



December 29, 2025

Hon. R.D. Gorin, Chair
Mr. Daryl Dolynny, Commissioner
Mr. Samuel Dyck, Commissioner
Mr. Kevin O'Reilly, Commissioner
Ms. Georgina Rolt, Commissioner
Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission

Submission to Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission

Dear Mr. Chair and Commissioners:

Thank you for your letter of November 3, 2025, seeking submissions to the Commission on its 2025 interim report four proposed options for change to the composition of the electoral districts, and proposed changes to district names.

With regards to the district I represent, Great Slave, I agree that there must be a name change. As there is already one district named after the lake (Tu Nedhé-Wiilideh), and to be consistent with other Yellowknife districts, I would propose the name Yellowknife East, which is accurate for both iterations of boundaries that you have provided for Yellowknife districts, as well as for the current boundaries of the district.

As for the boundaries in Yellowknife, I do not feel that either option will be seen with warmth by the Assembly. Popular opinion continues to hold in the Northwest Territories that Yellowknife does not need to increase the number of MLAs that represent the capital, despite the Commission's desire to equitably address the two of the four factors guiding its recommendations, that of relative parity and effective representation.

I am of course biased in terms of the boundaries of my district, and pride myself on door knocking throughout my term as well as during the writ. I expect many of my colleagues feel similarly, and as such, do not agree with the boundaries provided in Option 1, which sees School Draw leave the district entirely to move to Yellowknife North, and to be replaced by a large part of the current Frame Lake district (Forrest Drive). I am more amenable to Option 4's boundaries of "Yellowknife 6" for this reason.

It should be noted, and I am certain that many of the residents would agree, that retaining residents on the Ingraham Trail within Yellowknife North may alleviate the need to make several cascading changes to several Yellowknife districts. If the addition of (a) new Yellowknife MLA(s) continues to be contemplated, addition of an MLA for the Niven subdivision and the northern edge of downtown Yellowknife makes the most sense to me. I am relatively agnostic on the proposed boundaries of “Yellowknife 9” and would defer to those who currently represent those residents’ opinion on the matter.

I wish to also note that I do not support the elimination/merging of the Mackenzie Delta or Dehcho districts – due to your own factor of communities of interest. This change would diminish residents current voice in the legislature. I do support a second MLA for Monfwi based on population.

I wish to also provide an overarching note for your deliberations for Yellowknife and regional centres: I am proud to represent people from all economic and cultural backgrounds. I hope that when you review district boundaries in Yellowknife, that the commission ensures all districts have a mix of public and private housing, renters and homeowners. My current district is very diverse, and I feel it makes me a better representative.

Sincerely,

Kate Reid
MLA, Great Slave