

Comments submitted to Electoral Boundaries review  
Ellerslie Elementary school March 1 2004

By Robert Henderson President of District 23 Liberal Assoc

We as a political association on PEI want to make your committee aware of the challenges that our current riding faces and would hope that if boundaries are developed in future for any provincial riding assoc that some of these challenges be taken into consideration.

Currently District 23 represents voters who would participate in as many as 5 minor hockey assoc. , boundary 2 health regions and 2 HRDC regions, receive medical services from 4 local hospitols, have children that may attend as many as 11 schools including 3 High Schools. Voters of this district have as many as 8 postal codes. It would take about 45 minutes to drive from one end of the district in the west to the other end in the east. Geographically I believe it is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest district of the 27. With such a diverse sense of who our community is and who we represent District 23 would more likely vote along Provincial trends than local trends thus trivializing local rural issues within the region. Our District assoc has worked hard to try and overcome this challenge . We would not want to see changes that would take away some polls and add others just to make other ridings more compatible and yet increasing more challenges onto district 23 for future elections by increasing new regions to district 23. At our district Exec meeting on Thursday a motion was passed unanimously to minimize any changes to district 23 that signifiiently alter or increase the boundaries of our district.

We also would like to insure that representation for rural regions of the province not be diluted and regarding Prince County we would like to see the continuation of at least the 5 representative jurisdictions west of the town of Summerside.

ALSO When it comes to boundary lines for districts or polls we would rather see lines, that in many cases follow centre lines of roads ,consider rivers or watersheds or communities where it makes more sense. Having persons drive by a couple of polling stations because they reside on one side of the road in which the poll they reside in is in another community altogether makes little sense as well.

Respectively submitted for your consideration  
Robert Henderson  
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