Date Submitted: March 7, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 27) **Submitted by:** Larry Carlyle
Date Submitted: March 8, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 28) **Submitted by:** Allan Morse
Date Submitted: March 8, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 29) **Submitted by:** Scott Bolton, Mayor, Village of Mayo
Date Submitted: March 8, 2018
Electoral District: Mayo-Tatchun/Pelly-Nisutlin
- 30) **Submitted by:** Heather and David Mathers
Date Submitted: March 9, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 31) **Submitted by:** Simon Mervyn, Chief First Nation of NaCho Nyak Dun
Date Submitted: March 9, 2018
Electoral District: Mayo-Tatchun/Pelly-Nisutlin

LIST OF SUBMISSIONS

Final Report

- 32) **Submitted by:** Paul Dabbs
Date Submitted: March 9, 2018
Electoral District: Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes
- 33) **Submitted by:** Brad Cathers, MLA, Lake Laberge
Date Submitted: March 9, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 34) **Submitted by:** Al Falle
Date Submitted: March 9, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 35) **Submitted by:** Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce
Date Submitted: March 10, 2018
Electoral District: Watson Lake
- 36) **Submitted by:** Janet Drever-Purnell
Date Submitted: March 10, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 37) **Submitted by:** Sonny Gray
Date Submitted: March 10, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 38) **Submitted by:** Lindsay Heynen
Date Submitted: March 10, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 39) **Submitted by:** Brian Langevin
Date Submitted: March 10, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 40) **Submitted by:** Patti Toole
Date Submitted: March 10, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 41) **Submitted by:** Andre Fortin
Date Submitted: March 10, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North
- 42) **Submitted by:** Krista and Delwyn Klassen
Date Submitted: March 10, 2018
Electoral District: Lake Laberge/Porter Creek North

SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Thursday, February 8, 2018

- Teslin from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Marsh Lake from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Friday, February 9, 2018

- Carcross from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Tagish from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Monday, February 12, 2018

- Mount Lorne from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Whitehorse from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 8, 2018

- Pelly Crossing from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Mayo from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 9, 2018

- Carmacks from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Faro from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 10, 2018

- Ross River from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Watson Lake from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

LIST OF PRESENTERS

February 8, 2018 (Teslin RecPlex, Teslin)

- Clara Jules, Mayor, Village of Teslin
- Alex Oakley, Dèshitàn Executive Councilor, Teslin Tlingit Council
- Gord Curran, Deputy Mayor/Councilor, Village of Teslin
- Kelsey Hassard, Recreation Programmer, Village of Teslin

February 8, 2018 (Marsh Lake Community Centre, Marsh Lake)

- Perry Savoie, Co-Chair, Marsh Lake Advisory Council
- Shirley LaRoy
- Bonnitta Ritchie, Co-Chair, Tagish Local Advisory Council
- Amanda Leslie

February 9, 2018 (Ghùch Tlâ Community School, Carcross)

- Vicki Hancock
- Rebecca Andrei
- Colleen James, Chair, South Klondike Local Advisory Council
- Gisela Niedermeyer
- Theo Stade
- Janet Constable Rushant, Returning Officer, Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes
- Lori Crawford

February 9, 2018 (Tagish Community Centre, Tagish)

- Bonnitta Ritchie, Co-Chair, Tagish Local Advisory Council
- Honourable John Streicker, MLA, Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes

LIST OF PRESENTERS

February 12, 2018 (Lorne Mountain Community Centre, Mount Lorne)

- Al Foster, President, Lorne Mountain Community Association
- Honourable John Streicker, MLA, Mount Lorne-Southern Lakes
- Bob Sharp, Director, Lorne Mountain Community Association
- Scott Kent, MLA, Copperbelt South
- Judy Harwood-Dabbs
- Peter Carr, Councilor for Kookatsoon/CCC, Hamlet of Mount Lorne Local Advisory Council and Director, Lorne Mountain Community Association
- Paul Dabbs

February 12, 2018 (Porter Creek Secondary School, Whitehorse)

- Mike Ivens
- Honourable Ranj Pillai, MLA, Porter Creek South
- David Laxton
- Paolo Gallina, MLA, Porter Creek Centre
- Geraldine Van Bibber, MLA, Porter Creek North
- Brad Cathers, MLA, Lake Laberge

March 8, 2018 (Eliza Van Bibber School, Pelly Crossing)

- Elizabeth Baptiste

March 8, 2018 (Community Hall, Mayo)

- Scott Bolton, Mayor, Village of Mayo
- Melody Hutton
- Irene Johnny, Councilor, First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun
- Ronald Peter, Councilor, First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun
- Stacey Hassard, MLA, Pelly-Nisutlin
- Eliza Moses

LIST OF PRESENTERS

March 9, 2018 (Tantalus School, Carmacks)

- Lee Bodie, Mayor, Village of Carmacks
- Morgan Douglas-Alexander
- Bonnie Cooper
- Eric Fairclough
- Viola Mullet, Little Salmon/Carmacks First Nation
- Stacey Hassard, MLA, Pelly-Nisutlin
- Honourable Don Hutton, MLA, Mayo-Tatchun

March 9, 2018 (Recreation Centre, Faro)

- Jack Bowers, Mayor, Town of Faro
- Ian Dunlop, CAO, Town of Faro
- Lisa Snyder, Councilor, Town of Faro
- Vince Slotte
- Katie Peeling
- Stacey Hassard, MLA, Pelly-Nisutlin

March 10, 2018 (Ross River School, Ross River)

- Karmen Cozens
- Tim Colwell
- Dave Sharp

March 10, 2018 (Recreation Centre, Watson Lake)

- Rick Harder, Vice-President, Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce
- Cheryl O'Brien, President, Watson Lake Chamber of Commerce
- Justin Brown, Mayor, Town of Watson Lake
- Patti McLeod, MLA, Watson Lake
- Jim Holt
- Gerry Amann
- John Hall
- Ruth Wilkinson
- George Morgan
- Dave Kalles

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.

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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,

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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.

