

Name : James Shaw
Address : DeSable
Community : Crapaud, PE C0A 1J0

Submission:

The Electoral Boundaries Commission; I am writing on behalf of the Crapaud - Hazel Grove Liberal Association to express certain concerns about the proposed electoral map. I am looking forward to meeting with the Commission on behalf of the Association, and trust I can be scheduled for your September public hearings.

First of all, the proposed boundaries will mean a significant dislocation of community interests which have evolved since 1996. Since that time, the current District 17 has developed a real unity and cohesion as a community. The proposed changes will significantly alter the sense of identity that has developed over the last eight years or so. Second, the proposed map appears to build on an assumption that urban areas must be respected first - and the interests of rural Prince Edward Island are secondary to municipal boundaries. In effect, this approach will penalize East Prince and Central Queens to a greater extent than any other areas of Prince Edward Island. As proposed, Districts 8 through 12 will all have populations that are significantly higher than the provincial average. No other area of the province is as uniformly penalized as the center.

Proposed Districts:	Number Name Estimated:	Electors Variance:
8 Kensington	3,921	+8.95
9 Albany	3,880	+7.81
10 South Shore	3,897	+8.28
11 Cavendish	3,919	+8.89
12 Stanhope	3,920	+8.92

While the current electoral map does penalize District 17 from a population/representation perspective, it does enjoy the virtue of familiarity and community identity. Therefore, we are asking the Commission to reconsider its calculations so that the needs of Central Prince Edward Island are not sacrificed to an arbitrary adherence to the municipal boundaries of Charlottetown and Summerside.

Sincerely,

Mr. James Shaw, President
Crapaud - Hazel Grove Liberal Association