

## Cascumpec Grand River Liberal Assoc.

2<sup>nd</sup> submission to Electoral Boundaries Commission, Sept 13 ,2004

Approved, District Liberal Exec meeting Aug 18, 2004 meeting in Northam.

In regards to our previous submission at Ellerslie our riding association suggested retaining 5 representatives west of Summerside and from your June report you are recommending 4 ridings therefore we suggest increasing the number of ridings on PEI from 27 to 29 and then adding 1 riding west of Summerside and one riding to rural Queens county. With establishing 29 ridings the average voters per island riding could be 3350, then averaging 5 ridings west of Summerside with a 2900 voter average would be in keeping within a 10 % + variance for PEI. Rural PEI has lost significant influence both economically and politically in our recent past and although the population decline is a symptom of this, losing another representative in the legislature will most likely exacerbate the problem for future .

Another issue we brought forward in our first submission was poll boundaries within our riding using roads as boundaries instead of including communities as polls . This issue was not rectified in your report, this issue has caused a number of voters to become frustrated and decide not to vote due to going to the wrong polling station. Examples are if you live in the community of Conway you could possibly vote in 3 polls, same for community of Ellerslie, Grand River, Inverness and Northam. This causes voter confusion and frustration with most not exercising their right to vote. We would like some consideration in changing some poll boundaries within ridings also this will allow some flexibility where communities become Riding boundaries especially for a community like Northam, where in your proposal, the east side of the Northam Road rte 132 will be in the Evangeline Riding although socially and historically politically it has always been affiliated with Tyne Valley , 2<sup>nd</sup> Prince and District 23 . We recommend your commission give consideration to poll boundary changes in the above communities. This may also allow your commission some wiggle room in keeping riding boundaries equal to population and including whole communities in ridings where requested.

In general we agree with your interim report and would like to add our comment to your report to what we concur with. Having the riding numbers commence in the west makes sense as most persons write numbers left to right and any maps usually place the western tip of PEI on the left of the page ,although this is a trivial point to mention . Riding names are also a trivial matter but we would like to bring to your attention the name of The riding of Inverness district # 3 in your report will be a duplication of a riding in the **Nova Scotia Provincial** boundaries .They have a riding of **Inverness District 34**. This maybe confusing in some circumstances. In keeping with naming ridings of communities in central parts of districts we might suggest naming the # 3 riding, Portage, West Devon, Maple Leaf, Mount Pleasant, Cascumpec , Freeland, or Foxley river but once again we are not advocating one name over the other .Also your boundary recommendations seem to include some historical factors in where previous dual member riding boundaries existed which seems to make logical sense in the creation of new boundaries where no other factors come into play.

In closing as a political association we are not going to recommend adding a particular poll to our riding or deleting any particular poll or keeping others just for political advantage we are leaving those views up to the residents of each poll to represent where they feel what riding better represents the mutual interests of its community best. We trust your commission will continue with its sense of fairness in representing the voters of PEI and the voters of the current District 23.

Respectively submitted

  
Robert Henderson

President Cascumpec Grand River Liberal Assoc.

On behalf of District 23, Cascumpec Grand River Liberal Assoc