



TOWN OF INUVIK
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January 9, 2026

Secretary to the NWT Electoral Boundaries Commission
c/o the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer
3rd Floor, YK Centre East
7-4915 48 ST
Yellowknife, NT X1A 3S4

The Town of Inuvik has reviewed the proposed Electoral District Boundary options provided with your interim report. We appreciate the Commission's efforts to ensure fair representation from populations across the entire Territory.

We understand that to ensure everyone has equal say in Government, objectively, the Commission considers that wherever possible, no electoral district should be over- or under-represented by more than 25% of the average population.

After our review of your Interim Report, and the proposed boundary options, we have the following feedback:

1. Electoral ridings shouldn't just be about numbers of constituents in a riding. It should also consider access to the MLAs. Those ridings that are outside of Yellowknife or are comprised of several small communities have considerably less access to their MLA given the amount of time the MLA's have to spend in Yellowknife for sessions and committee meetings and associated travel time.

Further, combining Inuvik and the Mackenzie Delta ridings would be a huge disservice to the smaller communities as they have different needs than constituents in Inuvik.

2. Regarding the census, we believe that Inuvik is underrepresented. These numbers may be impacted by the "hidden" population that result from: employers have difficulty finding permanent housing for employees, the underhoused, those who may be "couch surfing", the multi-generational (and inadequate) housing, or those who simply declined to be included in the census.

To give you a more realistic indication of Inuvik's population, we have reviewed our Certified Assessment Roll. We have 799 developed residential properties. Of these properties, 18 are large multi-unit dwellings. A conservative estimate on the number of people per dwelling (2-6 persons) would indicate that we are 5-10% above the census.

3. The future development of Inuvik should also be considered, as it will have an impact on population growth. We anticipate over 255 additional dwelling units to be developed in the future. This includes 155 undeveloped residential properties already listed in our Certified Assessment Roll, as well as the single family and multi-unit dwellings that the Gwich'in, Inuvialuit and Territorial governments are building.

In summary, the Town of Inuvik is requesting that the Commission recommend that there be no attempt to amalgamate the electoral boundaries in the Beaufort Delta and that they remain in the status quo.

Thank you for your efforts to engage us in the discussion and your consideration of our input.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Clarkson", is placed over a light grey rectangular background.

Peter Clarkson
Mayor
Town of Inuvik

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cynthia Pihlaja", is placed over a light grey rectangular background.

Cynthia Pihlaja
Senior Administrative Officer
Town of Inuvik