



Julian Morse, MLA Frame Lake

Yellowknife, January 9, 2026

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

Submission to the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission

Dear Honourable Chair and Commissioners:

Thank you for taking on the difficult task of re-drawing electoral boundaries to ensure representative fairness in our Territory. Please consider this my formal submission on the Commission's Interim Report. As the current representative for the Frame Lake riding, my personal experience and understanding of this riding and my home community of Yellowknife is greatest, so my comments concern this riding primarily, and changes to several other neighbouring Yellowknife ridings.

I note in all the proposed options, significant changes are proposed to the Frame Lake riding. In all options it is losing an entire neighbourhood and gaining residents from other ridings. I was surprised to see this considering Frame Lake is one of the few ridings in the NWT which sits well within the acceptable relative variance. I note this may in part be due to proposed changes to the current Yellowknife North riding which removes the Ingraham Trail, thus creating a cascade of changes across several Yellowknife ridings to achieve balance. I agree with other commenters that the Ingraham Trail, which primarily shares a community of interest with Yellowknife, should remain connected to a Yellowknife Riding. This will likely help reduce the need for resultant changes in neighboring ridings which benefit from familiarity and existing balance.

I encourage the Commission to consider where practical to retain continuity in existing ridings, which will help reduce confusion and upheaval as much as possible. The Frame Lake riding is demographically diverse, containing a mix of low-cost, public, and higher-end housing, and is already representatively balanced. If those characteristics could be maintained in an already-familiar riding I

think it would be a positive outcome. I note that demographic balance would be most affected by the changes proposed in Options 1-3 and particularly encourage a re-thinking of the boundaries put forward in those options.

As noted by many commenters already, I think the increased costs associated with adding MLAs are difficult to justify considering the population of the Territory has remained stable. As such, I am more in favour of an option which maintains 19 members or increases by as few as possible to achieve relative parity.

Warm regards,



Julian Morse, MLA Frame Lake