

Written Submission

on the 2025 Electoral Boundaries Commission Interim Report

Name/Nom Margaret Marshall

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Submission/Message

As a long term YK resident (now over 42 years) I am aware that this issue has been considered many times.

I agree that there have been and still are deficiencies in the existing system of representation for the YK ridings. I support Option 1 – keeping the number to 19 with a redistribution.

I was shocked to see that there is consideration of up to an increase to 22 persons. The cost of adding more MLAs as the method by which to fix this inequity is monstrous e.g. office space, furniture, salaries / benefits for the MLA and the support staff and that does not include the cost of modifying the furniture in the 'house'.

The dollars required for increasing even one MLA could better be used to fund programs / services for residents of the NWT.

In addition, if the number of MLA's increases what would that do to the balance of ministers / regular mlas. E.G. we have six ministers now with 13 regular MLAs. Would an increase result in an incremental number of ministers. I can only imagine the cost.

I believe the consultants should be asked to provide a cost of implementing any of the options being proposed so that decisions can be truly 'informed'.

Thanks, Margaret Marshall